

**AN ASSOCIATIVE STUDY OF NON-LIPID RISK FACTORS (HIGH SENSITIVE-CRP, URIC ACID AND THYROID STIMULATING HORMONE) WITH PARAMETERS OF TYPE 2 DIABETES MELLITUS, BLOOD PRESSURE IN METABOLIC SYNDROME**V. Srinivasa Babu<sup>1\*</sup>, V. Kalyan Chakravarthy<sup>2</sup>, C. Ramaswamy<sup>3</sup>, S. Srikanth<sup>4</sup>, M. Karthik<sup>5</sup><sup>1</sup>Department of Research, Saveetha University, Thandalam, Chennai, Tamilnadu, India.<sup>2</sup>Professor, Department of Pathology, Pinnamaneni Institute of Medical Sciences and Research Foundation, Chinnautapalli, Gannavaram, Andhra Pradesh, India.<sup>3</sup>Professor, Department of Physiology, Saveetha Medical College, Thandalam, Chennai, Tamilnadu, India.<sup>4</sup>Assistant Professor, Department of Community medicine, Nimra Institute of Medical Sciences, Ibrahimpatnam, Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh, India.521456.<sup>5</sup>Assistant Professor, Department of Physiology, Nimra Institute of Medical Sciences, Ibrahimpatnam, Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh, India. 521456.**\*Corresponding Author: Dr. V. Srinivasa Babu**

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**ABSTRACT**

**Background:** Metabolic syndrome is the huddle of diseases for atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease (ASCVD) which arises due to excess of plasma glucose, cholesterol, fatty acids, blood pressure and obesity. The role of lipids in the development of MetS had been extensively studied. Some non-lipid factors like hsCRP, uric acid and TSH level also remain elevated in the serum of the MetS patients the correlation of the same with the MetS not fully determined. **Aim and Objectives:** Hence in this study our aim and objectives was to assess the significance of non-lipid risk factors in determining the severity of MetS with the association of type 2 diabetes and blood pressure parameters. **Methods:** A total of 450 subjects (211 men and 239 women) aged  $\geq 35$  years attending the hospital were divided based on the components of MetS as control (CS), Metabolic syndrome (MS) and severe (SMS) MetS groups. Comparative study was done by one way ANOVA and variables with significant associations were included in regression analysis to determine the future prediction with non-lipid risk factors hs-CRP, serum uric acid and TSH as dependent variables. The cardiovascular and T2DM related parameters FPG, HbA1c, serum fasting insulin, HOMA-IR, SBP, DBP, PR were independent variables in this study. **Results:** All the T2DM and BP variables had highly significant relation ( $P < 0.001$ ) when compared MetS and severe MetS group with control group. In this study, the value of participants HbA1c, PR, FPG, DBP and IR had significant Adjusted OR [3.03  $P < 0.001$ ; 2.10  $P < 0.004$ ; 1.86  $P < 0.033$ ; 0.17,  $P < 0.001$  and 0.08,  $P < 0.001$  respectively] high positive correlation with the hs-CRP values. It was found that HbA1c, SBP, DBP, FPG and PR had significant predictive AOR [5.829  $P < 0.001$ ; 2.789  $P < 0.007$ ; 0.098  $P < 0.001$ ; 0.383  $P < 0.008$  and 0.543  $P < 0.053$  respectively] in association with Uric acid values. Also, PR, FPG and DBP had significant AOR significance [1.96  $P < 0.001$ ; 1.41  $P < 0.001$ ; 1.37  $P < 0.026$  respectively] in association with TSH values. **Conclusion:** It can be concluded that reducing the above T2DM and cardiovascular variables by various lifestyles or other means can reduce the levels of non-lipid risk factors and thereby arrest susceptibility of the development of MetS and severe MetS.

