EFFECT OF GLYCEMIC CONTROL ON SEPSIS IN CRITICALLY ILL DIABETIC PATIENTS: A PROSPECTIVE COHORT STUDY

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ABSTRACT:

**Background:** In critically ill patients, hyperglycemia is common and frequently multifactorial. Severe hyperglycemia has been connected to negative outcomes in several conditions in non-diabetic patients. It can cause dysfunction of the endothelial system, release of cytokines, activation of platelets, dysfunction of the mitochondria, and disturbances in electrolytes and acid base balance. Diabetic patients have not shown these associations.

**Aim of the Work:** to study the effect of hyperglycemia in critically ill patients diagnosed with diabetes mellitus regarding the length of ICU or hospital stay and incidence of complications.

**Patients and Methods:** The current Prospective observational cohort study was conducted at hospitals of Ain-Shams University and the El Zeitoun Specialized Hospital. Sixty patients, all older than eighteen, who had been admitted to the intensive care unit due to sepsis and were known to have diabetes were enrolled in the study. Two groups of patients were randomly assigned: the first group’s random blood glucose (RBG) measures were less than or equal to 150 mg/dl, and the second group’s RBG measurements were greater than 150 mg/dl. Patients were assessed for clinical and laboratory parameters.

**Results:** patients in the second group, who had RBG level above 150mg/dl, had a significantly higher Acute Physiology and Chronic Health Evaluation (APACHEII) than the other group. Also, patients in the second group had a significantly longer hospital stay. On the other hand, both groups were comparable in sex, age, body mass index as well as special habits as smoking. The development of complications during ICU stay was similar in both groups.

**Conclusion:** Glycemic control in the ICU is a very important part in the management of ICU patients. Hyperglycemia is associated with higher APACHEII score and longer intensive care unit stay.

**Keywords:** intensive care unit, glucose control, ICU, hyperglycemia, critically ill patients, Diabetic Patients.

INTRODUCTION:

Patients who are critically ill, frequently encounter hyperglycemia which is usually multifactorial. Severe hyperglycemia has been connected to negative outcomes in several conditions in non-diabetic patients. It can cause dysfunction of the endothelial system, release of cytokines, activation of platelets, dysfunction of the mitochondria, and disturbances in electrolytes and acid base balance. Diabetic patients have not shown these associations (1).

Reducing blood glucose (BG) levels by means of different measures has improved outcomes in some studies, but not all of them (2). In comparison to conventional management aimed at blood glucose (BG) 180 mg/dl. Numerous clinical trials conducted recently on critically ill patients have not demonstrated a decrease in mortality from intensive treatment focusing on near-euglycemia (3).
On the other hands reports of hypo-
glycemia, which are frequently encountered
and severe, are more harmful and leads to an
increased rate in mortality among those
critically ill patients\(^{(3)}\).

Mortality risk was significantly and
independently encountered with a single
hypoglycemic attack. Appropriate moni-
toring is necessary for secure execution of tight
glycemic management in these critically ill
patients in the intensive care unit (ICU) to
dercrease the risk of this consequence\(^{(4)}\).

**AIM OF THE WORK:**

To study the effect of hyperglycemia in
critically ill patients diagnosed with diabetes
mellitus regarding the length of ICU or
hospital stay and incidence of complications.

**PATIENTS AND METHODS:**

This Prospective observational cohort
study was conducted at hospitals of Ain
Shams University and the El Zeitoun
Specialized Hospital, throughout a period of
6 months on 60 patients that are known to be
diabetic and admitted to ICU suffering from
sepsis and aging over 18 years. These patients
have fulfilled the following criteria:

**Inclusion Criteria:**

All patients that are known diabetic and
admitted to ICU suffering from sepsis aging
over 18 years.

**Exclusion Criteria:**

Age less than 18-year-old, patient or his
1st degree relatives refuses to participate and
RBG level less than 70 mg/dl “on admission.”

**Study Groups:**

Considering inclusion and exclusion
criteria, 60 Patients have been divided
equally into two groups: 1st group RBG
measurements less than or equal 150 mg/dl
while the 2nd group RBG measurements
above 150 mg/dl.

