Research Article

Insulin Resistance and Cardiovascular Risks in Different Groups of Hemodialysis Patients: A Multicenter Study

Tuyen Van Duong,1 Chun-Kuang Shih,1 Te-Chih Wong,2 Hsi-Hsien Chen,3,4 Tso-Hsiao Chen,4,5 Yung-Ho Hsu,4,6 Sheng-Jeng Peng,7 Ko-Lin Kuo,8 Hsiang-Chung Liu,9 En-Tzu Lin,10 Chien-Tien Su,11,12 and Shwu-Huey Yang1,13,14

1 School of Nutrition and Health Sciences, Taipei Medical University, Taipei, Taiwan
2 Department of Nutrition and Health Sciences, Chinese Culture University, Taipei, Taiwan
3 Department of Nephrology, Taipei Medical University Hospital, Taipei, Taiwan
4 School of Medicine, Taipei Medical University, Taipei, Taiwan
5 Department of Nephrology, Taipei Medical University- Wan Fang Hospital, Taipei, Taiwan
6 Division of Nephrology, Department of Internal Medicine, Taipei Medical University-Shuang Ho Hospital, Taipei, Taiwan
7 Division of Nephrology, Cathay General Hospital, Taipei, Taiwan
8 Division of Nephrology, Taipei Tzu-Chi Hospital, Taipei, Taiwan
9 Department of Nephrology, Wei Gong Memorial Hospital, Miaoli, Taiwan
10 Department of Nephrology, Lotung Poh-Ai Hospital, Yilan, Taiwan
11 School of Public Health, Taipei Medical University, Taipei, Taiwan
12 Department of Family Medicine, Taipei Medical University Hospital, Taipei, Taiwan
13 Research Center of Geriatric Nutrition, Taipei Medical University, Taipei, Taiwan
14 Nutrition Research Center, Taipei Medical University Hospital, Taipei, Taiwan

Correspondence should be addressed to Chien-Tien Su; ctsu@tmu.edu.tw and Shwu-Huey Yang; sherry@tmu.edu.tw

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Background. To investigate the association between insulin resistance (IR) and cardiovascular disease (CVD) risks among hemodialysis patients. Methods. We conducted a cross-sectional study between 2013 and 2017, on 384 hemodialysis patients from seven hospital-based-dialysis centers. HOMA-IR is classified according to median value. The CVD risks were defined by the K/DOQI Guidelines. Logistic regression analysis was used. Results. Patients’ age was 60.9 ± 11.8, 58.1% men, and 40.3% overweight/obese. The median of HOMA-IR was 5.4, 82.8% high systolic blood pressure, and 85.7% hyperhomocysteinemia. In multivariate analysis, IR was significantly associated with higher odd of low high-density lipoprotein cholesterol, high triglyceride, and impaired fasting glucose in groups of normal weight, overweight/obese, nondiabetes, diabetes, and overall sample. IR linked with elevated high-sensitive C-reactive protein in normal weight patients (oddratio, OR=2.21, 95% confidence interval, 1.16-4.22, p < .05), with hypoalbuminemia in normal weight patients (OR=8.31, 95% CI, 2.35-29.37, p < .01), in nondiabetes patients (OR=6.59, 95% CI, 1.81-23.95, p < .01), and overall sample (OR=3.07, 1.51-6.23, p < .01). Conclusions. The level of IR and prevalence of CVD risks were high in hemodialysis patients. IR was independently associated with CVD risks.

1. Introduction

The incidence and prevalence of treated end-stage renal disease (ESRD) have been steadily increased over the past decades across countries. In 2014, Taiwan has reported the highest number of treated ESRD with 455 new cases and the prevalence of 3219 patients per million general population (PMP). Taiwan has also experienced the highest number of maintenance hemodialysis in the world with 3093 patients PMP, 90% of them receiving in-center hemodialysis [1].
Cardiovascular disease (CVD) has been reported as the leading cause of death and disability all over the world. In 2013, CVD accounted for about 17 million deaths and 329 million disability adjusted life-years lost [2]. In ESRD patients, the cardiovascular cause of death is 10-20 times higher in the healthy population and accounted for more than half of all death [3].

