Dear Sir,

According to the data from the literature, there are different opinions about predialysis (PreD) and postdialysis (PostD) blood pressures (BPs) [1,2] and the direct effect of hypervolaemia on PreD and PostD BPs [3].

To clarify these controversial opinions, ambulatory blood pressure monitoring (ABPM) was performed in two groups of patients: group A consisted of 13 children with end-stage renal failure, aged $15.15 \pm 5.58$ years, on chronic haemodialysis from 2 to 156 (mean 45.3) months, of whom 4 where hypertensive and 9 normotensive; group B consisted of 19 children with chronic mild hypertension (essential or renal) and normal global renal function, aged $15.28 \pm 2.27$ years. BP was measured with an oscillometer, model 90206 (SpaceLabs, Inc., Redmond, Wash., USA). Blunted circa-dian BP rhythm (nocturnal decrease of BP to less than 10% of daytime values) was observed in 84.62% of children from group A and 31.58% from group B ($p = 0.0037$). PreD and PostD systolic, diastolic and mean arterial BPs did not differ significantly and were correlated with InterD BP ($r = 0.9; p < 0.01$) (fig. 1). This is probably due to the fact

![Graph showing correlations between PreD and PostD BP](image-url)
InterD BP (mm Hg)

$r = 0.62$

$p < 0.05$

$r = 0.65$

$p < 0.05$

PostD BP (mm Hg)

$r = 0.40$

$p < 0.05$

$r = 0.58$

$p < 0.05$
that normotensives prevailed in our group of haemodialysed patients. PreD, PostD and InterD BPs correlated well with left ventricular mass index (LVMI) (r = 0.6; p < 0.05) (fig. 2), but were not correlated with the degree of hypervolaemia (p > 0.05). However, a 48-hour duration of hypervolaemia between two haemodialysis might not have been long enough to trigger hypertension in the dialysed patients, especially in the normotensives.

Conclusion: the findings show that the circadian BP rhythm is altered more often in patients with end-stage renal failure who are on chronic haemodialysis than in hypertensive children with normal renal function. In the population of dialysed patients with prevailing normotensives, PreD and PostD BP readings give good information about InterD BP, but not about the degree of hypervolaemia. BP in children with end-stage renal failure has marked effect on LVMI.

References


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