**KEYWORDS:** T2DM; HTN; Metabolic syndrome; Non-lipid risks; hs-CRP; Uric acid; TSH.**INTRODUCTION**

Metabolic syndrome is the huddle of diseases for atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease (ASCVD) which arises due to excess of plasma glucose, cholesterol, fatty acids, blood pressure and obesity.<sup>[1,2]</sup> Around the world it is appraised that one out of four people suffers from MetS in spite of the competing on its definition.<sup>[2]</sup> Individual constellation of epidemic risk factors of the pervasiveness of MetS, is intensifying with different regions of all over the world, and specifically there is a

sign for high incidence of MetS in other South Asian countries and India.<sup>[3-5]</sup>

An environmental, metabolic and genetic aspects, evidently signifies a multidimensional interface of etiology of this syndrome but it is mostly unspecified.<sup>[6,7]</sup> For myocardial infarction (MI), cerebrovascular accident (CVA) and incidence of type 2 diabetes mellitus (T2 DM) are allied and amplified risk by frequent manifestations of prothrombotic and proinflammatory condition of the subjects with these characteristics.<sup>[8-10]</sup>

Although in previous cross-sectional studies elevated high sensitivity C-reactive protein (hs-CRP) levels had significant association with individual modules of MetS like adiposity, hyperinsulinemia, insulin resistance, hypertriglyceridemia, and low HDL cholesterol<sup>[11,12]</sup>, but not in relation to severity of MetS. MetS and Thyroid Disorders (TD) comparison and association is complex and uncertain.<sup>[13]</sup> Studies showed a significant relationship of SCH (subclinical hypothyroidism) with components of MetS.<sup>[14,15]</sup> Shantha et al. study<sup>[16]</sup>, showed the association of primary hypothyroidism in the urban population with MetS. So, the design of TD in MetS and its components differs in unlike studies. There is a evidence that many studies have concentrated on the serum uric acid (SUA), MetS, and carotid atherosclerosis relationship.<sup>[17-20]</sup> The atherosclerotic vascular disease and SUA is leftovers contradictory.<sup>[21]</sup> Some studies experiential that relationship between SUA and atherosclerotic vascular disease is assign to an indirect association of increased levels of SUA with cardiovascular risk factors or constellation of these metabolic and hemodynamic risk factors, projected MetS.<sup>[22,23]</sup>

The elevated levels of the inflammatory markers like hs-CRP and serum uric acid levels are associated with increased risk for development of cardiovascular disease and diabetes mellitus. Adding hs-CRP values in the diagnostic criteria for metabolic syndrome has shown to improve future prediction of development of these diseases.<sup>[24]</sup> In present study, one step forward we tried to see the association between non lipid risk factors of MetS like hs-CRP, Uric acid and TSH and the Type 2 DM, BP parameters in relation to severity of Metabolic syndrome.

Here is a significant evidence that type 2 diabetes and cardiovascular parameters influences non-lipid risks in MetS and severe MetS and by reducing levels of these factors by life style changes thus decrease susceptibility of MetS. Further, helps to decrease morbidity micro and macro vascular diseases of vital organs like brain, heart, and kidneys and the metabolic diseases HTN and Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus.

#### AIM AND OBJECTIVES

Our aim is to study of significance of non-lipid risk factors (hs-CRP, Uric acid and TSH) in severity of MetS and the association of type 2 diabetes and blood pressure parameters.

#### MATERIALS AND METHODS

A total of 450 participants (211 men and 239 women) aged  $\geq 35$  years attending our institute hospital from 2nd December, 2015 to 4th August, 2017 were included in this study. The study protocol was approved by the Institutional Ethics Committee. All the participating subjects in the study gave written informed consent. Criteria for choosing the subjects: As per the guidelines issued by the following international organizations: MetS

is defined according to the 2009 harmonizing definition set by a joint statement of the International Diabetes Federation Task Force on Epidemiology and Prevention; National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute; American Heart Association; World Heart Federation; International Atherosclerosis Society; and International Association for the Study of Obesity, as the presence of three or more of the following five criteria.<sup>[25]</sup>