Insulin resistance (IR) is with high prevalence in the ESRD patients [4]. IR its self is a risk for CVD and strongly associates with other CVD risks (dyslipidemia, hypertension, and inflammation) through several pathophysiologic mechanisms, which is well documented [5]. In ESRD patients undergoing hemodialysis, the cardiovascular risks worsen the arterial stiffness which contributes to the development of cardiovascular events and diseases [6]. IR is the anterior consequence of obesity [7]. In ESRD patients, IR then links to dyslipidemia, impaired fasting glucose, and cardiovascular risks and events [5, 8, 9]. In empirical researches, IR is closely associated with cardiovascular risks such as obesity, hypertension, and dyslipidemia [10], anemia [4], inflammation [11, 12], and echocardiography parameters [12]. In turn, IR significantly predicts cardiovascular diseases and mortality in ESRD patients [13–16]. Therefore, assessment of IR is critically important work for nephrologists and nurses to follow up patients and have appropriate interventions.

The ESRD has created a heavy burden for the healthcare system all around the world over the past decade [1]. However, the number of clinicians has not adequately increased to meet the greater demand for renal treatment [17]. The early detection of the IR and its associated factors might contribute to prevent CVD risks and reduce the burden. On the other hand, improving IR might be an important therapeutic target and contribute to better health outcomes in hemodialysis patients [18, 19]. This study was to assess the prevalence and explore the association between IR and CVD risk factors among ESRD patients undergoing hemodialysis.

2. Materials and Methods

2.1. Study Design. A clinical cross-sectional study was conducted between September 2013 and April 2017 in seven dialysis centers in Taiwan. A total of 384 hemodialysis patients were recruited from Taipei Medical University Hospital (55 patients collected from September to December 2013; 42 patients collected from November 2016 to January 2017); Taipei Medical University, Wan Fang Hospital (31 patients collected from April to May 2014); Taipei Medical University, Shuang Ho Hospital (39 patients collected in December 2014); Cathay General Hospital (41 patients collected in March 2016); Taipei Tzu-Chi Hospital (57 patients collected in November 2016); Wei-Gong Memorial Hospital (59 patients collected from February to March 2017); and Lotung Poh-Ai Hospital (50 patients collected in April 2017).

2.2. Hemodialysis Patients and Data Sources. We included patients aged above 20 years, receiving thrice-weekly hemodialysis treatment for at least 3 months and adequate dialysis quality (equilibrated Kt/V ≥ 1.2 g/kg/day). The exclusion criteria were patients who were diagnosed with pregnancy, amputation, hyperthyroidism, hypothyroidism, and malignancy, received tube feeding, exhibited hepatic failure or cancer, were hospitalized within one month prior to the recruitment, or were scheduled for surgery. Volume overload or edema closely linked with other clinical instability [20]. Therefore, patients with evidence of edema were excluded in the current study and in previous studies [21–23].

The eligible patients in selected hospitals signed the informed consents before conducting chart reviews and laboratory evaluations. The patients’ medical records were reviewed. The blood samples were collected by licensed nurses, at the start of the first dialysis session of the week, and then analyzed in the hospital laboratory by using commercially available test kits, which was described carefully in previous studies [24, 25].

2.3. Insulin Resistance Index. The blood samples collected by the registered nurse were centrifuged in each hospital laboratory. The serum was separated and kept in the ice-pack, then sent to the laboratory in Taipei Medical University Hospital for serum insulin analysis. Therefore, all samples were analyzed with the same commercial kit. The homeostatic model assessment of insulin resistance index (HOMA-IR) is used to assess IR. The index is calculated using the formula developed by Matthews et al. [26]:

$$\text{HOMA-IR} = \frac{\text{fasting plasma insulin} (\mu\text{U/mL}) \times \text{fasting plasma glucose} (\text{mg/dL})}{405}.$$ (1)

Patients were separated into two groups based on the median value as the nonnormal distribution of HOMA-IR; this method was applied in previous studies [14, 27].

2.4. Cardiovascular Risks. The traditional and nontraditional CVD risks were described in the previous study [22] and the current study with the details below. In the present study, more factors were assessed and reported, such as physical activity, medical history (diabetes, hypertension, and cardiovascular disease), and other biochemical parameters (blood urea nitrogen, uric acid, creatinine, and fasting plasma insulin).

2.4.1. Traditional CVD Risk Factors. The traditional risks of cardiovascular diseases include factors which were mentioned in previous studies [28, 29]. (1) Hypertension: systolic blood pressure (SBP) ≥ 130 mmHg and diastolic blood pressure (DBP) ≥ 85 mmHg [30]; (2) impaired fasting glucose (IFG); patients diagnosed with type 2 diabetes mellitus or fasting plasma glucose (FPG) ≥ 100 mg/dL [30]; (3) dyslipidemia including high serum triglyceride (TG) level at TG ≥150 mg/dL, low level of serum high-density lipoprotein cholesterol (HDL-C) at < 40 mg/dL in men and < 50 mg/dL in women, high level of serum low-density lipoprotein cholesterol (LDL-C) at ≥ 100 mg/dL, and high serum total cholesterol at TC ≥ 200 mg/dL [31].

