

World Journal of *Hepatology*

World J Hepatol 2022 June 27; 14(6): 1053-1268



REVIEW

- 1053** Impact of direct-acting antiviral regimens on hepatic and extrahepatic manifestations of hepatitis C virus infection
Salama II, Raslan HM, Abdel-Latif GA, Salama SI, Sami SM, Shaaban FA, Abdelmohsen AM, Fouad WA

MINIREVIEWS

- 1074** Second-line treatment of advanced hepatocellular carcinoma: Time for more individualized treatment options?
Rajappa S, Rau KM, Dattatreya PS, Ramaswamy A, Fernandes P, Pruthi A, Cheng R, Lukanowski M, Huang YH
- 1087** Metabolic-associated fatty liver disease from childhood to adulthood: State of art and future directions
Lanzaro F, Guarino S, D'Addio E, Salvatori A, D'Anna JA, Marzuillo P, Miraglia del Giudice E, Di Sessa A
- 1099** Liver dysfunction during COVID-19 pandemic: Contributing role of associated factors in disease progression and severity
Sahu T, Pande B, PL M, Verma HK
- 1111** Understanding fatigue in primary biliary cholangitis: From pathophysiology to treatment perspectives
Lynch EN, Campani C, Innocenti T, Dragoni G, Biagini MR, Forte P, Galli A
- 1120** Fibrosis regression following hepatitis C antiviral therapy
Elsharkawy A, Samir R, El-Kassas M

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Basic Study

- 1131** COVID-19 liver and gastroenterology findings: An *in silico* analysis of SARS-CoV-2 interactions with liver molecules
Peiter GC, de Souza CBT, de Oliveira LM, Pagliarin LG, dos Anjos VNF, da Silva FAF, de Melo FF, Teixeira KN

Case Control Study

- 1142** Clinical outcomes of coronavirus disease 2019 in liver transplant recipients
Shafiq M, Gibson C

Retrospective Cohort Study

- 1150** Intensive care unit readmission in adult Egyptian patients undergoing living donor liver transplant: A single-centre retrospective cohort study
Salah M, Montasser IF, El Gendy HA, Korraa AA, Elewa GM, Dabbous H, Mahfouz HR, Abdelrahman M, Goda MH, Bahaa El-Din MM, El-Meteini M, Labib HA

- 1162** Impact of alcohol consumption on treatment outcome of hepatocellular carcinoma patients with viral hepatitis who underwent transarterial chemoembolization

Rattanasupar A, Chang A, Prateepchaiboon T, Pungpipattrakul N, Akarapatima K, Songjamrat A, Pakdeejit S, Prachayakul V, Piratvisuth T

Retrospective Study

- 1173** Relationship between phase angle, steatosis, and liver fibrosis in patients coinfecting with human immunodeficiency virus/hepatitis C virus

Fernandes SA, Tovo CV, da Silva ALM, Pinto LP, Carteri RB, Mattos AA

- 1182** DNA and RNA oxidative damage in hepatocellular carcinoma patients and mortality during the first year of liver transplantation

Lorente L, Rodriguez ST, Sanz P, González-Rivero AF, Pérez-Cejas A, Padilla J, Díaz D, González A, Martín MM, Jiménez A, Cerro P, Portero J, Barrera MA

- 1190** Direct-acting antivirals for hepatitis C virus-infected patients with hepatocellular carcinoma

Tajiri K, Ito H, Kawai K, Kashii Y, Hayashi Y, Murayama A, Minemura M, Takahara T, Shimizu Y, Yasuda I

- 1200** Use of doppler ultrasound to predict need for transjugular intrahepatic portosystemic shunt revision

Duong N, Healey M, Patel K, Strife BJ, Sterling RK

Observational Study

- 1210** Gut dysbiosis and body composition in cirrhosis

Maslennikov R, Ivashkin V, Alieva A, Poluektova E, Kudryavtseva A, Krasnov G, Zharkova M, Zharikov Y

- 1226** Prevalence of nonalcoholic fatty liver disease and its association with age in patients with type 2 diabetes mellitus

Yamane R, Yoshioka K, Hayashi K, Shimizu Y, Ito Y, Matsushita K, Yoshizaki M, Kajikawa G, Mizutani T, Watarai A, Tachi K, Goto H

SYSTEMATIC REVIEWS

- 1235** Factors early in life associated with hepatic steatosis

Quek SXZ, Tan EXX, Ren YP, Muthiah M, Loo EXL, Tham EH, Siah KTH

META-ANALYSIS

- 1248** Efficacy and safety of sofosbuvir/velpatasvir with or without ribavirin in hepatitis C genotype 3 compensated cirrhosis: A meta-analysis

Loo JH, Xu WXF, Low JT, Tay WX, Ang LS, Tam YC, Thuraiarajah PH, Kumar R, Wong YJ

- 1258** Spontaneous bacterial empyema in cirrhosis: A systematic review and meta-analysis

Reiche W, Deliwala S, Chandan S, Mohan BP, Dhindsa B, Ramai D, Perisetti A, Rangray R, Mukherjee S

ABOUT COVER

Editorial Board Member of *World Journal of Hepatology*, Lemonica Koumbi, MSc, PhD, Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Nutritional Sciences and Dietetics, International Hellenic University (IHU), Thessaloniki 57400, Thessaloniki, Greece. lemonica.koumbi@gmail.com

AIMS AND SCOPE

The primary aim of *World Journal of Hepatology* (*WJH*, *World J Hepatol*) is to provide scholars and readers from various fields of hepatology with a platform to publish high-quality basic and clinical research articles and communicate their research findings online.

