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Document Title : CLINICAL RELEVANCE OF SERUM RHEMATOID FACTOR IN TOBACCO SMOKERS

"العلاقة السريرية لعامل الروماتويد المصلي لدى مدخني التبغ"

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Abstract : The rheumatoid factor (RF) is an immunoglobulin M (IgM) antibody that recognizes the fragment c (Fc) of the immunoglobulin G (IgG) as an antigen. Antibodies reacting against antigens form immune complexes in response to many inflammatory disorders. The aim of the present study is to measure the serum RF concentration in light and heavy tobacco smokers and to correlate with aged matched normal healthy controls. Other variables such as anthropometric measurements (Weight, height, body mass index (BMI) and biochemical parameters such as glucose, triacylglycerol (TAG), cholesterol, and high density lipoprotein (HDL) (LDL) were also measured and correlated. The present study was carried out on a total of 450 male subjects out of which 150 were non smokers (control), 150 who smoked less than 20 cigarettes/day (light smokers) and 150 who smoked 20 cigarettes or more/day (heavy smokers). Each category was further subdivided into 3 groups according to age. Group I consists of subjects less than 20 years, group II consists of subjects between 20-40 years and group III consists of subjects above 40 years. The present study demonstrates that serum rheumatoid factor (SRF) values were significantly increased in heavy smokers (6 %, $p<0.05$) in the age over 40 years groups. Also, the present study showed that the weight, height, BMI, glucose, TAG and cholesterol were not affected by smoking in all the age groups when compared to their age matched controls. However, LDL concentration was found to increase significantly in heavy smokers group compared to the control group (7%, $p<0.05$). Similarly HDL cholesterol was decreased in higher age group significantly when compared to control (5%, $p<0.05$), when all cases were combined and statistically analyzed together.

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