2.4.2. Nontraditional/Novel CVD Risk Factors. Anemia: the targeted hemoglobin (Hb) level should be 11g/dL or greater,
as moderately strong recommended by The National Kidney Foundation Kidney Disease Outcomes Quality Initiative (K/DOQI) Work Group [32]. Anemia is classified as Hb < 11 g/dL. Mineral metabolism abnormalities: albumin-corrected calcium = total calcium (mg/dL) + 0.8 x (4.0 – serum albumin in g/dL) [33]. Corrected calcium and phosphate levels at each time were used to calculate calcium-phosphate product (Ca x PO₄²⁻). The serum calcium (Ca) is classified into low level (Ca < 8.4 mg/dL), normal level (Ca 8.4-9.5 mg/dL), and high (Ca > 9.5 mg/dL). The serum phosphate (PO₄) is also classified into low level (PO₄ < 3.5 mg/dL), normal (PO₄ 3.5-5.5 mg/dL), and high (PO₄ > 5.5 mg/dL). Calcium-phosphate product is classified into normal (Ca x PO₄ < 55 mg²/dL²) and high (Ca x PO₄ ≥ 55 mg²/dL²). In addition, intact parathyroid hormone (iPTH) is classified as normal (iPTH 150-300 pg/mL), and high (iPTH ≥ 300 pg/mL) [34]. Hyperhomocysteinemia is defined as total plasma homocysteine (Hcy) > 14 μmol/L [29]. Inflammation is defined as high sensitive C-reactive protein (hs-CRP) > 0.3 mg/dL as the risk factor for CVD [35]. The poor nutritional status is defined as serum albumin ≤ 3.5 mg/dL as applied in hemodialysis patients from 11 countries in the Dialysis Outcomes and Practice Patterns Study (DOPPS) [36]. Hyperkalemia is identified as serum potassium ≥ 5.0 mEq/L as the risk of cardiovascular mortality in hemodialysis patients [37].

2.5. Statistical Analysis. The descriptive analyses describe the patients’ characteristics, insulin resistance (IR), cardiovascular disease risk factors via the mean, standard deviation, or median, interquartile range, frequency, and percentage. The independent-samples t-test, Chi-square test, and Mann-Whitney U test were used appropriately to test the distribution of patients’ characteristics, CVD risks, and HOMA-IR in different groups of body mass index (BMI) and DM. In order to carefully examine the association between IR and traditional and nontraditional risk factors, the multivariate logistic regressions were used to estimate the odd ratios. Since obesity is the most common cause of IR [7], we analyzed the association in different groups of BMI (normal weight versus overweight/obese). The associations were also analyzed in a group of patients with diabetes and nondiabetes. The analyses were adjusted for age and gender, hemodialysis vintage, Charlson comorbidity index, and body mass index (for overall sample). These adjusted factors might be the confounders as they showed the relationship with IR [38–42]. All statistical analyses are performed by the SPSS for Windows v20.0 (IBM Corp., New York, USA). The significant level is set at p value < .05.

2.6. Ethical Approval. The study is approved by the Joint Institutional Review Board of Taipei Medical University (TMU-JIRB No. 201302024), which was for conducting the study in three hospitals of Taipei Medical University (Taipei Medical University Hospital, Wan-Fang Hospital, Shuang Ho Hospital), Wei-Gong Memorial Hospital, and Lotung Poh-Ai Hospital; the ethical committee of Cathay General Hospital (CGH-OPI04001); and Taipei Tzu-Chi Hospital (04-MI1-090). All patients involved in the study have signed the informed consent statement.

3. Results

Of the total sample, the average age of patients was 60.9 ± 11.8, 58.1% men, and 40.3% overweight or obese. The traditional CVD risk factors included high SBP (82.8%), high DBP (25.5%), high TC (16.7%), high LDL-C (48.4%), low HDL-C (65.9%), high TG (40.6%), and impaired fasting glucose (69.5%). The nontraditional CVD risks included anemia (58.3%), low calcium (8.3%), high calcium (35.2%), low phosphate (7.0%), high phosphate (35.4%), high calcium-phosphate product (25.5%), high intact parathyroid hormone (42.7%), hyperhomocysteinemia (85.7%), elevated hs-CRP (45.6%), and low serum albumin (12.0%; Table 1).