WJH mainly publishes articles reporting research results and findings obtained in the field of hepatology and covering a wide range of topics including chronic cholestatic liver diseases, cirrhosis and its complications, clinical alcoholic liver disease, drug induced liver disease autoimmune, fatty liver disease, genetic and pediatric liver diseases, hepatocellular carcinoma, hepatic stellate cells and fibrosis, liver immunology, liver regeneration, hepatic surgery, liver transplantation, biliary tract pathophysiology, non-invasive markers of liver fibrosis, viral hepatitis.

INDEXING/ABSTRACTING

The *WJH* is now abstracted and indexed in PubMed, PubMed Central, Emerging Sources Citation Index (Web of Science), Scopus, Reference Citation Analysis, China National Knowledge Infrastructure, China Science and Technology Journal Database, and Superstar Journals Database. The 2022 edition of Journal Citation Reports® cites the 2021 Journal Citation Indicator (JCI) for *WJH* as 0.52. The *WJH*'s CiteScore for 2021 is 3.6 and Scopus CiteScore rank 2021: Hepatology is 42/70.

RESPONSIBLE EDITORS FOR THIS ISSUE

Production Editor: Yi-Xuan Cai; Production Department Director: Xiang Li; Editorial Office Director: Xiang Li.

NAME OF JOURNAL

World Journal of Hepatology

ISSN

ISSN 1948-5182 (online)

LAUNCH DATE

October 31, 2009

FREQUENCY

Monthly

EDITORS-IN-CHIEF

Nikolaos Pylsopoulos, Ke-Qin Hu, Koo Jeong Kang

EDITORIAL BOARD MEMBERS

<https://www.wjnet.com/1948-5182/editorialboard.htm>

PUBLICATION DATE

June 27, 2022

COPYRIGHT

© 2022 Baishideng Publishing Group Inc

INSTRUCTIONS TO AUTHORS

<https://www.wjnet.com/bpg/gerinfo/204>

GUIDELINES FOR ETHICS DOCUMENTS

<https://www.wjnet.com/bpg/GerInfo/287>

GUIDELINES FOR NON-NATIVE SPEAKERS OF ENGLISH

<https://www.wjnet.com/bpg/gerinfo/240>

PUBLICATION ETHICS

<https://www.wjnet.com/bpg/GerInfo/288>

PUBLICATION MISCONDUCT

<https://www.wjnet.com/bpg/gerinfo/208>

ARTICLE PROCESSING CHARGE

<https://www.wjnet.com/bpg/gerinfo/242>

STEPS FOR SUBMITTING MANUSCRIPTS

<https://www.wjnet.com/bpg/GerInfo/239>

ONLINE SUBMISSION

<https://www.f6publishing.com>

Retrospective Study

DNA and RNA oxidative damage in hepatocellular carcinoma patients and mortality during the first year of liver transplantation

Leonardo Lorente, Sergio T Rodriguez, Pablo Sanz, Agustín F González-Rivero, Antonia Pérez-Cejas, Javier Padilla, Dácil Díaz, Antonio González, María M Martín, Alejandro Jiménez, Purificación Cerro, Julián Portero, Manuel A Barrera

Specialty type: Gastroenterology and hepatology

Provenance and peer review: Invited article; Externally peer reviewed.

Peer-review model: Single blind

Peer-review report's scientific quality classification

Grade A (Excellent): 0
Grade B (Very good): 0
Grade C (Good): C
Grade D (Fair): D
Grade E (Poor): 0

P-Reviewer: Son TQ, Viet Nam; Tanaka Y, Japan

A-Editor: Yao QG, China

Received: January 14, 2022

Peer-review started: January 14, 2022

First decision: March 24, 2022

Revised: March 28, 2022

Accepted: May 22, 2022

Article in press: May 22, 2022

Published online: June 27, 2022



Leonardo Lorente, Department of Intensive Care, Hospital Universitario de Canarias, La Laguna 38320, Tenerife, Spain

Sergio T Rodriguez, María M Martín, Intensive Care Unit, Hospital Universitario Nuestra Señora Candelaria, Santa Cruz de Tenerife 38010, Spain

Pablo Sanz, Javier Padilla, Manuel A Barrera, Department of Surgery, Hospital Universitario Nuestra Señora de Candelaria, Santa Cruz de Tenerife 38010, Spain

Agustín F González-Rivero, Antonia Pérez-Cejas, Department of Laboratory, Hospital Universitario de Canarias, La Laguna 38320, Spain

Dácil Díaz, Antonio González, Department of Digestive, Hospital Universitario Nuestra Señora de Candelaria, Santa Cruz de Tenerife 38010, Spain

