

Research Article

Survey of Relationship between Prevalence of Metabolic Syndrome and Sleep Disorders among Adults in Ahvaz City, Southwestern of Iran - @

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SUMMARY

Background: Metabolic Syndrome (MetS) is currently considered a health and well-being problem. Researchers are seeking to control and manage the risk factors of this syndrome. One of the factors considered in studies is the duration and quality of sleep. The present study, therefore, has investigated the relationship between sleep duration and quality with prevalence of adult MetS in Ahvaz City.

Methods: This cross-sectional was carried out on people aged over 20 years in Ahvaz (Iran) during 2014-15. Samples were selected by cluster sampling method, and were called from six health centers. Fasting blood sample (12 h), height, weight, blood pressure, and other demographic information were obtained through a questionnaire.

Results: Of totally 890 participants in this study, 25.3% had MetS and 81.5% of the subjects suffered from sleep disorder based on the Pittsburg test. In this study, with the help of logistic regression and the presence of age, sex, literacy level and BMI variables, there were no correlations between the duration and quality of sleep with the prevalence of metabolic syndrome.

Conclusion: This study showed that the prevalence of MetS and sleep disorder is very high in Ahwaz, with women being at a higher risk than men in terms of both variables are.

Keywords: MetS; Sleep disorder; Petersburg questionnaire; Ahvaz

INTRODUCTION

MetS suggests a simultaneous risk factor for cardiovascular disease such as insulin resistance, obesity, atherogenic lipids, and hypertension [1]. MetS is associated with a two-fold increase in the risk of myocardial infarction, cardiovascular disease, and mortality due to these diseases as well as a 1.5-fold increased risk of all types of deaths [2]. The global prevalence of MetS is increasing, largely attributable to an increase in obesity and a low-activity lifestyle. Given that, the syndrome is currently a health and well-being problem [3], researchers are seeking to identify the risk factors underlying the syndrome, thereby, reduce the risk of people affection through the control and management of the risk factors. The risky and examined variables include poor breakfast habits, increased TV watching times, and decreased physical activity, lower fiber consumption, and higher BMI in adolescents with a significant effect on the syndrome in adulthood [4-6]. The waist circumference also represents the obesity of the central body developing the risk of a metabolic syndrome incidence [7]. According to reports, the prevalence of adult MetS is 22.8% in Ahvaz (15.9% in men and 29.1% in women) [8].

Sleep is another related variable repeatedly considered in studies on adults, for instance, showing that sleep duration to be associated with the risk of MetS [9]. Low and high sleeps are both risky behaviors that increase the chance of developing the MetS [10], and also probability the ground for important metabolic diseases such as diabetes [11-13], obesity [14,15], and cardiovascular disease (especially Hypertension) [16,17]. Finally, prospective population based studies indicate that sleep duration may be a good predictor of all causes of mortalities [18,19].

A meta-analysis reviewed 18 papers and suggested that short-term sleep is more strongly associated with the development of MetS, with an hourly decrease in sleep corresponding to a 0.06 rise in odd ratio of the syndrome development. Sleeping less than 5 hour raises 1.5 fold the risk of MetS development, but oversleeping had no significant effects on the likelihood of developing a syndrome [20]. However, sleep assessment by simply examining the duration is not sufficient and one should consider all qualitative and quantitative aspects.

Considering the heavy burden of MetS on health, Healing, and economic systems, as well as the priority of prevention to treatment in disease management, this study aimed to examine the relationship between overnight sleep quality and the prevalence of MetS in people aged over 20 years in Ahvaz. If there is a significant relationship between the two variables, the results can help adopt appropriate measures to improve lifestyle, including a proper and adequate sleep, in order to prevent the future occurrence of the syndrome or reduce the severity of possible catches.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

This descriptive-analytic study was conducted on people aged over 20 years in Ahvaz during 2014-15. Stratified cluster sampling method was used in order to select samples from six health centers in Ahvaz (four and two centers in the east and west, respectively, according to the population covered). Blood samples were collected and announcing and inviting people to the health center completed questionnaires. At each center, the health center staff who were involved in the project and had received the necessary training carried out the following activities.

1) Filling in a form containing questions about age, gender, educational level, parents' job, daily activity, and smoking.

2) Measuring the waist size on the middle end of the last hip, the hip, and the height with a standard meter. Also, determining the weight using a Seca standard scale.

3) Measurement of systolic and diastolic blood pressure from the right arm at least 5 minutes after rest in two times of 30 seconds in sitting position by a dial barometer while fitting the stethoscope appropriately under the cuff. Meanwhile, the hands of the subjects were in a hanging mode. The mean of two measurements was recorded as the blood pressure. To record the blood pressure, the Korotkoff sounds were recorded in Phases 1 and 5, preferably with the bell part of stethoscope. The numbers of blood pressure in the first and fifth Korotkoff phases were recorded as systolic and diastolic pressures, respectively, in the questionnaire.