In comparison with normal weight patients, those with overweight/obese had a higher prevalence of low HDL-C, high TG, IFG, low serum Ca, elevated Ca x PO₄, elevated hs-CRP, and elevated HOMA-IR (p < .05). On the other hand, patients with DM had a higher proportion of high SBP, low HDL-C, high TG, IFG, elevated iPTH, low serum albumin, and elevated HOMA-IR, as compared with non-DM patients (p < .05; Table 1).

The results of multivariate regression analyses are shown in Tables 2 and 3. After control for age, gender, hemodialysis vintage, Charlson Comorbidity Index, and physical activity, in normal weight patients, IR was significantly associated with higher odds of low HDL-C (OR, 1.75, 95% CI, 1.01-3.06, p < .05), high TG (OR, 3.41, 95% CI, 1.78-6.53, p < .001), IFG (OR, 8.15, 95% CI, 4.14-16.02, p < .001), elevated hs-CRP (OR, 2.21, 95% CI, 1.16-4.22, p < .05), and lower odd of hypoalbuminemia (OR, 8.31, 95% CI, 2.35-29.37, p < .01), but with lower odds of high SBP (OR, 0.36, 95% CI, 0.17-0.76, p < .01), high PO₄ (OR, 0.52, 95% CI, 0.28-0.96, p < .05), and hyperkalemia (OR, 0.39, 95% CI, 0.22-0.70, p < .01). In overweight/obese patients, IR was significantly linked with higher odds of low HDL-C (OR, 4.15, 95% CI, 1.71-10.06, p < .01), high TG (OR, 3.06, 95% CI, 1.53-6.13, p < .01), and IFG (OR, 10.76, 95% CI, 3.36-34.5, p < .001).

After being adjusted for age, gender, hemodialysis vintage, Charlson Comorbidity Index, and physical activity, and body mass index, in non-DM patients, IR was significantly linked with higher odds of low HDL-C (OR, 2.14, 95% CI, 1.23-3.75, p < .01), high TG (OR, 3.22, 95% CI, 1.69-6.12, p < .001), IFG (OR, 12.54, 95% CI, 6.39-24.63, p < .001), and hypoalbuminemia (OR, 6.59, 95% CI, 1.81-23.95, p < .01), but with lower odd of hyperkalemia (OR, 0.31, 95% CI, 0.17-0.57, p < .001). In DM patients, IR was significantly linked with higher odds of low HDL-C (OR, 3.07, 95% CI, 1.28-7.33, p < .05) and high TG (OR, 4.29, 95% CI, 2.05-8.98, p < .001). In overall sample, the elevated level of HOMA-IR was significantly associated with higher odds of low HDL-C (OR, 2.53, 95% CI, 1.59-4.01, p < .001), high TG (OR, 3.58, 95% CI, 2.25-5.69, p < .001), IFG (OR, 799, 95% CI, 4.50-14.18, p < .001), and hypoalbuminemia (OR, 3.07, 95% CI, 1.51-6.23, p < .01), but with lower odd of hyperkalemia (OR, 0.56, 95% CI, 0.36-0.88, p < .05; Tables 2 and 3).