Alejandro Jiménez, Research Unit, Hospital Universitario de Canarias, La Laguna 38320, Spain

Purificación Cerro, Transplant Unit, Hospital Universitario Nuestra Señora Candelaria, Santa Cruz de Tenerife 38010, Spain

Julián Portero, Department of Radiology, Hospital Universitario Nuestra Señora Candelaria, Santa Cruz de Tenerife 38010, Spain

Corresponding author: Leonardo Lorente, MD, PhD, Attending Doctor, Medical Assistant, Department of Intensive Care, Hospital Universitario de Canarias, Ofra, s/n., La Laguna 38320, Tenerife, Spain. lorentemartin@msn.com

Abstract

BACKGROUND

Oxidative damage of DNA and RNA has been associated with mortality of patients with different diseases. However, there is no published data on the potential use of DNA and RNA oxidative damage to predict the prognosis of patients with hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC) undergoing liver transplantation (LT).

AIM

To determine whether patients with increased DNA and RNA oxidative damage prior to LT for HCC have a poor LT prognosis.

METHODS

Patients with HCC who underwent LT were included in this observational and retrospective study. Serum levels of all three oxidized guanine species (OGS) were measured prior to LT since guanine is the nucleobase that forms DNA and RNA most prone to oxidation. LT mortality at 1 year was the end-point study.

RESULTS

Surviving patients ($n = 101$) showed lower serum OGS levels ($P = 0.01$) and lower age of the liver donor ($P = 0.03$) than non-surviving patients ($n = 13$). An association between serum OGS levels prior to LT and 1-year LT (odds ratio = 2.079; 95% confidence interval = 1.356-3.189; $P = 0.001$) was found in the logistic regression analysis.

CONCLUSION

The main new finding was that high serum OGS concentration prior to LT was associated with the mortality 1 year after LT in HCC patients.

Key Words: DNA oxidative damage; Hepatocellular carcinoma; Liver transplantation; Mortality; Oxidized guanine species

©The Author(s) 2022. Published by Baishideng Publishing Group Inc. All rights reserved.

Core Tip: The potential use of DNA and RNA oxidative damage to predict prognosis of patients with hepatocellular carcinoma who underwent liver transplantation is unknown. In this retrospective study serum levels of the three oxidized guanine species before liver transplantation in 114 patients were measured. One-year survivor patients showed lower serum oxidized guanine specie levels than non-survivor patients ($P = 0.01$). These preliminary results could induce studies to clarify the potential role of oxidative damage in the prognosis of liver transplantation patients due to hepatocellular carcinoma and to explore the use of antioxidant agents to reduce oxidative stress in those patients.

Citation: Lorente L, Rodriguez ST, Sanz P, González-Rivero AF, Pérez-Cejas A, Padilla J, Díaz D, González A, Martín MM, Jiménez A, Cerro P, Portero J, Barrera MA. DNA and RNA oxidative damage in hepatocellular carcinoma patients and mortality during the first year of liver transplantation. *World J Hepatol* 2022; 14(6): 1182-1189

URL: <https://www.wjgnet.com/1948-5182/full/v14/i6/1182.htm>

DOI: <https://dx.doi.org/10.4254/wjh.v14.i6.1182>

INTRODUCTION

Liver transplantation (LT) could be the treatment of choice in some patients with hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC)[1-4], which is the most common malignant liver tumor and is responsible for many deaths. LT may be an appropriate choice because it treats liver failure and removes the liver tumor[5-8].

The possible contribution of the oxidative state in chronic liver disease progression and in hepatocarcinogenesis development has been suggested[9-12]. RNA, DNA, lipids and proteins could be damaged by reactive oxygen species during oxidative stress. The five types of nucleobases present in RNA and DNA are adenine, guanine, cytosine, uracil and thymine; but only four types of those nucleobases constitute RNA and DNA. In both, RNA and DNA, guanine, adenine and cytosine are present. In addition, uracil is present in RNA and thymine in DNA. Guanine is the nucleobase most prone to oxidation since it has the lowest redox potential[13-16]. The three species of oxidized guanine species (OGS) are 8-hydroxyguanine from DNA or RNA, 8-hydroxyguanosine from RNA, and 8-hydroxy-2'-deoxyguanosine from DNA.

An association between DNA and RNA oxidative damage and mortality has been found in patients with other diseases such as sepsis[17]. Greater DNA oxidative damage (assessed by concentrations of 8-hydroxy-2'-deoxyguanosine in liver biopsy samples) has been found in patients with chronic hepatic disease with HCC than without it[18,19]. However, there is no published data about the potential use of DNA and RNA oxidative damage to predict the prognosis of patients with HCC and who underwent LT. Therefore, the aim in our study was to analyze the potential association between increased oxidative DNA and RNA damage before LT for HCC and poorer LT prognosis.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Design and patients

We included patients who underwent LT due to HCC between May 2001 to May 2017. LT were carried out in the Hospital Universitario Nuestra Señora de Candelaria (Santa Cruz de Tenerife, Spain). This observational and retrospective study was performed after the approval by the Institutional Review Board. Patients were included after the written informed consent was obtained by the LT recipient or a family member. All LT donors were brain dead. Serum samples were obtained before LT and frozen at -80 °C, and serum concentrations of 8-hydroxy-2'-deoxyguanosine were determined in those samples.