Demographic data which includes, age,
gender, body mass index was collected for the
studied patients, as well as the duration of
diabetes and the site of the septic focus. Vital
data as heart and respiratory rate, degree of
temperature, blood pressure, oxygen
saturation, central venous pressure and urine
output were recorded for both studied groups.
These patients were indicated to have
hypertension if their systolic blood pressure
(SBP) more than or equal to 140 mm Hg, their
diastolic blood pressure (DBP) was greater
than or equal 90 mm Hg, or if they were
taking anti-hypertensive medication.

Laboratory data were divided into
general and specific. The general tests
included complete blood count (CBC), RBG,
kidney and liver function tests, arterial blood
gases (ABG) and hemoglobin A1C (HBA1C)
level if available. The specific blood test
included C reactive protein (CRP), lactate
and lipid profile. The previous test when
ordered were done with a maximum 5 ml
blood sample per day. Accepted serum
cholesterol levels were below 200mg/dl,
otherwise patients were diagnosed to have
hypercholesterolemia. Normal values of
high-density lipoproteins (HDL) were above
50 mg/dl in females and 40mg/dl in males. As
for LDL (low density lipoproteins)
cholesterol as level below 70mg/dl in diabetic
and cardiac patients was accepted.

Total insulin units needed per day
according to body needs were recorded for
each patient. RBG was recorded every hour if
the patient was on insulin infusion, and every
two hours after weaning from insulin infusion
then every four hours while the patient was
present in the ICU. Monitoring of glucose
variability was recorded as an index about
glycemic control. When blood glucose levels
fell between 71 and 140 mg/dL, they were
signified to be euglycemia; when they fell
between 141 and 199 mg/dL, they were
signified to be mild hyperglycemia; and when
they fell above or equal to 200 mg/dL, they
were classified as severe hyperglycemia.
Acute Physiology and Chronic Health Evaluation score II (APACHEII) It is calculated within a patient's first twenty-four hours in the critical care unit. Higher scores are indicative of greater risk of death and more severe illness. A score between 0 and 71 is calculated based on multiple parameters. The development of complications was noted for each patient in the current research; which includes Serum creatinine level (SCr) increase of 0.3 mg/dl within 48-hours; an elevation 1.5 times from the baseline, in the previous 7 days; or a urine volume of 0.5 ml/kg/h for 6 hours were all considered signs of acute kidney injury (AKI). Pyuria, which is described as having 10 or more white blood cells per cubic millimeters in a urine sample. Acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS) onset, the necessity of mechanical ventilation, and its duration, acute myocardial infarction, strokes were noted, as well as the duration of the ICU stay.

Primary Outcome Measurement:

Evaluate the effect of hyperglycemia on APACHE score calculation and the length of ICU stay in diabetic critically ill patients.

Ethical Consideration:

Approvals of anesthesia and intensive care department and the research ethics committee, faculty of medicine, Ain Shams university were obtained before starting the study [MS102/2021] Prior to their enrollment in the study, every patient provided written, informed consent.

Statistical Analysis of The Data:

The computer was fed data, and IBM SPSS software package version 20.0 was employed for analysis. (IBM Corp., Armonk, NY) Numbers and percentages for qualitative data. The Kolmogorov-Smirnov test was used to confirm the distribution's normality. Range mean, standard deviation, median, and interquartile range (IQR) for quantitative data. The results were deemed significant at the 5% level, p<0.05. The tests employed were Chi-square test: To compare different groups based on categorical variables. When the expected count is less than 5 in more than 20% of the cells, the chi-square needs to be corrected using Fisher's Exact. Student t-test for quantitative variables that are normally distributed. Mann Whitney to compare when quantitative variables have an abnormal distribution.

RESULTS:

Thirty patients were included in each group with comparable demographic data as regards age, sex and special habits (smoking), as well as body mass index. Table (1&2), Diagram (1).

