

Research paper

Bile acid metabolites in early pregnancy and risk of gestational diabetes in Chinese women: A nested case-control study

Jing Li^a, Xiaoxu Huo^a, Yun-Feng Cao^{b,c}, Sai-Nan Li^d, Zuo Du^d, Ping Shao^e, Junhong Leng^e, Cuiping Zhang^e, Xiao-Yu Sun^{b,c}, Ronald C.W. Ma^f, Zhong-Ze Fang^d, XilinYang^a

^a Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics, School of Public Health, Tianjin Medical University, Tianjin, China

^b Key Laboratory of Liaoning Tumor Clinical Metabolomics (KLLTCM), Jinzhou, Liaoning, China

^c RSKT Biopharma Inc, Dalian, Liaoning, China

^d Department of Toxicology, School of Public Health, Tianjin Medical University, Tianjin, China

^e Tianjin Women and Children's Health Center, Tianjin, China

^f Department of Medicine and Therapeutics, Prince of Wales Hospital, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong, China

article info

abstract

Article history:

fed mice are characterized by increased fasting glucose and a decreased bile acid pool size but improvement of insulin resistance after supple-

ethnicity, education attainment, habitual smoking before or during pregnancy, and alcohol consumption before or during pregnancy. Education attainment was classified into ≥ 12 or < 12 years of schooling. Habitual smoking before or during pregnancy was defined as continuously smoking one or more cigarettes per day for at least 6 months before pregnancy or smoking one or more cigarettes per day during pregnancy.

2.3. Metabolomics analysis of serum bile acids components

2.3.1. Sample pretreatment

At -80°C low temperature preservation of sample thawed in 4°C . Quantitative weighing $50\ \mu\text{L}$ sample in $1.5\ \text{mL}$ EP, adding $2\ \mu\text{g/mL}$ internal standard solution $10\ \mu\text{L}$, vortex 10 s, then $300\ \mu\text{L}$ cold protein precipitation liquid (a methanol solution containing 0.1% ammonia) was added to the mixture, vortex 45 s, at 4°C , the mixture was centrifuged for 10 min at a rotation speed of 16,000 g. After that, $200\ \mu\text{L}$ of supernatant was transferred and concentrated to dry under nitrogen. Finally, the dried supernatant was dissolved with $50\ \mu\text{L}$ methanol and $20\ \mu\text{L}$ sample injection for LC/MS analysis. To ensure data quality, quality control (QC) samples were prepared by mixing all of the samples. During analysis of the sample sequence, one QC sample was run after every 30 injections.

2.3.2. LC-MS/MS analysis

Quantification of bile acids was performed according to previous studies with slight modification [19, 20]. Specifically, an Eksigent ultraliquid chromatography 100 coupled with an AB 5600 Triple TOF system (AB SCIEX) was used to identify and quantify the bile acids components.

A $2.1 \times 100\ \text{mm}$ XBridge Peptide BEH C18 column (waters) with a $4 \times 2.0\ \text{mm}$ guard column (phenomenex) was equipped to separate the different components. The separation was achieved under a column temperature of 40°C using a controlled gradient of mobile phase A, which consisted of 0.1% (v/v) formic acid and 10 mM acetic acid amine in water, and mobile phase B, composed of 0.1% formic acid in 80% (v/v) methanol and 20% (v/v) acetonitrile, at a flow rate of 0.4 mL/min. The gradient flow was first set at 35% (v/v) B for 0.5 min, linearly increased to 60% B during the next 2.5 min, linearly increased to 80% B during the next 7 min, linearly increased to 90% B during the next 6 min, linearly decreased to 35% B during 3159 T(t)-76(en025(s))T)-268 TD9-10.4(a.3(r))-220(1(c

threshold effects for GDM and low GUDCA levels at 0.070 nmol/mL and low DCA levels at 0.280 nmol/mL were associated with markedly increased risks of GDM. Both associations were independent of traditional risk factors and the other bile acid.

Basic science research has unveiled important roles of bile acids in the regulation of glucose, energy metabolism, inflammation and various cellular processes [8]. Some small studies have also found associations of individual bile acids with T2DM. A study of 15 T2DM patients and 15 healthy controls showed that T2DM patients had elevated postpran-

Inclusion of GUDCA and DCA in the traditional risk factor model significantly increased the AUC to 0.76 (95%CI: 0.71-.0.80) (P b .0001) (Fig. 3).

4. Discussion

Our study has generated intricate findings regarding the associations between individual bile acids and the risk of GDM. GUDCA and DCA had