Variables

Sex, age, nodule size, degree of tumor differentiation, Child-Pugh score[20], infiltration, serum alpha-fetoprotein level, macrovascular invasion, multinodular tumor, portal hypertension (determined either by clinical data or by hepatic venous pressure gradient), microvascular invasion, model for end-stage liver disease score[21] by hepatic function, treatment before LT, LT technique and inside Milan criteria [22] before and after LT were registered. In addition, age of LT donor was registered. One-year LT survival was considered our end-point study.

Serum samples and determination of OGS concentrations

Serum samples were taken about 2 h before LT. Afterwards samples were placed in a -80 °C freezer. We had previously determined serum caspase-3 levels in some of these patients[23], and in this research we determined serum OGS levels. We used kits called DNA/RNA Oxidative Damage ELISA Kit® (by Cayman Chemical Corporation in Ann Arbor, United States) to determine serum OGS concentrations. The detection limit of these kits was 0.45 ng/mL. All determinations were carried out in the same Laboratory Department blinded to clinical data.

Statistical methods

Categorical variables, presented as frequency (percentage), were compared using the χ^2 test. Continuous variables, presented as median (percentiles 25 and 75), were compared using the test of Mann-Whitney. The ability of serum OGS concentrations prior to LT to predict 1-year LT mortality was analyzed using receiver operating characteristic curve. The Kaplan-Meier 1-year LT survival curves were constructed with a serum OGS concentration cut-off (3.3 ng/mL) selected on the basis of Youden's J-index. The association between serum OGS levels and 1-year LT controlling for serum caspase-3 levels and age of liver donor was analyzed using the logistic regression analysis. MedCal 15.2.1 (Ostend, Belgium) and SPSS 17.0 (by SPSS Inc. in Chicago, IL, United States) were used to perform the statistical analyses.

RESULTS

We included 114 patients in the study, of which 101 remained alive 1 year after LT and 13 died during the first year after LT. Surviving LT patients in comparison to non-surviving patients showed lower serum OGS concentrations prior to LT ($P = 0.01$) and lower liver donor age ($P = 0.03$) (Table 1). No significant differences between surviving and non-surviving patients regarding sex, liver receptor age, nodule size, serum alpha-fetoprotein levels, degree of tumor differentiation, microvascular invasion, multinodular tumor, infiltration, macrovascular invasion, Child-Pugh score, model for end-stage liver disease score, portal hypertension, treatment prior to LT, LT technique and inside Milan criteria before and after LT were observed (Table 1). Significant differences were not found ($P = 0.20$) in serum OGS concentrations in regard to the cause of death: 8 (61.5%) sepsis, 3 (23.1%) multiple organ failure, 1 (7.7%) recurrence of hepatitis C virus infection and 1 (7.7%) recurrence of HCC.

In logistic analysis, an association was found between serum OGS and 1-year LT mortality, controlling for serum caspase-3 and liver donor age [odds ratio = 2.079; 95% confidence interval (CI): 1.356-3.189; $P = 0.001$] (Table 2). On the receiver operating characteristic analysis, the area under the curve of pre-LT serum OGS concentrations for predicting 1-year LT mortality was found to be 71% (95%CI: 55%-88%; $P = 0.009$) (Figure 1).

Serum OGS levels with a cut-off point of 3.3 ng/mL showed a sensitivity of 69% (39%-91%), specificity of 66% (56%-74%), positive likelihood ratio of 2.1 (1.3-3.2), negative likelihood ratio of 0.5 (0.2-1.1), positive predictive value of 21% (14%-29%) and negative predictive value of 94% (88%-98%) for 1-year LT mortality prediction. The Kaplan-Meier survival analysis showed a higher 1-year LT mortality risk in patients with serum OGS levels prior to LT above 3.3 ng/mL (hazard ratio = 4.2; 95%CI: 1.36-13.11; $P = 0.01$) (Figure 2).

Table 1 Clinical and biochemical characteristics of 1-year liver transplantation survivor and non-survivor patients