- 1) Waist circumference in South Asians  $>90$  cm in men and  $>80$  cm in women.
- 2) Serum triglycerides levels  $>150$  mg/dl.
- 3) Serum HDL cholesterol levels  $< 40$  mg/dl in men and  $< 50$  mg/dl in women, under treatment is an alternate indicator.
- 4) Systolic blood pressure  $>130$  mmHg and/or diastolic blood pressure  $>85$  mmHg) under treatment is an alternate indicator, and.
- 5) Fasting serum glucose levels  $>100$  mg/dL under treatment.<sup>[26]</sup>

The same standard is also stated in the modified NECP ATP III definition.<sup>[27]</sup>

The inclusion criteria for patients: Insulin resistance, hypertension, type II diabetes mellitus, increased BMI, is  $\geq 23$ , Increased waist circumference  $\geq 36$  inches (90cm) in males and  $\geq 32$  inches (80cm) in females and age limit is  $\geq 35$ . Exclusion criteria: Any recent infections, Active lifestyle, PCOD in women and fatty liver disease.

#### Baseline parameters

- Blood pressure and anthropometric data including height, weight, waist circumference were measured using standard techniques.
- Blood Pressure was measured using a Mercury Sphygmomanometer (Diamond, Mumbai, India) with the patients in a sitting position, legs uncrossed. After 5 minutes of rest in the sitting position, BP was measured on both arms and the higher of the two is taken into consideration. If the systolic and diastolic blood pressure were in different categories, the higher of the two was used in the classification and on that visit; fasting blood samples was drawn from the subjects.
- Biochemical analysis: Fasting blood samples were obtained from the subjects and centrifuged at  $2000 \times g$  for 10 min. Samples were analyzed for MetS component of fasting plasma glucose, uric acid using by ERBA EM-360 fully automated analyzer. Also MetS non-lipid risk factors such as serum TSH, high sensitive C-reactive protein (hs-CRP) and serum fasting Insulin were assessed by Enzyme Linked Immuno Sorbent Assay (ELISA) method. HbA1c is assessed by High performance liquid chromatography (HPLC), and Homeostatic model for assessment of Insulin Resistance (IR) was calculated ( $\text{HOMA-IR} (\mu\text{mol/L}) = \text{FI mIU/L} \times \text{FPG} (\text{mmol/L}) / 22.5$  and conversion of FPG mg/dl to mmol/L divided by 18 if mmol/L to mg/dl is multiply by 18 and pulse rate is assessed by pulse meter.

Further the groups were divided into three groups (150 participants in each group), according to the number of components of Metabolic syndrome risk factors mentioned above they acquired.