4) Blood samples (5 cc) were collected from individuals (after 12 h of fasting) and transferred to the diabetes laboratory at the Ahvaz University of Medical Sciences. The samples were then centrifuged at 2500-3500 rpm for 10 min. High-Density Lipoprotein (HDL), Triglyceride (TG) and Cholesterol (Chol) levels were measured through the enzymatic method by an auto analyzer (BT3000, Italy). Low-Density Lipoprotein (LDL) level in subjects with triglyceride levels of 400 mg/dl or lower was calculated by the Friedewald equation [21].

5) Completing the Pittsburgh questionnaire.

Pittsburg sleep quality index

Pittsburgh questionnaire is a suitable method for studying

different aspects of sleep, which consists of 19 items and seven sections and the total points are calculated as the final score of the individual. The questionnaire is completed by the person or via interviews and examines sleep quality and disturbances over the past month [22]. The seven sections include the individual's understanding of sleep quality, sleep latency, sleep duration, sleep adequacy (the ratio of sleeping hours to bed hours), Sleep Disorders (sleep brake), soporific use, and the occurrence of dysfunction during the day (the problem of staying awake while being involved in a social activity). The questionnaire scores a total of 21 and the questions have a Likert scale scored zero to three. Attaining a score ≥ 6 in the questionnaire indicates suffering from sleep disorder.

Metabolic syndrome diagnostic criteria

For diagnosis of metabolic syndrome, at least three of the following five components were considered necessary (according to ATP III criteria update 2005) [23].

1. Abdominal obesity (Waist circumference≥102 cm in men and \geq 88 cm in women).

2. TG≥150 mg/dl or history of drug consumption for hypertriglyceridemia.

3. HDL \leq 40 mg /dl in men and \leq 50 mg/dl in women or history of drug consumption.

4. BP systolic \geq 130 mmhg or BP diastolic \geq 85 mmhg or history of anti-hypertensive drug consumption.

5. FBS ≥100 mg/dl, history of diabetes mellitus history or using anti diabetic drugs.

BMI: BMI < 25 kg/m^2 is normal weight, $25 \le BMI \le 29.99$ is overweight, and BMI $\leq 30 \text{ kg/m}^2$ is obesity [24].

Statistical analysis

Descriptive statistics were used to provide tables, percentages and mean ± SD.

Chi-square test was used for relation between qualitative variables and independent t-test was used to compare the mean variables.

Logistic regression was conducted to estimate the odds ratios and the corresponding 95% confidence intervals (95% C.I.s) for the associations between MetS and sleep quality using the global PSQI score and 7 other PSQI component subscales after adjusting for the aforementioned variables. Significance level was set to 0.05, and data analysis was performed using SPSS version 20.

RESULTS

Out of 890 participants in this study, 25.3% (225 persons) suffered from MetS, with the highest prevalence in the aged over 60 years 48.7% (men 40.4% and women 60%). The mean ages of MetS patients and healthy subjects were 52 ± 13.4 and 40.43 ± 15.1 years, respectively, showing a significant difference (p < 0.001). Pittsburg sleep disorder questionnaire revealed that 81.5% of subjects suffered from sleep disorder (79.2% in men and 83.1% in women), with the highest prevalence of 81.5% in patients aged 60 year. The mean ages of subjects with sleep disorder (42.2 \pm 15.6 years) and those with normal sleep (43.3 \pm 15.3 years) showed no significant differences. The difference between MetS prevalence in sleep disorder 25.9%

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and normal 21.8% subjects was not significant (p = 0.62). The mean score of PSQI in women (8.74 \pm 2.56) was significantly higher than that (8.25 \pm 2.5) of men (p = 0.012). The mean score of PSQI (8.71 \pm 2.5) in MetS patients was non-significantly higher than that of nonsyndromic subjects (8.8 \pm 2.5). The average sleep duration in the group with normal sleep quality was 5.46 \pm 1.53, and in the group with abnormal sleep quality was 3.38 ± 0.86 ; which is a significant difference (*p* < 0.0001).

There is a significant relationship between the prevalence of abnormal HDL components of MetS with sleep Duration and abnormal waist circumference with sleep latency. However, the rest of the components of sleep and metabolic syndrome did not show a significant relationship.

Table 1 shows the comparison of MetS prevalence in individuals with and without sleep disorders in terms of demographic variables.

As seen in table 1, MetS is significantly more prevalent (50.5%) in sleep disorder subjects aged over 60 years old than those (26.1%) with a normal sleep only.

As shown in table 2, there is no significant differences between

Table 1: Comparison of MetS prevalence in individuals with and without sleep disorders in terms of demographic variables.