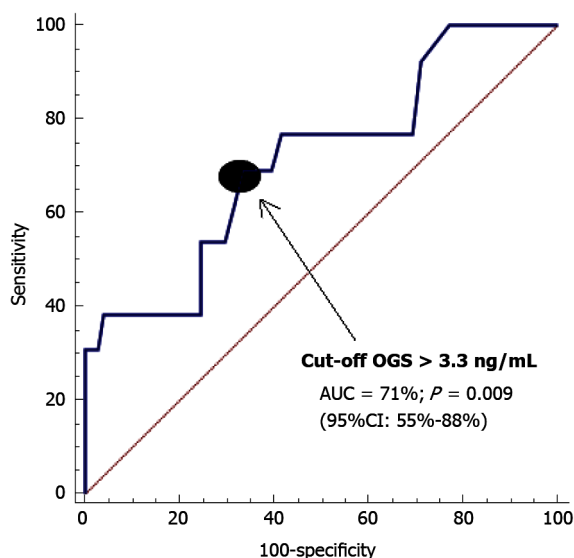
	1 yr survivor patients, <i>n</i> = 101	1 yr non-survivor patients, <i>n</i> = 13	<i>P</i> value
Serum OGS (ng/mL)-median (p 25-75)	2.80 (2.20-4.00)	4.00 (2.70-10.25)	0.01
Age of liver recipient (yr)-median (p 25-75)	58 (52-62)	57 (55-63)	0.61
Serum alpha-fetoprotein (ng/dL)-median (p 25-75)	7.4 (4.0-21.6)	8.4 (4.3-130.5)	0.62
Protein (g/dL)-median (p 25-75)	6.70 (6.10-7.10)	6.70 (5.58-7.63)	0.90
Leukocytes count-median $\times 10^3/\text{mm}^3$ (p 25-75)	4.57 (3.48-6.01)	4.52 (3.27-7.77)	0.89
Albumin (g/dL)-median (p 25-75)	3.29 (2.89-3.99)	3.47 (3.14-3.93)	0.45
Creatinine (mg/dL)-median (p 25-75)	0.90 (0.78-1.10)	1.02 (0.75-1.10)	0.27
BMI (kg/m^2)-median (p 25-75)	27.3 (24.3-29.7)	28.7 (24.9-31.8)	0.26
Nodules size (cm)-median (p 25-75)	2.9 (2.0-3.4)	3.2 (1.8-4.9)	0.40
MELD score-median (p 25-75)	15 (11-18)	15 (13-17)	0.77
Age of liver donor (yr)-median (p 25-75)	51 (35-62)	62 (49-72)	0.03
Gender female, <i>n</i> (%)	19 (18.8)	0	0.12
Child-Pugh score, <i>n</i> (%)			0.06
A	46 (45.5)	10 (76.9)	
B	29 (28.7)	3 (23.1)	
C	26 (25.7)	0	
Infiltration, <i>n</i> (%)	32 (31.7)	3 (23.1)	0.75
Macrovascular invasion, <i>n</i> (%)	4 (4.0)	0	0.99
Microvascular invasion, <i>n</i> (%)	19 (18.8)	2 (15.4)	0.99
Multinodular tumor, <i>n</i> (%)	27 (26.7)	4 (30.8)	0.75
Portal hypertension, <i>n</i> (%)	64 (63.4)	9 (69.2)	0.77
Treatment previously to LT, <i>n</i> (%)	56 (55.4)	8 (61.5)	0.77
PEI, <i>n</i> (%)	26 (25.7)	5 (38.5)	0.33
RFA, <i>n</i> (%)	6 (5.9)	0	0.99
TACE, <i>n</i> (%)	18 (17.8)	3 (23.1)	0.71
Liver resection, <i>n</i> (%)	3 (3.0)	0	0.99
Mixed treatment, <i>n</i> (%)	3 (3.0)	0	0.99
Transplantation technique, <i>n</i> (%)			0.99
By-pass	44 (43.6)	6 (46.2)	
Piggy back	57 (56.4)	7 (53.8)	
Degree of tumor differentiation, <i>n</i> (%)			0.11
Well	76 (75.2)	11 (84.6)	
Moderate	24 (23.8)	1 (7.7)	
Poor	1 (1.0)	1 (7.7)	
Inside Milan criteria previously to LT, <i>n</i> (%)	96 (95.0)	12 (92.3)	0.53
Inside Milan criteria after LT, <i>n</i> (%)	85 (84.2)	10 (76.9)	0.45

OGS: Oxidized guanine species; MELD: Model for end-stage liver disease; PEI: Percutaneous ethanol injection; RFA: Radiofrequency ablation; LT: Liver transplantation; TACE: Transarterial chemoembolization; BMI: Body mass index.

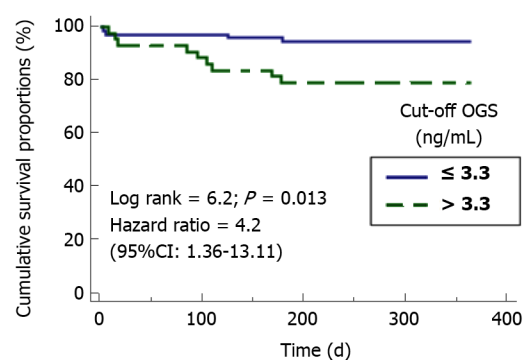
Table 2 Logistic regression analysis for the variables associated with 1-year liver transplantation mortality

	Odds ratio	95%CI	P value
Age of liver donor (age)	1.087	1.019-1.160	0.01
Serum oxidized guanine species levels (ng/mL)	2.079	1.356-3.189	0.001
Serum caspase-3 levels (ng/mL)	4.178	1.709-10.211	0.002

CI: Confidence interval.



DOI: 10.4254/wjh.v14.i6.1182 Copyright ©The Author(s) 2022.