**Group I:** Subjects with less than any of the three components of metabolic syndrome (Control group),

**Group II:** Subjects with any three components of metabolic syndrome (MS group),

**Group III:** Subjects with more than three components of metabolic syndrome (Severe MS group {SMS})

**Statistical analysis:** Data were entered on Excel and imported for analysis on SPSS v 16.

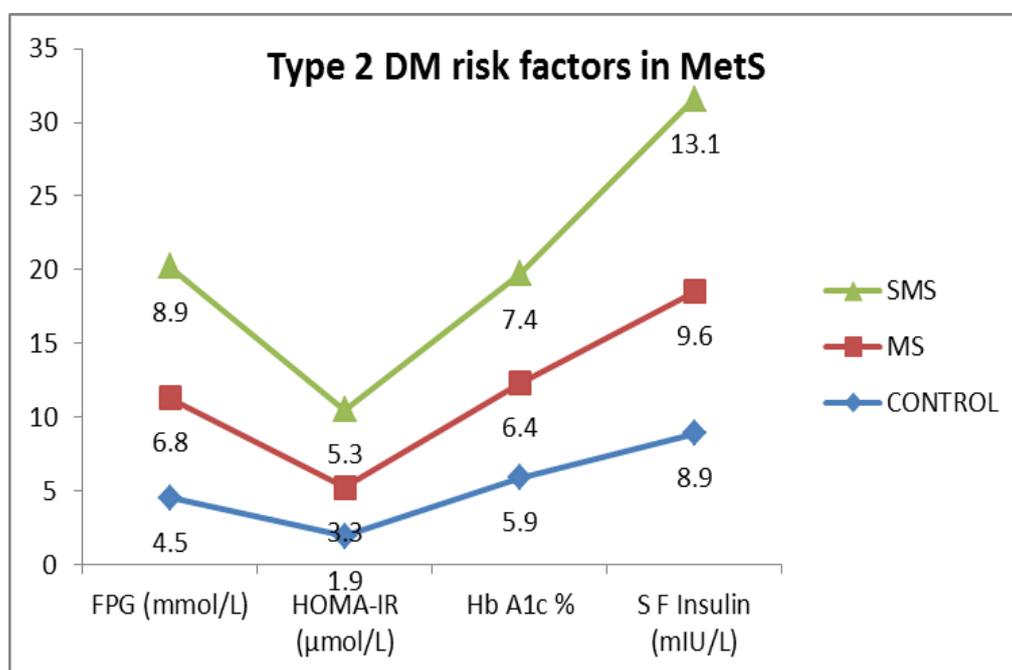
To find out the descriptive study of mean and standard error was done by one way ANOVA analysis. MetS variables FPG, HOMA-IR, Hb A1c %, S F Insulin, SBP, DBP, PR, hs-CRP and Uric acid were highly significant ( $P < 0.001$ ) and TSH was not significant. Regression analysis (Multiple) was done with non-lipid risk factors hs-CRP, serum uric acid and TSH individually taken as dependent variables. The cardiovascular and biochemical

parameters FPG, HbA1c, serum fasting Insulin, HOMA-IR, SBP, DBP, PR are independent variables for all the participants used to investigate future predictive study of our three non-lipid risks. Statistical significance was considered if the P value is less than 0.05.

## RESULTS

### Analysis of the Results

The results of the different parameters in these groups of MS were represented in Figure.1 In this Type 2 Diabetes mellitus in the severity of MetS were compared between the controls and MS and SMS and the statistical analysis showed that the values of Insulin resistance [HOMA-IR] were significantly higher among MS ( $3.3 \pm 0.2$ ) and SMS ( $5.3 \pm 0.2$ ) groups when compared to controls ( $1.9 \pm 0.1$ ). The values of the following in control, MS and SMS were respectively: mean fasting plasma glucose ( $6.8 \pm 0.2$ ,  $8.9 \pm 0.3$  and  $4.5 \pm 0.1$ ), glycosylated hemoglobin ( $6.4 \pm 0.1$ ,  $7.4 \pm 0.1$  and  $5.9 \pm 0.1$ ) and serum fasting insulin ( $9.6 \pm 0.5$ ,  $13.1 \pm 0.6$  and  $8.9 \pm 0.3$ ) and the statistical analysis of these values showed that it was significantly higher ( $P < 0.001$ ) in MS and SMS groups when compared with Controls ( $8.9 \pm 0.3$ ).



**Figure.1:** Comparison of mean and SE of Fasting plasma glucose (FPG), HOMA index of insulin resistance (HOMA-IR), Glycosylated hemoglobin (HbA1c) and Serum fasting insulin (SFI).

**Group I: Control**

**Group II: MS group and**

**Group III: Severe MS**

Likewise, the values of the Blood pressure parameters of the participants were given in Figure.2 and result showed that the systolic blood pressure mean and SE had significantly higher among MS ( $137.9 \pm 1.3$ ) and SMS

( $146.7 \pm 1.3$ ) groups when compared to controls ( $122.5 \pm 1.0$ ). This was statistically highly significant  $P < 0.001$ . Same as diastolic blood pressure ( $82.9 \pm 0.7$ ,  $86.5 \pm 0.8$  and  $78.1 \pm 0.6$ ), Mean pulse rate ( $78.3 \pm 0.7$ ,  $79.1 \pm 0.9$  and  $74.4 \pm 0.7$ ) was significantly higher in MS and SMS groups when compared with Controls and all these blood pressure parameters also statistically highly significant  $P < 0.001$ .