		Prevalence o			
		Sleep Disorder%	Sleep Normal	<i>p</i> -value	
Age	20-29	6.1	8.3	0.62	
	30-39	12.9	22.2	0.21	
	40-49	28.4	38.1	0.37	
	50-59	36.5	23.1	0.18	
	60 ≤	50.5	26.1	0.034*	
BMI	< 25	11.5	6	0.25	
	25 - < 30	27.4	23.5	0.58	
	30≤	44.9	43.8	0.9	
Sex	Male	21.8	15.4	0.25	
	Female	29	27.9	0.85	
Waist C.	Normal	9.7	10.8	0.39	
	Un normal	55.9	51	0.81	
FBS	Normal	10.3	6.5	0.08	
	Un normal	59.1	57.5	0.44	
HDL	Normal	16.9	14.5	0.29	
	Un normal	35.9	34.7	0.44	
Hypertension	Normal	14.4	12.7	0.31	
	Un normal	55.9	58.4	0.41	
TG	Normal	9.4	10.9	0.32	
	Un normal	60.3	53.7	0.17	
Education	Illiterate	47.9	55	0.37	
	Primary	28.4	22.3	0.15	
	High	14.7	17.6	0.31	
	Diploma and above	21.1	50	0.27	

Table 2: Prevalence components of MetS in sleep disorder and normal individuals

Component of MetS	Sleep Disorder	Sleep Normal	<i>p</i> -value	
	n (%)	n (%)		
TG	189 (32.4)	46 (34.6)	0.62	
FBS	186 (31.8)	47 (35.3)	0.43	
WC	204 (34.9)	39 (29.3)	0.21	
Hypertension	161 (27.6)	23 (17.3)	0.014*	
HDL	276 (47.3)	65 (48.9)	0.73	

the prevalence of MetS components in normal and sleep disorder subjects, with statistically dissimilar prevalence of hypertension only.

In the logistic regression equation (age over 40) variable had a significant effect on prevalence of MetS (The age group of 40-49 with OR = 3.86, 50-59 with OR = 4.26, and over 60 with OR = 4.26 showing the effect of increasing age on prevalence of MetS.)

The second effective variable was the BMI > 25; indicating that being Overweight (with OR = 2.93) and obese (with OR = 5.95) increased the prevalence of the MetS.

The third effective variable was increasing the level of education, which had a significant effect on reducing the prevalence of MetS. Also, the gender variable has a significant effect, but the duration and quality of sleep did not show a significant correlation (Table 3).

DISCUSSION

Sleep quality has been suggested to play an important role in development of MetS. However, the results have been inconsistent. In this study, MetS was more prevalent 25.9% (men 21.8% *vs.* women29%) in sleep disorder subjects than those with a normal sleep 21.8% (men 15.4% *vs.* women 27.9%) but this difference not significant. Of course, the prevalence of MetS in women with sleep disorders was significantly higher than in men (p = 048).

In a systematic and meta-analysis study that included 22 separate studies, a positive relationship between sleep quality and metabolic syndrome was confirmed (OR = 1.37, 95% CI 1.15-1.64). Similarly, sleep complaints, including difficulty in falling sleep (OR 1.18, 95% CI 1.05-1.33), difficulty in maintaining sleep (OR 1.15, 95% CI 1.02-1.30)

Table 3: Logistic regression analysis of sleep quality and duration on the prevalence of metabolic syndrome.