4. Discussion

The level of IR is higher in overweight/obese and DM patients than in normal weight and non-DM patients in the current
| Characteristics | Total sample (n=384) | BMI < 24.0 (n=229) | BMI ≥ 24.0 (n=155) | p value | Non-DM (n=230) | DM (n=154) | p value |
|-----------------|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------|----------------|-------------|--------|
| Age, years      | 60.9 ± 11.8         | 61.0 ± 12.0       | 60.7 ± 11.5       | 0.809  | 59.4 ± 11.9    | 63.0 ± 11.2 | 0.003  |
| Gender          | 223 (58.1%)         | 127 (55.5%)       | 96 (61.9%)        | 0.207  | 129 (56.1%)    | 94 (61.0%)  | 0.335  |
| Dialysis vintage, years | 5.5 ± 4.9  | 6.1 ± 5.4         | 4.7 ± 4.0         | 0.007  | 6.8 ± 5.6      | 3.7 ± 2.8   | <0.001 |
| CCI score       | 4.7 ± 1.6           | 4.6 ± 1.6         | 4.8 ± 1.5         | 0.295  | 4.1 ± 1.4      | 5.5 ± 1.3   | <0.001 |
| PA, MET-min/wk   | 4911.6 ± 1871.8     | 4874.5 ± 1900.3   | 4966.5 ± 1833.7   | 0.637  | 4964.7 ± 1929.0| 4832.4 ± 1786.3| 0.498 |
| BMI, kg/m²      | 23.5 ± 3.9          | 21.0 ± 1.9        | 27.2 ± 3.0        | <0.001 | 22.6 ± 3.4     | 24.9 ± 4.1  | <0.001 |
| DM              | 154 (40.1%)         | 66 (28.8%)        | 88 (56.8%)        | <0.001 | -              | -           | -      |
| HTN             | 191 (49.7%)         | 107 (46.7%)       | 84 (54.2%)        | 0.151  | 108 (47.0%)    | 83 (53.9%)  | 0.383  |
| CVD             | 115 (29.9%)         | 63 (27.5%)        | 52 (33.5%)        | 0.205  | 55 (23.9%)     | 60 (39.0%)  | 0.002  |
| Traditional CVD risks |          |                   |                   |        |                |             |        |
| SBP ≥ 130 mmHg  | 318 (82.8%)         | 189 (82.5%)       | 129 (83.2%)       | 0.860  | 181 (78.7%)    | 137 (89.0%) | 0.009  |
| DBP ≥ 85 mmHg   | 98 (25.5%)          | 60 (26.2%)        | 38 (24.5%)        | 0.710  | 59 (25.7%)     | 39 (25.3%)  | 0.942  |
| TC ≥ 200 mg/dL  | 64 (16.7%)          | 33 (14.4%)        | 31 (20.0%)        | 0.149  | 38 (16.5%)     | 26 (16.9%)  | 0.926  |
| LDL-C ≥ 100 mg/dL| 186 (48.4%)         | 39 (17.0%)        | 32 (20.6%)        | 0.371  | 45 (19.6%)     | 26 (16.9%)  | 0.507  |
| HDL-C < 40 mg/dL for men, < 50 mg/dL for women | 253 (65.9%) | 133 (58.1%)       | 120 (77.4%)       | <0.001 | 132 (57.4%)    | 121 (78.6%) | <0.001 |
| TG ≥ 150 mg/dL  | 156 (40.6%)         | 68 (29.7%)        | 88 (56.8%)        | <0.001 | 68 (29.6%)     | 88 (57.1%)  | <0.001 |
| IFG (FPG ≥ 100 mg/dL, or DM) | 267 (69.5%) | 145 (63.3%)       | 122 (78.7%)       | 0.001  | 113 (49.1%)    | 154 (100.0%)| <0.001 |
| Non-traditional CVD risks |          |                   |                   |        |                |             |        |
| Hemoglobin < 11 g/dL | 224 (58.3%) | 137 (59.8%)       | 87 (56.1%)        | 0.471  | 131 (57.0%)    | 93 (60.4%)  | 0.504  |
| Calcium < 8.4 mg/dL | 32 (8.3%)  | 17 (7.4%)         | 15 (9.7%)         | 0.017  | 18 (7.8%)      | 14 (9.1%)   | 0.906  |
| Calcium > 9.5 mg/dL | 135 (35.2%) | 69 (30.1%)        | 66 (42.6%)        | 0.710  | 81 (35.2%)     | 54 (35.8%)  | 0.992  |
| Phosphorus > 3.5 mg/dL | 27 (7.0%)  | 16 (7.0%)         | 11 (71%)          | 0.079  | 16 (70%)       | 11 (7.1%)   | 0.992  |
| Phosphorus > 5.5 mg/dL | 136 (35.4%) | 71 (31.0%)        | 65 (41.9%)        | 0.801  | 82 (35.7%)     | 54 (35.8%)  | 0.868  |
| Ca × PO₄ ≥ 55 mg²/dL² | 98 (25.5%) | 45 (19.7%)        | 53 (34.2%)        | 0.001  | 58 (25.2%)     | 40 (26.0%)  | 0.868  |
| i-PTH ≥ 300 pg/mL | 164 (42.7%) | 99 (43.2%)        | 65 (41.9%)        | 0.801  | 111 (48.3%)    | 53 (34.4%)  | 0.007  |
| Hcy > 14 μmol/L | 329 (85.7%)         | 196 (59.6%)       | 133 (40.4%)       | 0.953  | 195 (59.3%)    | 134 (40.7%) | 0.541  |
| hs-CRP > 0.3 mg/L | 175 (45.6%)         | 59 (25.5%)        | 55 (35.5%)        | 0.041  | 60 (26.1%)     | 54 (35.3%)  | 0.059  |
| Albumin ≥ 3.5 g/dL | 46 (12.0%)          | 26 (11.4%)        | 20 (12.9%)        | 0.646  | 19 (8.3%)      | 27 (17.5%)  | 0.006  |
| Serum K ≥ 5.0 mEq/L | 135 (35.2%) | 82 (35.8%)        | 53 (34.2%)        | 0.745  | 88 (38.3%)     | 47 (30.5%)  | 0.119  |
| HOMA-IR         | 5.4 (2.2, 11.0)     | 3.9 (1.7, 9.8)    | 6.9 (3.8, 14.3)   | <0.001 | 4.1 (1.8, 9.9) | 6.4 (3.3, 12.5)| <0.001 |

Categorical data is shown as n (%). Continuous data is presented as mean ± SD or median (interquartile range). P values calculated using Chi-square test, independent-samples T test, or Mann-Whitney U test.