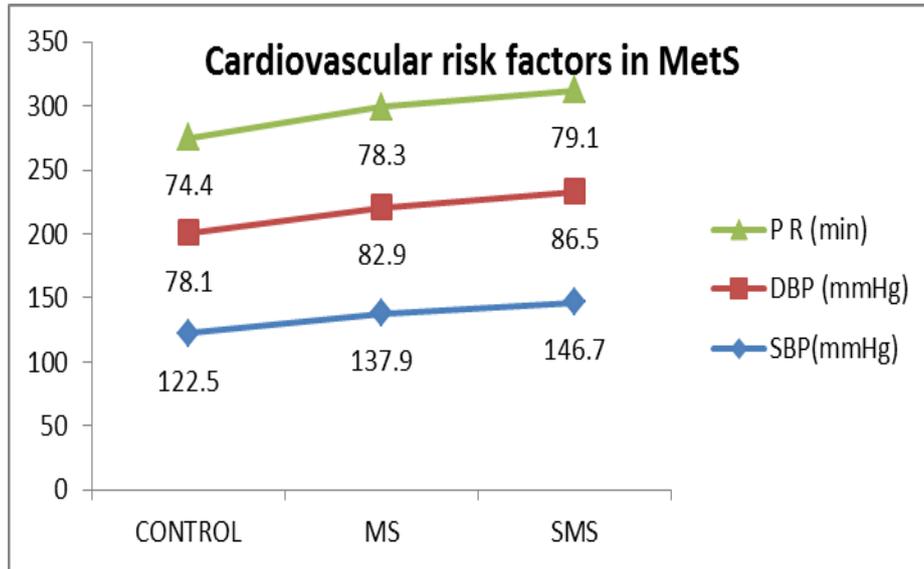


Figure 2: Comparison of mean and SE of Systolic blood pressure (SBP-mmHg), Diastolic blood pressure (DBP-mmHg) and Pulse rate (PR -min).

**Group I: Control**  
**Group II: MS group and**  
**Group III: Severe MS**

control group ( $1.5 \pm 0.1$ ) and Uric acid MS ( $5.0 \pm 0.1$ ) SMS ( $5.2 \pm 0.1$ ) Controls ( $4.6 \pm 0.1$ ) were highly significant but only the values of TSH showed [MS ( $3.2 \pm 0.2$ ) SMS ( $3.0 \pm 0.2$ ) and controls ( $2.6 \pm 0.1$ )] not significant P 0.66 among themselves.

Figure.3 shows non-lipid risk factors hs-CRP mean and SE of MS group ( $2.2 \pm 0.2$ ), SMS group ( $2.1 \pm 0.1$ ) and

