Endothelial function evaluation in patients with anorexia nervosa

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Introduction: This study evaluated endothelial function in patients with anorexia nervosa (AN) using Endothelial Pulse Amplitude Testing (Endo-PAT) and correlated findings with the patients' history and biochemical data.

Method: Twenty-one patients age 13-21 years diagnosed with AN by the Division of Adolescent Medicine at Cohen Children's Medical Center of NY between 6/1/2012 and 5/31/2013 were studied along with 19 healthy controls similar in age and gender distribution. Digital pulse amplitude was examined using Endo-PAT. Raw data were automatically transferred into a reactive hyperemia index (RHI) and the natural log transformation of RHI (LnRHI). Subjects' and controls' electrocardiograms and biochemical markers were obtained.

Results: AN and controls had similar RHI (P=0.75) and LnRHI (P=0.95). AN had lower mean weight (P<0.001), height (P=0.02), BMI (P<0.001), resting HR (P<0.001), systolic (P<0.001) and diastolic BP (P=0.01). AN also had lower mean HR during EndoPAT testing (P<0.001), triiodothyronine (T3) (P<0.001), luteinizing hormone (LH) (P=0.006) and estradiol (E2) (P=0.005). Total cholesterol (Chol) (P<0.001) was higher in AN subjects. No correlation was observed between RHI and other parameters.

Conclusion: No significant differences in RHI or LnRHI found between the two groups. There were significantly higher Chol and lower HR, T3, LH and E2 levels in the AN group compared to controls. There were no correlations of these parameters to RHI.

Biography

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