*The diagnosed values were defined by the National Kidney Foundation Kidney Disease Outcomes Quality Initiative Work Group.

BMI, body mass index; DM, diabetes mellitus; HTN, hypertension; CVD, cardiovascular diseases; CCI, Charlson comorbidity index; PA, physical activity; MET, metabolic equivalent minute/week; SBP, systolic blood pressure; DBP, diastolic blood pressure; TC, total cholesterol; LDL-C, low-density lipoprotein cholesterol; HDL-C, high-density lipoprotein cholesterol; TG, triglyceride; IFG, impaired fasting glucose; Ca x PO₄, calcium-phosphate product; iPTH, intact parathyroid hormone; Hcy, homocysteine; hs-CRP, high sensitive C-reactive protein; K, serum potassium; HOMA-IR, homeostatic model assessment of insulin resistance; BUN, blood urea nitrogen; FPG, fasting plasma glucose; FPI: fasting plasma insulin.
Table 2: Odds ratios of having traditional cardiovascular risks among hemodialysis patients with insulin resistance.

|                | High SBP OR (95%CI) | High DBP OR (95%CI) | High TC OR (95%CI) | High LDL-C OR (95%CI) | Low HDL-C OR (95%CI) | High TG OR (95%CI) | IFG OR (95%CI) |
|----------------|----------------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------------|----------------------|-------------------|----------------|
| **Normal weight** |                      |                      |                     |                        |                      |                   |                |
| Model 1         | 0.42 (0.20, 0.86)*   | 0.90 (0.50, 1.63)    | 0.80 (0.38, 1.68)   | 0.83 (0.49, 1.39)      | 1.68 (0.99, 2.86)    | 2.79 (1.54, 5.06) ** | 8.22 (4.35, 15.52)*** |
| Model 2         | 0.36 (0.17, 0.79)**  | 1.13 (0.60, 2.12)    | 0.81 (0.37, 1.75)   | 0.78 (0.45, 1.36)      | 1.75 (1.01, 3.06)*   | 3.41 (1.78, 6.53)** | 8.15 (4.18, 16.02)** |
| **Overweight/Obese** |                    |                      |                     |                        |                      |                   |                |
| Model 1         | 1.68 (0.71, 3.97)    | 1.05 (0.51, 2.19)    | 1.14 (0.52, 2.50)   | 0.84 (0.45, 1.58)      | 3.65 (1.58, 8.45)**  | 2.90 (1.50, 5.61)** | 6.06 (2.33, 15.74)** |
| Model 2         | 1.69 (0.66, 4.29)    | 0.75 (0.33, 1.68)    | 0.99 (0.42, 2.33)   | 0.80 (0.41, 1.55)      | 4.15 (1.71, 10.06)** | 3.06 (1.53, 6.13)** | 10.76 (3.36, 34.5)** |
| **Non-diabetes** |                      |                      |                     |                        |                      |                   |                |
| Model 1         | 0.69 (0.37, 1.31)    | 1.15 (0.63, 2.07)    | 0.78 (0.39, 1.56)   | 0.90 (0.54, 1.51)      | 2.38 (1.39, 4.07)**  | 3.40 (1.85, 6.25)** | 10.64 (5.78, 19.58)** |
| Model 2         | 0.61 (0.31, 1.18)    | 1.21 (0.64, 2.30)    | 0.64 (0.31, 1.35)   | 0.76 (0.44, 1.33)      | 2.14 (1.23, 3.75)**  | 3.22 (1.69, 6.12)** | 12.54 (6.39, 24.63)** |
| **Diabetes**    |                      |                      |                     |                        |                      |                   |                |
| Model 1         | 1.49 (0.54, 4.15)    | 0.93 (0.45, 1.93)    | 1.00 (0.43, 2.32)   | 0.77 (0.41, 1.45)      | 2.40 (1.07, 5.38)*   | 3.75 (1.91, 7.37)** | 8.14 (4.77, 13.89)** |
| Model 2         | 2.11 (0.70, 6.31)    | 0.94 (0.43, 2.05)    | 1.16 (0.44, 3.05)   | 0.78 (0.40, 1.54)      | 3.07 (1.28, 7.33)*   | 4.29 (2.05, 8.98)** |                |
| **Overall**     |                      |                      |                     |                        |                      |                   |                |
| Model 1         | 0.80 (0.47, 1.37)    | 1.00 (0.63, 1.58)    | 0.80 (0.47, 1.37)   | 0.72 (0.48, 1.07)      | 2.65 (1.71, 4.11)**  | 3.67 (2.39, 5.66)** | 8.14 (4.77, 13.89)** |
| Model 2         | 0.76 (0.43, 1.32)    | 1.11 (0.68, 1.83)    | 0.75 (0.42, 1.32)   | 0.63 (0.41, 0.96)*     | 2.53 (1.59, 4.01)**  | 3.58 (2.25, 5.69)** | 7.99 (4.50, 14.18)** |