Figure 1 On the receiver operating characteristic analysis, the area under the curve of pre-liver transplantation serum oxidized guanine species concentrations for predicting 1-yr liver transplantation mortality was found to be 71% (95% confidence interval: 55%-88%; $P = 0.009$). OGS: Oxidized guanine species; CI: Confidence interval; AUC: Area under the curve.**Number of patients at risk****Group: ≤ 3.3**

71 69 67 67 67

Group: > 3.3

43 38 34 34 34

DOI: 10.4254/wjh.v14.i6.1182 Copyright ©The Author(s) 2022.

Figure 2 The Kaplan-Meier survival analysis showed a higher 1-yr liver transplantation mortality risk in patients with increased serum oxidized guanine species levels prior to liver transplantation (hazard ratio = 4.2; 95% confidence interval: 1.36-13.11; $P = 0.01$). OGS: Oxidized guanine species; CI: Confidence interval.

DISCUSSION

To our knowledge, our study is the first reporting data about the determination of DNA and RNA oxidative damage to predict prognosis of patients with HCC who underwent LT. The main finding was that high serum OGS prior to LT was associated with the mortality 1 year after LT. Greater oxidative DNA damage (assessed by 8-hydroxy-2'-deoxyguanosine concentration in liver biopsy specimens) has been found in patients with chronic liver disease with HCC compared to those without [18,19]. However, the association between serum OGS concentration and LT mortality is a new finding of our study.

These higher serum OGS levels found in non-surviving LT patients are in line with those found in patients with other diseases, such as sepsis [17], and could be in relation with a higher oxidative status that could favor multiple organ dysfunction and death of patients.

There were some limitations of our study. First, we have not determined serum 8-hydroxy-2'-deoxyguanosine change after LT to explore which is a better serum marker for prognosis (before or after LT). Second, we have not determined serum 8-hydroxy-2'-deoxyguanosine in healthy controls or chronic liver patients without HCC. However, the objective of our study was to determine whether patients with increased oxidative DNA and RNA damage before undergoing LT for HCC have poorer LT prognosis. Third, we have not determined other markers of oxidative stress for nucleic acids, such as abasic sites or 8-nitroguanosine 3',5'-cyclic monophosphate. Fourth, we have not determined 8-hydroxy-2'-deoxyguanosine in the liver to explore its correlation with serum levels. Fifth, the regression analysis did not allow the introduction of more variables due to the low number of deceased patients. However, one strength of our study was that the association between mortality and serum OGS has been also previously found in patients with other diseases such as sepsis [17].

The possible contribution of an oxidative state in chronic liver disease progression and in hepatocarcinogenesis development has been suggested. In addition, the potential use of antioxidant agents in patients with chronic liver diseases has also been suggested [9-12]. Therefore, these preliminary results could induce studies to clarify the potential role of oxidative damage in the prognosis of LT patients due to HCC and to explore the use of antioxidant agents to reduce oxidative stress in those patients.

CONCLUSION

The main new finding was that high serum OGS concentrations prior to LT were associated with mortality 1 year after LT in HCC patients.

ARTICLE HIGHLIGHTS

Research background

Oxidative damage of DNA and RNA has been associated with mortality of patients with various diseases.

Research motivation

There is no published data on the potential use of DNA and RNA oxidative damage to predict the prognosis of patients with liver transplantation (LT) due to hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC).

Research objectives

The aim in our study was to analyze the potential association between increased oxidative DNA and RNA damage before LT due to HCC and poorer LT prognosis.

Research methods

In this observational, retrospective study, patients with HCC who underwent LT were included. Serum levels of all three oxidized guanine species (OGS) were measured prior to LT because guanine is the nucleobase with a higher risk of oxidation. LT mortality at 1 year was the end point of the study.

Research results

Surviving patients ($n = 101$) showed lower serum OGS levels ($P = 0.01$) and lower age of liver donor ($P = 0.03$) than non-surviving patients ($n = 13$). An association between serum OGS prior to LT and 1-year LT (odds ratio = 2.079; 95% confidence interval: 1.356-3.189; $P = 0.001$) was found in the logistic regression analysis.

Research conclusions

The main new finding was that high serum OGS concentration prior to LT was associated with 1-year

LT mortality.

Research perspectives

These preliminary results could induce studies to clarify the potential role of oxidative damage in the prognosis of LT patients due to HCC and to explore the use of antioxidant agents to reduce oxidative stress in those patients.

FOOTNOTES

Author contributions: Lorente L was responsible for conception, design and coordination of the study, made substantial contributions to acquisition of data and analysis and interpretation of data and drafted the manuscript; Rodriguez ST, Sanz P, Portero J, Díaz D, González A, Martín MM, Cerro P, Portero J and Barrera MA made substantial contributions to acquisition of data and provided useful suggestions; González-Rivero AF and Pérez-Cejas A participated in blood determination levels; Jiménez A made substantial contributions to analysis and interpretation of data; All authors critically read and approved the manuscript and agree to be accountable for all aspects of the work in ensuring that questions related to the accuracy or integrity of any part of the work are appropriately investigated and resolved.