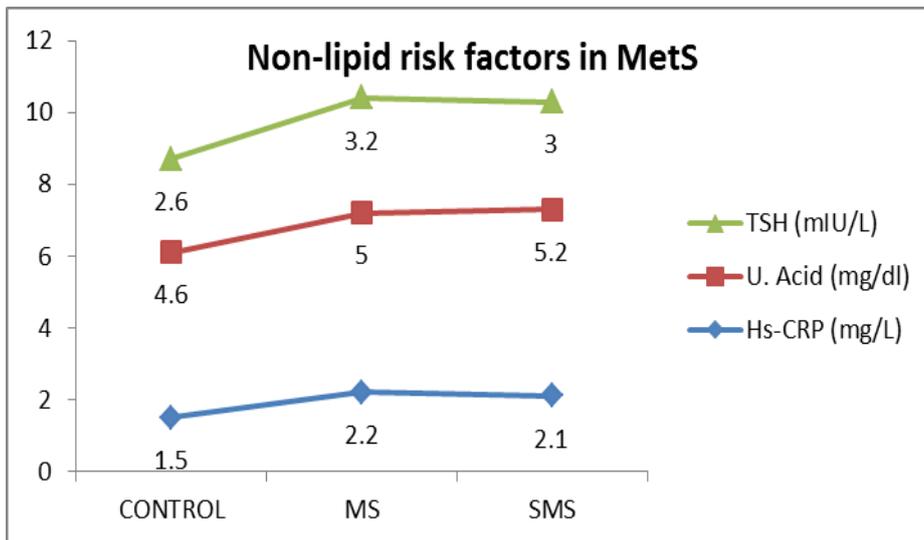


Figure 3: Comparison of mean and SE of Non-lipid risk factors high sensitive C-reactive protein (hs-CRP-mg/L), serum Uric acid (SUA-mg/dl) and TSH (mIU/L) in controls, MS and SMS group.

**Group I: Control**  
**Group II: MS group and**  
**Group III: Severe MS**

coefficient of change in hs-CRP. The results are represented in Table 1 and it was found that independent variables of IR Adjusted Odds Ratio (AOR 0.08,  $P < 0.001$ ) and DBP (0.17,  $P < 0.001$ ) were independently correlated with dependent variable hs-CRP; HbA1C, PR and FPG which showed positive correlation of AOR 3.03  $P < 0.001$ , 2.10  $P 0.004$ , 1.86  $P 0.033$  respectively. Here, HbA1C having highest predictor with the proinflammatory marker hs-CRP values among the study subjects.

The results of the association of the non-lipid risk factors with the components of MetS were represented in Table. 1, 2 and 3. All the above variables were recorded during the study period and were tabulated to find the association with a change in Hs-CRP. The factors with significant associations were then included in a regression analysis to determine the regression

**Table 1: Non-lipid risk factor Hs-CRP regression analysis with the variables IR, DBP, FPG, PR and HbA1c in Metabolic syndrome.**

| Variables                | Hs-CRP Adjusted OR | P-value      |
|--------------------------|--------------------|--------------|
| IR ( $\mu\text{mol/L}$ ) | 0.08               | <0.001       |
| DBP (mmHg)               | 0.17               | <0.001       |
| FPG (mg/dL)              | 1.86               | 0.033        |
| PR (min)                 | 2.10               | <b>0.004</b> |
| HbA1c %                  | 3.03               | <0.001       |

Adjusted to HOMA-IR, DBP, FPG, PR and HbA1c  
 Unadjusted to SBP, Serum fasting Insulin  
 Bold letters indicates high significance

It was found that independent variables adjusted to DBP (AOR 0.098 P<0.001), FPG (0.383 P 0.008) and PR (0.543 P 0.053) had significant relation with dependent variable Uric acid; while independent variables HbA1c, and SBP with respective positive association AOR of 5.829 P<0.001, 2.789 P 0.007. Thus the study showed that the metabolic end product Uric acid level in the blood had highest future predictor relation with HbA1c and to certain extent SBP.

**Table 2: Non-lipid risk factor Uric acid regression analysis with the following variables DBP, FPG, PR, SBP and HbA1c in Metabolic syndrome.**

| Variables   | Uric acid Adjusted OR | P-value      |
|-------------|-----------------------|--------------|
| DBP(mm/Hg)  | 0.098                 | <0.001       |
| FPG (mg/dL) | 0.383                 | <b>0.008</b> |
| PR (min)    | 0.543                 | 0.053        |
| SBP (mmHg)  | 2.789                 | <b>0.007</b> |
| HbA1c %     | 5.829                 | <0.001       |

Adjusted to DBP, FPG, PR,SBP and HbA1c  
 Unadjusted to IR, and Serum fasting Insulin  
 Bold letter s indicates high significance

The table 3 showed that PR, FPG and DBP had all significant positive adjusted odds (AOR 1.96 P 0.001, 1.41 P <0.001, 1.37 P 0.026) respectively with increasing the endocrinal hormone TSH values among the study subjects. Here also TSH is a dependent variable and all others are independent variables. In this, PR was the highest predictor next to it FPG.