Significant level at * p < 0.05, ** p < 0.01, and *** p < 0.001.
Model 1: elevated HOMA-IR and traditional CVD risk factors.
Model 2: adjusted for age, gender, hemodialysis vintage, Charlson comorbidity index, physical activity, and body mass index (for nondiabetes, diabetes, and overall sample).
SBP, systolic blood pressure; DBP, diastolic blood pressure; TC, total cholesterol; LDL-C, low-density lipoprotein cholesterol; HDL-C, high-density lipoprotein cholesterol; TG, triglyceride; IFG, impaired fasting glucose.
|                   | Anemia | Low Ca | High Ca | Low PO4 | High PO4 | High CaPO4 | High iPTH | High Hcy | High CRP | Low Alb | Hyperkalemia |
|-------------------|--------|--------|---------|---------|----------|------------|-----------|----------|----------|--------|--------------|
|                   | OR (95%CI) | OR (95%CI) | OR (95%CI) | OR (95%CI) | OR (95%CI) | OR (95%CI) | OR (95%CI) | OR (95%CI) | OR (95%CI) | OR (95%CI) | OR (95%CI) |
| Normal weight     |        |        |         |         |          |             |           |          |          |        |              |
| Model 1           | 1.17 (0.69, 1.99) | 0.99 (0.36, 2.72) | 0.68 (0.38, 1.21) | 1.86 (0.61, 5.62) | 0.52 (0.29, 0.93)* | 0.47 (0.24, 0.93)* | 0.77 (0.45, 1.30) | 2.19 (1.18, 4.03)* | 9.25 (2.69, 31.79)** | 0.39 (0.22, 0.68)** |
| Model 2           | 0.98 (0.55, 1.72) | 1.25 (0.42, 3.69) | 0.72 (0.39, 1.32) | 1.71 (0.54, 5.40) | 0.52 (0.28, 0.96)* | 0.51 (0.25, 1.03) | 0.83 (0.48, 1.62) | 2.21 (1.16, 4.22)* | 8.31 (2.35, 29.37)** | 0.39 (0.22, 0.70)** |
| Overweight/Obese  |        |        |         |         |          |             |           |          |          |        |              |
| Model 1           | 0.84 (0.45, 1.59) | 4.27 (1.24, 14.69)* | 1.86 (0.95, 3.65) | 3.72 (0.92, 15.08) | 1.63 (0.84, 3.15) | 1.26 (0.65, 2.45) | 1.39 (0.74, 2.65) | 0.96 (0.39, 2.36) | 0.80 (0.41, 1.55) | 0.83 (0.41, 2.13) |
| Model 2           | 0.82 (0.41, 1.62) | 3.00 (0.80, 11.20) | 1.94 (0.96, 3.90) | 3.54 (0.84, 14.96) | 1.69 (0.82, 3.51) | 1.23 (0.60, 2.50) | 1.36 (0.68, 2.71) | 0.98 (0.38, 2.53) | 1.04 (0.51, 2.10) | 0.68 (0.25, 1.82) |
| Non-diabetes      |        |        |         |         |          |             |           |          |          |        |              |
| Model 1           | 1.04 (0.62, 1.75) | 1.55 (0.57, 4.24) | 0.87 (0.50, 1.52) | 2.74 (0.84, 8.93) | 0.65 (0.37, 1.13) | 0.83 (0.46, 1.51) | 0.97 (0.58, 1.62) | 1.07 (0.52, 2.20) | 1.58 (0.87, 2.86) | 6.03 (1.71, 21.32)** |
| Model 2           | 1.04 (0.60, 1.82) | 1.44 (0.49, 4.20) | 0.75 (0.42, 1.36) | 2.62 (0.78, 8.85) | 0.51 (0.27, 0.95)* | 0.62 (0.32, 1.22) | 0.86 (0.50, 1.48) | 1.01 (0.47, 2.16) | 1.58 (0.85, 2.95) | 6.59 (1.81, 31.79)** |
| Diabetes          |        |        |         |         |          |             |           |          |          |        |              |
| Model 1           | 1.18 (0.62, 2.25) | 2.38 (0.74, 7.71) | 1.79 (0.90, 3.55) | 2.24 (0.61, 8.22) | 1.73 (0.87, 3.42) | 1.00 (0.49, 2.06) | 1.50 (0.77, 2.93) | 0.63 (0.24, 1.64) | 1.26 (0.65, 2.44) | 2.31 (0.96, 5.52) |
| Model 2           | 1.12 (0.56, 2.21) | 2.11 (0.55, 8.15) | 1.59 (0.77, 3.28) | 2.41 (0.62, 9.40) | 1.70 (0.82, 3.49) | 0.97 (0.45, 2.06) | 1.71 (0.82, 3.54) | 0.74 (0.27, 2.04) | 1.22 (0.60, 2.48) | 2.05 (0.80, 5.26) |
| Overall           |        |        |         |         |          |             |           |          |          |        |              |
| Model 1           | 1.09 (0.73, 1.64) | 1.53 (0.72, 3.25) | 1.03 (0.67, 1.59) | 2.53 (1.06, 6.02)* | 1.08 (0.66, 1.54) | 1.00 (0.49, 1.54) | 0.95 (0.60, 1.50) | 0.88 (0.59, 1.32) | 0.74 (0.45, 2.21) | 3.23 (1.62, 6.45)** |
| Model 2           | 1.06 (0.69, 1.63) | 1.38 (0.61, 3.15) | 0.95 (0.60, 1.49) | 2.35 (0.97, 5.71) | 0.99 (0.62, 1.57) | 0.89 (0.54, 1.46) | 0.93 (0.61, 1.43) | 0.89 (0.54, 2.30) | 1.30 (0.82, 2.06) | 3.07 (1.51, 6.06)** |