Institutional review board statement: The Institutional Board of the Hospital Universitario Nuestra Señora de Candelaria (Santa Cruz de Tenerife, Spain) approved the study protocol.

Informed consent statement: All study participants or their legal guardian provided informed written consent about personal and medical data collection prior to study enrolment.

Conflict-of-interest statement: All the authors report no relevant conflicts of interest for this article.

Data sharing statement: The datasets generated during the current study are available from the corresponding author on reasonable request.

Open-Access: This article is an open-access article that was selected by an in-house editor and fully peer-reviewed by external reviewers. It is distributed in accordance with the Creative Commons Attribution NonCommercial (CC BY-NC 4.0) license, which permits others to distribute, remix, adapt, build upon this work non-commercially, and license their derivative works on different terms, provided the original work is properly cited and the use is non-commercial. See: <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/4.0/>

Country/Territory of origin: Spain

ORCID number: Leonardo Lorente 0000-0003-4902-4065; Sergio T Rodriguez 0000-0003-1635-3604; Pablo Sanz 0000-0003-4770-0111; Agustín F González-Rivero 0000-0002-9712-6990; Antonia Pérez-Cejas 0000-0002-8267-4556; Javier Padilla 0000-0001-8103-7267; Dácil Díaz 0000-0002-8836-9771; Antonio González 0000-0002-4180-0376; María M Martín 0000-0003-0239-873X; Alejandro Jiménez 0000-0001-8732-2616; Purificación Cerro 0000-0002-1270-5046; Julián Portero 0000-0001-9619-197X; Manuel A Barrera 0000-0001-8216-6212.

S-Editor: Fan JR

L-Editor: Filipodia

P-Editor: Fan JR

REFERENCES

- 1 **European Association for Study of Liver;** European Organisation for Research and Treatment of Cancer. EASL-EORTC clinical practice guidelines: management of hepatocellular carcinoma. *Eur J Cancer* 2012; **48**: 599-641 [PMID: 22424278 DOI: 10.1016/j.ejca.2011.12.021]
- 2 **Clavien PA,** Lesurtel M, Bossuyt PM, Gores GJ, Langer B, Perrier A; OLT for HCC Consensus Group. Recommendations for liver transplantation for hepatocellular carcinoma: an international consensus conference report. *Lancet Oncol* 2012; **13**: e11-e22 [PMID: 22047762 DOI: 10.1016/S1470-2045(11)70175-9]
- 3 **Verslype C,** Rosmorduc O, Rougier P; ESMO Guidelines Working Group. Hepatocellular carcinoma: ESMO-ESDO Clinical Practice Guidelines for diagnosis, treatment and follow-up. *Ann Oncol* 2012; **23** Suppl 7: vii41-vii48 [PMID: 22997453 DOI: 10.1093/annonc/mds225]
- 4 **Cescon M,** Bertuzzo VR, Ercolani G, Ravaioli M, Odaldi F, Pinna AD. Liver transplantation for hepatocellular carcinoma: role of inflammatory and immunological state on recurrence and prognosis. *World J Gastroenterol* 2013; **19**: 9174-9182 [PMID: 24409045 DOI: 10.3748/wjg.v19.i48.9174]
- 5 **Bodzin AS,** Busuttil RW. Hepatocellular carcinoma: Advances in diagnosis, management, and long term outcome. *World J Hepatol* 2015; **7**: 1157-1167 [PMID: 26019732 DOI: 10.4254/wjh.v7.i9.1157]
- 6 **Toyoda H,** Kumada T, Tada T, Sone Y, Kaneoka Y, Maeda A. Tumor Markers for Hepatocellular Carcinoma: Simple and Significant Predictors of Outcome in Patients with HCC. *Liver Cancer* 2015; **4**: 126-136 [PMID: 26020034 DOI: 10.7554/liv.126-136]