**Table 3: Non-lipid risk factor TSH regression analysis with the following variables DBP, FPG and PR in Metabolic syndrome.**

| Variables   | TSH Adjusted OR | P-value      |
|-------------|-----------------|--------------|
| DBP (mmHg)  | 1.37            | 0.026        |
| FPG (mg/dL) | 1.41            | <0.001       |
| PR (min)    | 1.96            | <b>0.001</b> |

Adjusted to DBP, FPG and PR  
 Unadjusted to HOMA-IR, Serum fasting Insulin and HbA1c and SBP.  
 Bold letters indicates significance.

## DISCUSSION

MS is associated with an increased risk of diabetes, and a number of cardiovascular events, such as myocardial infarction, stroke, and heart failure<sup>28</sup>. The cost of treatment for metabolic diseases is infinite. In present study we found significant association of many risk factors among MetS cases and controls could help to prevent the progression of MetS.

The severity of MetS increases proportionate to DM related factors like FPG, HOMA-IR, S F Insulin and HbA1c and also blood pressure parameters like SBP, DBP and PR. Regitz-Zagrosek V et al showed SBP and DBP are the predictors of MetS.<sup>[29]</sup> The findings of Patrick H Dessen et al recognize the association of CRP as a proinflammatory marker with CVD in Rheumatoid arthritis and patients with increased waist circumference, was significant regression analysis for the independent variable of HOMA-IR and hs-CRP.<sup>[30]</sup> In present study we found that HOMA-IR, DBP, FPG, PR and HbA1c were significantly associated with hs-CRP levels in MetS cases. Some study by Devraj *et al* it was suggested that the patients at high risk for future prediction of Type 2 DM and CVD can be identified better by the addition of hs-CRP to the present definition of the MetS may help identify at high risk for future prediction of Type 2 DM and CVD.<sup>[28]</sup>

Association between serum uric acid levels and the components of MetS showed that as independent variables DBP, FPG PR, SBP, and HbA1c had significant predictors with dependent variable Uric acid. Also, when compared to patients with normal serum uric acid level it was predicted that hyperuricemic patients have higher risks of having hypertension, hyperglycemia and low HDL cholesterol. A number of previous studies also had reported such findings<sup>[31]</sup> Hyperuricemia predicts the development of hypertension, obesity, and type 2 diabetes mellitus.<sup>[32]</sup> A strong correlation between serum uric acid and MetS components showed in studies by Nejatnamini et al. and Lee et al.<sup>[33,34]</sup> Same predictor results were found in correlative study of FBG and DBP shows positive correlation with salivary uric acid.<sup>[35]</sup>

Thyroid dysfunction is well known cause abnormal glucose level and lipid profile; which in turn are important factors of metabolic syndrome.<sup>[36]</sup> In our study, it was found that PR, FPG and DBP all had significant increase with increase in the hormone (TSH) values among the study subjects. Similar results were found in a study by Jang J et al.<sup>[37]</sup> In the present study, non-lipid risk factors of MetS like hs-CRP and SUA levels were significantly more in cases when compared to controls, but no significant association was noted with TSH levels. In contrast to our study, Zhou YC et al concluded that TSH levels had a strong association with incident MetS.<sup>[38]</sup>

## CONCLUSION

It can be concluded that reducing the independent variables like IR, DBP, FPG, PR and HbA1C with the non-lipid inflammatory marker hs-CRP, variables like DBP, FPG, PR, SBP and HbA1C with the dependent non-lipid metabolic end product serum uric acid values and independent factors like DBP, FPG and PR with the endocrinal factor TSH values by various lifestyle or other means can help to reduce and there by the development of MetS.

Thus reducing all these three non-lipid risk factors values reduces the susceptibility of MetS, thus the prevention (the development) of MetS and severe MetS.

Future studies would include the association study of other non-lipid factors such as T3, T4 levels, urine microalbumin levels, serum creatinine and albumin-creatinine ratio with parameters of Type 2 DM and BP in Mets.

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