

THE ASSESSMENT OF SERUM VITAMIN D LEVEL AND IT'S RELATION TO METABOLIC SYNDROME IN OBESE CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS

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OBJECTIVE

We aimed to investigate the relationship between vitamin D levels and metabolic syndrome (MS) in obese children and adolescents.

PATIENTS AND METHODS

51 obese children/adolescents at the age of 12.4 ± 2.73 (7.0-18.0) years and 48 age- sex matched healthy controls were enrolled. Serum 25 OHD, 1,25 (OH)₂ D, calcium, phosphorus, alkaline phosphatase, parathormone (PTH) were measured in all participants. Vitamin D sufficiency, insufficiency, deficiency and severe deficiency were defined as serum 25 OHD concentrations $>20\text{ng/ml}$, $<20\text{ng/ml}$, $<15\text{ng/ml}$, $<5\text{ ng/ml}$ respectively. IDF, NCEP ATP III and WHO criterias were used to describe MS.

RESULTS

2% severe deficiency, 35.3 % deficiency, 23.5% insufficiency and 39.2% sufficiency of vitamin D was found in the obese group. The serum concentration of 25 OHD was $18.2 \pm 6.2\text{ ng/ml}$, 1,25 (OH)₂ D was $28.9 \pm 11.7\text{ pg/dl}$ in the obese group, and $25.6 \pm 5.9\text{ ng/ml}$, $25.5 \pm 9.3\text{ pg/dl}$ in control group respectively. Obese children demonstrated significantly decreased 25 OHD levels compared to control group; however their 1,25 (OH)₂ D and parathormone levels were similar. We found that, cut-off level for 25 OHD was 13.6 ng/ml (specificity 72.5%, sensitivity 81%) which lead to increased PTH by ROC analysis. There was no association between serum 25 OHD, 1,25 (OH)₂ D and MS.

Table 1: The relationship of Ca, P, ALP, PTH, 25-OHD and 1.25(OH)₂D levels between two groups

	Obese group	Control group	P
25OHD (ng/ml)	18.2 ± 6.24	25.6 ± 5.9	<0.001
1,25(OH) ₂ D (pg/dl)	28.9 ± 11.7	25.5 ± 9.3	0.116
Ca (mg/dl)	9.7 ± 0.4	9.5 ± 0.9	0.216
P (mg/dl)	4.7 ± 0.6	4.8 ± 1.0	0.727
ALP (IU/L)	177.1 ± 8.1	161.7 ± 84.0	0.355
PTH (pg/dl)	48.8 ± 24.0	51.7 ± 30.2	0.611

Table 2: Laboratory findings of MS (+) and MS (-) patients depending on the modified IDF, NCEP ATP III and WHO criteria

	Group1a (n=18)	Group1b (n=33)	P	Group2a (n=36)	Group2b (n=15)	P	Group3a (n=30)	Group3b (n=21)	P
Fasting glucose (mg/dl)	94.0 ± 13.7	88.4 ± 8.3	0.074	90.7 ± 12.1	89.6 ± 6.5	0.753	92.8 ± 12.1	87.0 ± 7.49	0.058
120-min glucose (mg/dl)	126.0 ± 24.6	109.7 ± 21.2	0.023*	120.8 ± 23.9	102.2 ± 17.2	0.018*	123.4 ± 24.0	104.6 ± 18.4	0.007*
Fasting insulin (μU/ml)	33.7 ± 22.5	22.8 ± 12.2	0.030*	29.6 ± 19.4	19.6 ± 6.2	0.059	32.2 ± 19.6	18.7 ± 8.4	0.005*
HOMA-IR	6.9 ± 3.7	4.9 ± 2.5	0.035*	6.2 ± 3.4	4.2 ± 1.5	0.039*	6.5 ± 3.3	4.3 ± 2.1	0.010*
Cholesterol (mg/dl)	171.8 ± 32.9	169.7 ± 38.5	0.848	174.2 ± 34.1	161.4 ± 40.9	0.253	176.7 ± 28.5	161.5 ± 44.4	0.144
HDL (mg/dl)	38.3 ± 9.9	43.7 ± 9.64	0.067	41.7 ± 8.9	42.0 ± 12.4	0.924	40.7 ± 11.3	43.3 ± 7.6	0.363
LDL (mg/dl)	95.27 ± 22.2	99.6 ± 34.7	0.635	97.5 ± 29.4	99.2 ± 34.6	0.859	97.1 ± 24.2	99.4 ± 38.8	0.790
TG (mg/dl)	169.61 ± 77.3	116.8 ± 65.1	0.013*	160.6 ± 72.8	75.0 ± 21.2	0.000*	165.4 ± 76.2	92.7 ± 42.3	0.000*
25-OHD (ng/ml)	18.4 ± 7.7	18.11 ± 5.3	0.880	18.4 ± 6.8	17.7 ± 4.6	0.692	17.7 ± 6.6	18.9 ± 5.6	0.491
1,25(OH) ₂ D (pg/dl)	26.6 ± 9.7	30.1 ± 12.7	0.316	29.1 ± 12.6	28.5 ± 9.5	0.887	28.8 ± 12.5	29.0 ± 10.9	0.963

Group1a: MS (+) depending on IDF, Group1b: MS (-) depending on IDF, Group2a: MS (+) depending on NCEP ATP III, Group2b: MS (-) depending on NCEP ATP III, Group3a: MS (+) depending on WHO, Group3b: MS (-) depending on WHO

Table 3: The correlation between carbohydrate/lipid metabolism and vitamin D levels in obese individuals