- 10.1159/000367735]
- 7 **Guerrero-Misas M**, Rodríguez-Perálvarez M, De la Mata M. Strategies to improve outcome of patients with hepatocellular carcinoma receiving a liver transplantation. *World J Hepatol* 2015; **7**: 649-661 [PMID: 25866602 DOI: 10.4254/wjh.v7.i4.649]
 - 8 **Slotta JE**, Kollmar O, Ellenrieder V, Ghadimi BM, Homayounfar K. Hepatocellular carcinoma: Surgeon's view on latest findings and future perspectives. *World J Hepatol* 2015; **7**: 1168-1183 [PMID: 26019733 DOI: 10.4254/wjh.v7.i9.1168]
 - 9 **Takaki A**, Yamamoto K. Control of oxidative stress in hepatocellular carcinoma: Helpful or harmful? *World J Hepatol* 2015; **7**: 968-979 [PMID: 25954479 DOI: 10.4254/wjh.v7.i7.968]
 - 10 **Choi J**, Corder NL, Koduru B, Wang Y. Oxidative stress and hepatic Nox proteins in chronic hepatitis C and hepatocellular carcinoma. *Free Radic Biol Med* 2014; **72**: 267-284 [PMID: 24816297 DOI: 10.1016/j.freeradbiomed.2014.04.020]
 - 11 **Marra M**, Sordelli IM, Lombardi A, Lamberti M, Tarantino L, Giudice A, Stiuso P, Abbruzzese A, Sperlongano R, Accardo M, Agresti M, Caraglia M, Sperlongano P. Molecular targets and oxidative stress biomarkers in hepatocellular carcinoma: an overview. *J Transl Med* 2011; **9**: 171 [PMID: 21985599 DOI: 10.1186/1479-5876-9-171]
 - 12 **Hoshida Y**. Molecular signatures and prognosis of hepatocellular carcinoma. *Minerva Gastroenterol Dietol* 2011; **57**: 311-322 [PMID: 21769080]
 - 13 **Ba X**, Boldogh I. 8-Oxoguanine DNA glycosylase 1: Beyond repair of the oxidatively modified base lesions. *Redox Biol* 2018; **14**: 669-678 [PMID: 29175754 DOI: 10.1016/j.redox.2017.11.008]
 - 14 **Markkanen E**. Not breathing is not an option: How to deal with oxidative DNA damage. *DNA Repair (Amst)* 2017; **59**: 82-105 [PMID: 28963982 DOI: 10.1016/j.dnarep.2017.09.007]
 - 15 **Kino K**, Hirao-Suzuki M, Morikawa M, Sakaga A, Miyazawa H. Generation, repair and replication of guanine oxidation products. *Genes Environ* 2017; **39**: 21 [PMID: 28781714 DOI: 10.1186/s41021-017-0081-0]
 - 16 **AbdulSalam SF**, Thowfeik FS, Merino EJ. Excessive Reactive Oxygen Species and Exotic DNA Lesions as an Exploitable Liability. *Biochemistry* 2016; **55**: 5341-5352 [PMID: 27582430 DOI: 10.1021/acs.biochem.6b00703]
 - 17 **Lorente L**, Martín MM, González-Rivero AF, Pérez-Cejas A, Abreu-González P, Ortiz-López R, Ferreres J, Solé-Violán J, Labarta L, Díaz C, Palmero S, Jiménez A. Association between DNA and RNA oxidative damage and mortality in septic patients. *J Crit Care* 2019; **54**: 94-98 [PMID: 31401543 DOI: 10.1016/j.jcrc.2019.08.008]
 - 18 **Schwarz KB**, Kew M, Klein A, Abrams RA, Sitzmann J, Jones L, Sharma S, Britton RS, Di Bisceglie AM, Groopman J. Increased hepatic oxidative DNA damage in patients with hepatocellular carcinoma. *Dig Dis Sci* 2001; **46**: 2173-2178 [PMID: 11680593 DOI: 10.1023/a:1011958814371]
 - 19 **Tanaka H**, Fujita N, Sugimoto R, Urawa N, Horiike S, Kobayashi Y, Iwasa M, Ma N, Kawanishi S, Watanabe S, Kaito M, Takei Y. Hepatic oxidative DNA damage is associated with increased risk for hepatocellular carcinoma in chronic hepatitis C. *Br J Cancer* 2008; **98**: 580-586 [PMID: 18231107 DOI: 10.1038/sj.bjc.6604204]
 - 20 **Pugh RN**, Murray-Lyon IM, Dawson JL, Pietroni MC, Williams R. Transection of the oesophagus for bleeding oesophageal varices. *Br J Surg* 1973; **60**: 646-649 [PMID: 4541913 DOI: 10.1002/bjs.1800600817]
 - 21 **Kamath PS**, Wiesner RH, Malinchoc M, Kremers W, Therneau TM, Kosberg CL, D'Amico G, Dickson ER, Kim WR. A model to predict survival in patients with end-stage liver disease. *Hepatology* 2001; **33**: 464-470 [PMID: 11172350 DOI: 10.1053/jhep.2001.22172]
 - 22 **Mazzaferro V**, Regalia E, Doci R, Andreola S, Pulvirenti A, Bozzetti F, Montalto F, Ammatuna M, Morabito A, Gennari L. Liver transplantation for the treatment of small hepatocellular carcinomas in patients with cirrhosis. *N Engl J Med* 1996; **334**: 693-699 [PMID: 8594428 DOI: 10.1056/NEJM199603143341104]
 - 23 **Lorente L**, Rodríguez ST, Sanz P, González-Rivero AF, Pérez-Cejas A, Padilla J, Díaz D, González A, Martín MM, Jiménez A, Cerro P, Portero J, Barrera MA. High serum caspase-3 levels in hepatocellular carcinoma prior to liver transplantation and high mortality risk during the first year after liver transplantation. *Expert Rev Mol Diagn* 2019; **19**: 635-640 [PMID: 31084510 DOI: 10.1080/14737159.2019.1619549]



Published by **Baishideng Publishing Group Inc**
7041 Koll Center Parkway, Suite 160, Pleasanton, CA 94566, USA

Telephone: +1-925-3991568

E-mail: bpgoffice@wjgnet.com

Help Desk: <https://www.f6publishing.com/helpdesk>

<https://www.wjgnet.com>