					00	95%	95% CI for OR				
	B SE Wald <i>p</i> -value		p-value			Upper					
BMI				48.003			0.000				
BMI(25-29.99 /< 25)	BMI(25-29.99 /< 25) 1.078		0).247 18.999			0.000 2.939		1.810	4.772	
BMI(> = 30/< 25)		.791	0	.259 47.933			0.000 5.995		3.611	9.954	
age				58.796			0.000				
Age(30-39/20-29)	Age(30-39/20-29) 0.537		0	.391	1.888 0.169		0.169	1.711	0.795	3.680	
Age(40-49/20-29)	Age(40-49/20-29) 1.352 (0	.371	13.252 0.000		0.000	3.866	1.867	8.005	
Age(50-59/20-29)	Age(50-59/20-29) 1.450		0	.360	16.245 0.000		4.265	2.107	8.634		
Age(> 60/20-29)	2	.403	0).369 42.379			0.000 11.051		5.361	22.779	
PSQI.(un normal/norma	l) 0	.114	0	0.295 0.151			0.698 1.121		0.629	1.998	
Sleep Duration	0	.054	0	0.090 0.352			0.553 1.055		0.884	1.259	
Sex(female/male)	0	.398	0	0.200 3.955			0.047 1.489		1.006	2.204	
Education				13.610			0.003				
(primary/illiterate)	-0	.574	0	5.140			0.023	0.563	0.343	0.925	
(high school/illiterate)	-1	.009	0	.281	12.888		0.000	0.365	0.210	0.632	
(Diploma and above/illiteration)	ate) -0	.166	0	.591	0.079		0.779	0.847	0.266	2.698	
Constant	-3	.262	0	.700	21.714		0.000	0.038			
					Prevalen	ce of	MetS (%)			
				Sle	ep Disorder%		Slee	ep Normal	<i>p</i> -value		
Age	20	-29		6.1			8.3			0.62	
	30`3			12.9			22.2			0.21	
	40-49			28.4			38.1			0.37	
	50-59			36.5			23.1			0.18	
	6	0 ≤		50.5			26.1			0.034*	
BMI	BMI < 25			11.5			6 23.5			0.25	
25 - <		< 30			27.4					0.58	
	30≤			44.9			43.8			0.9	
Sex	Male			21.8			15.4			0.25	
	Fe	male			29		27.9			0.85	
Waist C.	No	rmal			9.7		10.8			0.39	
	Un r	ormal			55.9		51			0.81	
FBS	No	rmal			10.3			6.5		0.08	
	Un r	ormal	ormal		59.1		57.5			0.44	
HDL	No	rmal			16.9			14.5		0.29	
	Un r	ormal			35.9		34.7			0.44	
Hypertension	No	rmal			14.4		12.7			0.31	
	Un r	ormal			55.9		58.4			0.41	
TG	TG Normal			9.4			10.9			0.32	
Un normal			60.3			53.7			0.17		
Education	Illite	erate			47.9			55		0.37	
	Pri	marv			28.4			22.3		0.15	
	н	iah			14.7			17.6		0.31	
			21 1			50			0.27		
L	Dipiona			٤١.١			50			0.21	

and sleep inefficiency (OR 1.40, 95% CI 1.04-1.89) were proved to be associated with the risk of MetS [23].

In this study, the logistic regression model showed that duration and quality of sleep have no significant effect on the development of MetS. Ying L, et al. [23] Study in South Korea showed that sleep quality (and also age and BMI), had a significant effect on MetS. But sleep duration (and also education level) had no significant effect [24]. The results of the Korean study show no significant relationship of sleep quality with MetS is not consistent with this study. Also in another the Korean study, PSQI scores significantly affected the prevalence of MetS [25].

Therefore, comparing the results of these studies, sleep quality results were not consistent, but sleep duration results were.

The mean score of PSQI in MetS patients was non-significantly higher than that of non-MetS subjects (8.71 ± 2.5 vs. 8.8 ± 2.5 p > 0.05); However, in Qazvin's Study (QMDS), Zohala and et al.'s showed that the average PSQI score in the MetS group was significantly higher than the non-MetS group (6.30 ± 3.20 vs. 5.83 ± 2.76, p = 0.013). Also in logistic regression analysis, sleep disturbances were associated with 1.388 fold-increased risk of metabolic syndrome after adjustment for age, gender, and body mass index [26] which is not consistent with the present study.

Our study discovered a relationship between hypertension and sleep disorder (p = 0.014), with more frequent hypertension in sleep disorder subjects (27.6%) than those without sleep disorders (17.3%) (Table 2). Sleep has increasingly been known as an important factor in the hemostasis of multiple body functions, and many adverse health effects, such as anxiety and endocrine disorders, can occur as a result of sleep deprivation [27]. Florentine et al. reported a hypertension prevalence 87.1% in people with poor-quality sleep while the figure reduced to 35.16% in those with high-quality sleep (p < 0.001) [28]. Hanus and et al. also states that hypertensive people have a poorer sleep quality than healthy people, while those with hypertension using sophomoric still have a weaker sleep quality than those who are hypertensive but do not consume soporifics [29].

A relationship between low HDL level and sleep duration was found in this study (Table 2). Smiley A, et al. [30] in the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES), 2013/2014 showed that there is a significant relationship between short sleep duration and low HDL cholesterol [30].

Based on the results of Hung, a low HDL is an independent predictor for the total score of Pittsburgh questionnaire, and it was stated that the mechanism of the relationship between dyslipidemia and sleep quality is still unclear. Sleep limitation is apparently associated with increases in cortisol and ghrelin levels, a sympathetic response, and a reduction in leptin levels, which could lead to the development of atherogenic lipid profile [20], though, Jenning found no correlations between the above [31].

CONCLUSION

This study showed that sleep disorder and MetS are highly prevalent in adult people in Ahvaz with a greater frequency of MetS in sleep disorder people than those with a normal sleep. There was no significant relationship between the quality and duration of sleep with the prevalence of metabolic syndrome.

Competing Interests

The authors declare that they have no competing interests.

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