	25-OHD		1,25(OH) ₂ D	
	r	P	r	P
Fasting glucose (mg/dl)	-0.055	0.699	0.024	0.867
120-min glucose (mg/dl)	-0.154	0.313	-0.140	0.359
Fasting insulin (μU/ml)	-0.129	0.368	-0.217	0.126
HOMA-IR	-0.143	0.318	-0.273	0.520
Cholesterol (mg/dl)	0.195	0.169	0.176	0.216
HDL (mg/dl)	0.118	0.408	-0.028	0.843
LDL (mg/dl)	0.159	0.265	0.166	0.244
TG (mg/dl)	0.212	0.135	0.048	0.740

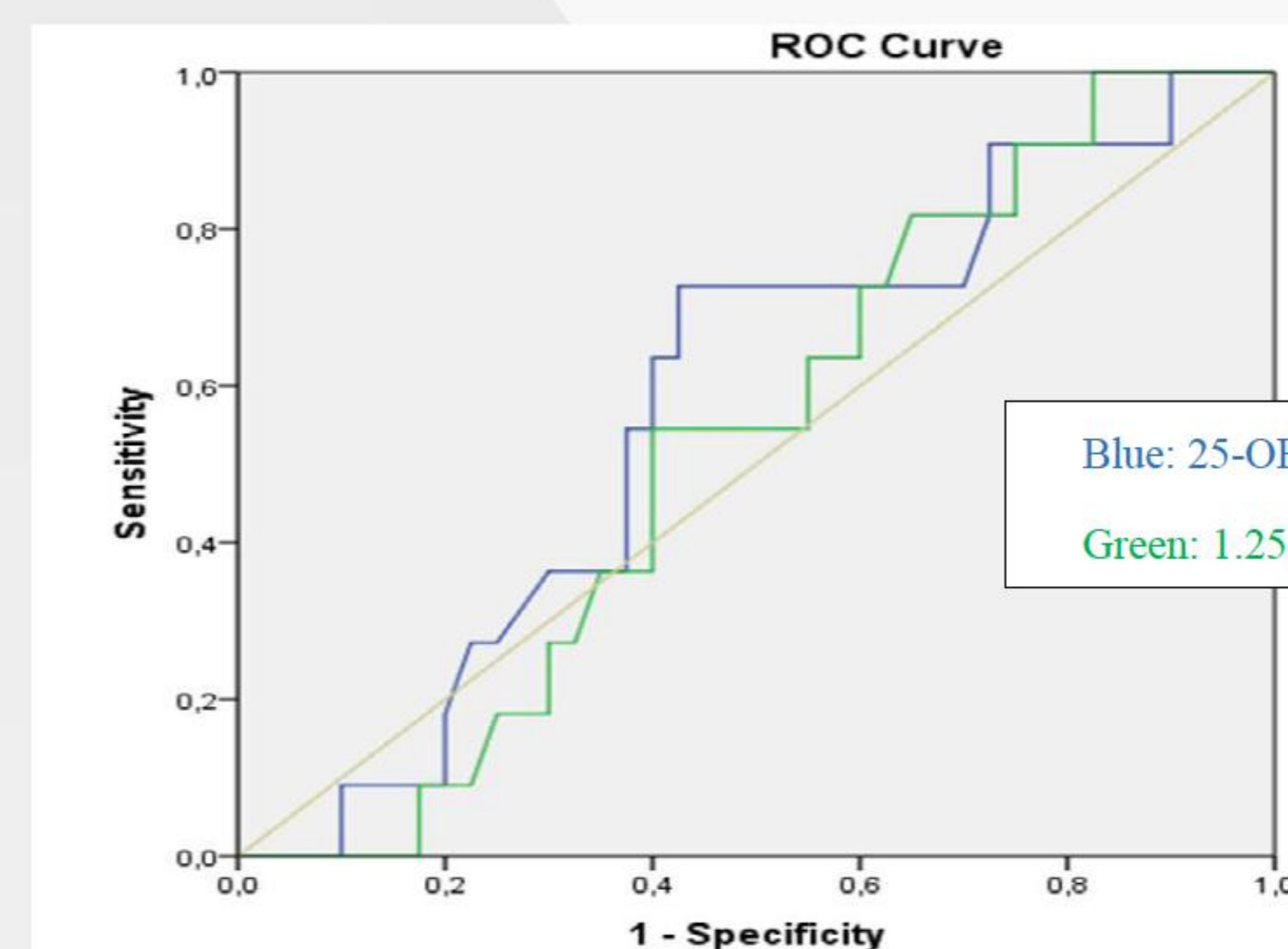


Figure 1: Serum 25-OHD and 1,25(OH)₂D ROC curve

CONCLUSION

We speculated that vitamin D insufficiency with normal PTH levels in obese children might be related with sequestration to the adipose tissue than low dietary intake. So, it is difficult to assume that vitamin D insufficiency is a risk factor of obesity. Lower 25-OHD levels in our obese group did not cause an increase in PTH levels; hence, we inferred that the assessment of 25-OHD insufficiencies would need a different cut-off in obese patients. In our study, this level for 25-OHD was found to be 13.6 ng/ml . Serum 1,25(OH)₂D levels in obese subjects and control group were similar –although serum 25 OHD levels were significantly lower in obese children- and it revealed that 1,25(OH)₂D level can be used to determine vitamin D deficiency in obese cases. New methods and future prospective studies with large numbers are needed for the assessment of vitamin D deficiency in obese children.