- [3] Song, C., Li, J., Leng, J., Ma, R.C., Yang, X., 2016] Lifestyle intervention can reduce the risk of gestational diabetes: a meta-analysis of randomized controlled trials. *Obes Rev* 17, 960-969.
- [4] Song, C., Lyu, Y., Li, C., Liu, P., Li, J., Ma, R., et al., 2018] Long-term risk of diabetes in women at varying durations after gestational diabetes: a systematic review and meta-analysis of cohort studies. *Obes Rev* 19, 421-429.
- [5] Tobias, D.K., Stuart, J.J., Li, S., Chavarro, J., Rimm, E.B., Rich-Edwards, J., et al., 2017]. Association of history of gestational diabetes with long-term cardiovascular disease risk in a large prospective cohort of US women. *JAMA Intern Med* 177, 1735-1742.
- [6] Tam, W.H., Ma, R.C.W., Ozaki, R., Li, A.M., Chan, M.H.M., Yuen, L.Y., et al., 2017] In utero exposure to maternal hyperglycemia increases childhood cardiometabolic risk in offspring. *Diabetes Care* 40, 679-686.
- [7] Chavez-Talavera, O., Tailleux, A., Lefebvre, P., Staels, B., 2017] Bile acid control of metabolism and inflammation in obesity, type 2 diabetes, dyslipidemia, and nonalcoholic fatty liver disease. *Gastroenterology* 152, 1679-1694 [e3].
- [8] Li, T., Chiang, J.Y., 2015] Bile acids as metabolic regulators. *Curr Opin Gastroenterol* 31, 159-165.
- [9] Watanabe, M., Horai, Y., Houten, S.M., Morimoto, K., Sugizaki, T., Arita, E., et al., 2011]. Lowering bile acid pool size with a synthetic farnesoid X receptor (FXR) agonist induces obesity and diabetes through reduced energy expenditure. *J Biol Chem* 286, 26913-26920.
- [10] Herrema, H., Meissner, M., van Dijk, T.H., Brufau, G., Boverhof, R., Oosterveer, M.H., et al., 2010]. Bile salt sequestration induces hepatic de novo lipogenesis through farnesoid X receptor- and liver X receptor alpha-controlled metabolic pathways in mice. *Hepatology* 51, 806-816.
- [11] Bennion, L.J., Grundy, S.M., 1977]. Effects of diabetes mellitus on cholesterol metabolism in man. *N Engl J Med* 296, 1365-1371.
- [12] Lukivskaya, O., Lis, R., Egorov, A., Naruta, E., Tauschel, H.D., Buko, V.U., 2004]. The protective effect of ursodeoxycholic acid in alloxan-induced diabetes. *Cell Biochem Funct* 22, 97-103.
- [13] Dudzik, D., Zorawski, M., Skotnicki, M., Zarzycki, W., Kozłowska, G., Bibik-Malinowska, K., et al., 2014]. Metabolic fingerprint of gestational diabetes mellitus. *J Proteomics* 103, 57-71.
- [14] Gao, J., Xu, B., Zhang, X., Cui, Y., Deng, L., Shi, Z., et al., 2016] Association between serum bile acid profiles and gestational diabetes mellitus: a targeted metabolomics study. *Clin Chim Acta* 459, 63-72.
- [15] Hou, W., Meng, X., Zhao, A., Zhao, W., Pan, J., Tang, J., et al., 2018] Development of multimarker diagnostic models from metabolomics analysis for gestational diabetes mellitus (GDM). *Mol Cell Proteomics* 17, 431-441.
- [16] Yang, X., Hsu-Hage, B., Zhang, H., Yu, L., Dong, L., Li, J., et al., 2002] Gestational diabetes mellitus in women of single gravidity in Tianjin City. *China Diabetes Care* 25, 847-851.
- [17] International Association of Diabetes and Pregnancy Study Groups Consensus Panel, Metzger, B.E., Gabbe, S.G., Persson, B., Buchanan, T.A., et al., 2010] International association of diabetes and pregnancy study groups recommendations on the diagnosis and classification of hyperglycemia in pregnancy. *Diabetes Care* 33, 676-682.
- [18] Chen, C., Lu, F.C., Department of Disease Control Ministry of Health PRC, 2004]. The guidelines for prevention and control of overweight and obesity in Chinese adults. *Biomed Environ Sci* 17 Suppl, 1-36.
- [19] Jiang, C., Xie, C., Li, F., Zhang, L., Nichols, R.G., Krausz, K.W., et al., 2015] Farnesoid X receptor signaling promotes nonalcoholic fatty liver disease. *J Clin Invest* 125, 386-402.
- [20] Fang, Z.Z., Zhang, D., Cao, Y.F., Xie, C., Lu, D., Sun, D.X., et al., 2016] Farnesoid X receptor (FXR)-induced elevation of bile acids potentiates suppression of IL-10 expression. *Toxicol Appl Pharmacol* 291, 21-27.
- [21] Kuo, C.L., Duan, Y., Grady, J., 2018] Unconditional or conditional logistic regression model for age-matched case-control data? *Front Public Health* 6, 57.
- [22] Ludbrook, J., 1998]. Multiple comparison procedures updated. *Clin Exp Pharmacol Physiol* 25, 1032-1037.
- [23] Ludbrook, J., 2000]. Multiple inferences using confidence intervals. *Clin Exp Pharmacol Physiol* 27, 212-215.
- [24] Yang, X., So, W., Ko, G.T., Ma, R.C., Kong, A.P., Chow, C.C., et al., 2008] Independent associations between low-density lipoprotein cholesterol and cancer among patients with type 2 diabetes mellitus. *CMAJ* 179, 427-437.
- [25] Harrell, F., 2001]. Regression modelling strategies with applications to linear models, logistic regression, and survival analysis. Springer-Verlag New York, Inc., New York, pp. 20-32.
- [26] So, W.Y., Yang, X., Ma, R.C., Kong, A.P., Lam, C.W., Ho, C.S., et al., 2008] Risk factors in V-shaped risk associations with all-cause mortality in type 2 diabetes-The Hong Kong Diabetes Registry. *Diabetes Metab Res Rev* 24, 238-246.
- [27] Yang, X., Ko, G.T., So, W.Y., Ma, R.C., Kong, A.P., Lam, C.W., et al., 2008] Additive interaction of hyperglycemia and albuminuria on risk of ischemic stroke in type 2 diabetes: Hong Kong Diabetes Registry. *Diabetes Care* 31, 2294-2300.
- [28] Leng, J., Zhang, C., Wang, P., Li, N., Li, W., Liu, H., et al., 2016] Farnesoid X receptor (FXR)-induced elevation of bile acids potentiates suppression of IL-10 expression. *Toxicol Appl Pharmacol* 291, 21-27.