Significant level at *p < 0.05, **p < 0.01, ***p < 0.001.
Model 1: elevated HOMA-IR and traditional CVD risk factors.
Model 2: adjusted for age, gender, hemodialysis vintage, Charlson comorbidity index, physical activity, and body mass index (for nondiabetes, diabetes, and overall sample).
Ca, serum calcium; PO4, serum phosphorus; CaPO4, calcium phosphorus product; iPTH, intact parathyroid hormone; hs-CRP, high sensitive C-reactive protein; Alb, serum albumin.
The insulin resistance (IR) and CVD risks were common in hemodialysis patients. IR was associated with a higher prevalence of dyslipidemia (low HDL-C, high TG), impaired fasting glucose, elevated hs-CRP, and hypoalbuminemia. Addressing the assessment and treatment of IR and CVD risks in clinical practice could help with improving the hemodialysis outcomes.

5. Conclusions

The insulin resistance (IR) and CVD risks were common in hemodialysis patients. IR was associated with a higher prevalence of dyslipidemia (low HDL-C, high TG), impaired fasting glucose, elevated hs-CRP, and hypoalbuminemia. Addressing the assessment and treatment of IR and CVD risks in clinical practice could help with improving the hemodialysis outcomes.

Data Availability

Since the dataset contains sensitive and identifying information, any modification or deidentification on the dataset is restricted. The authors confirm that the data is available upon request. Requests may be sent to the corresponding author, Shwu-Huey Yang (sherry@tmu.edu.tw).

Disclosure

The funder had no role in the decision to collect data, data analysis, or reporting of the results. The abstract was presented at the Annual Dialysis Conference 2018, Mar 3-6, 2018, Orlando, Florida.

Conflicts of Interest

The authors had no conflicts of interest relevant to this article to be disclosed.

Authors’ Contributions

Tuyen Van Duong consulted as a statistician, analyzed and interpreted the data, and drafted the manuscript. Chun-Kuang Shih, Te-Chih Wong, Hsi-Hsien Chen, Tso-Hsiao Chen, Yung-Ho Hsu, Sheng-Jeng Peng, Ko-Lin Kuo, Hsiang-Chung Liu, and En-Tzu Lin contributed to conception and design. Chun-Kuang Shih, Te-Chih Wong, Hsi-Hsien Chen, Tso-Hsiao Chen, Yung-Ho Hsu, Sheng-Jeng Peng, Ko-Lin Kuo, Hsiang-Chung Liu, and En-Tzu Lin contributed to conception and design. Chien-Tien Su and Shwu-Huey Yang contributed to the overall conception and design and critically reviewed the manuscript. All authors read and approved the final version of the manuscript.

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