Table 1: Comparison of demographic data between the two studied groups.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Demographic data</th>
<th>1st Group 150 mg/dl (n = 30)</th>
<th>2nd Group &gt;150 mg/dl (n = 30)</th>
<th>Test of Sig.</th>
<th>P</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sex</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>60.0</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>53.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>40.0</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>46.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age (years)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>≤50</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>46.7</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>53.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&gt;50</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>53.3</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>46.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special habits</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-smoker</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>86.7</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>86.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smoker</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>13.3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>13.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

RBG: random blood glucose, $\chi^2$: Chi square test.
Diagram 1: Comparison of demographic data between the two studied groups

Table 2: Comparison of BMI between the two studied groups.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BMI (kg/m²)</th>
<th>1st Group RBG ≤ 150 mg/dl (n = 30)</th>
<th>2nd Group RBG &gt;150 mg/dl (n = 30)</th>
<th>Test of Sig.</th>
<th>p</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Normal (18.5-24.9)</td>
<td>30 100</td>
<td>30 100</td>
<td>χ²=0.0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Min. – Max.</td>
<td>17.50 – 24.70</td>
<td>16.0 – 24.20</td>
<td>T=1.84</td>
<td>0.0697</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mean ± SD.</td>
<td>22.84 ± 1.52</td>
<td>21.22 ± 1.34</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

RBG: random blood glucose, BMI: body mass index, min: minimum, max: maximum, SD: standard deviation, χ²: Chi square test, t: Student t-test, SD: Standard deviation.

A statically significant difference was found between both groups as regards the glucose level on admission. The first group has a significant increase in the number of patients, whose RBG level were between 71 and 140 mg/dl (80% vs. 0% respectively p<0.001). The second group showed a significant higher percentage of patients when the RBG was between 141 and 199 mg/dl (53.3 % vs. 20% respectively p<0.001) and above or equal 200 mg/dl than the other group (46.7% vs. 0% respectively p<0.001) Table (3) and Diagram (2). Vital data and risk factors were comparable in both groups on admission (p >0.05) Table (4 &5), Diagram (3).

Table 3: Comparison between both groups as regards glucose level on admission.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Glucose level on admission</th>
<th>1st Group RBG ≤ 150 mg/dl (n = 30)</th>
<th>2nd Group RBG &gt;150 mg/dl (n = 30)</th>
<th>Test of sig.</th>
<th>p</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stratify patients in euglycemia. (71-140)</td>
<td>24 80.0</td>
<td>0 0.0</td>
<td>χ²=42.545*</td>
<td>&lt;0.001*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mild hyperglycemia (141-199)</td>
<td>6 20.0</td>
<td>16 53.3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Severe hyperglycemia (≥200)</td>
<td>0 0.0</td>
<td>14 46.7</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

RBG: random blood glucose, χ²: Chi square test
Effect of Glycemic Control on Sepsis in Critically Ill Diabetic Patients

Diagram 2: Comparison between both groups according to glucose level on admission.

Table 4: Comparison between the two studied groups according to vital data on admission.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vital data</th>
<th>1st Group RBG ≤ 150 mg/dl (n = 30)</th>
<th>2nd Group RBG &gt; 150 mg/dl (n = 30)</th>
<th>t</th>
<th>p</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Systolic blood pressure (mmHg)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Range</td>
<td>120.0 – 140.0</td>
<td>115.0 – 135.0</td>
<td>1.259</td>
<td>0.213</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mean ± SD.</td>
<td>132.33 ± 19.60</td>
<td>139.0 ± 21.39</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diastolic blood pressure (mmHg)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Range</td>
<td>65.0 – 85.0</td>
<td>70.0 – 85.0</td>
<td>1.527</td>
<td>0.132</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mean ± SD.</td>
<td>82.33 ± 11.35</td>
<td>87.33 ± 13.88</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mean arterial blood pressure (mmHg)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Range</td>
<td>83.0 – 120.0</td>
<td>83.0 – 130.0</td>
<td>1.480</td>
<td>0.144</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mean ± SD.</td>
<td>99.0 ± 13.31</td>
<td>104.56 ± 15.66</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temperature (°C)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Range</td>
<td>36.2 – 37.7</td>
<td>36.3 – 37.8</td>
<td>0.836</td>
<td>0.407</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mean ± SD.</td>
<td>38.08 ± 0.68</td>
<td>37.94 ± 0.54</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heart rate (beat/ min)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Range</td>
<td>90.0 – 110.0</td>
<td>92.0 – 112.0</td>
<td>1.483</td>
<td>0.144</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mean ± SD.</td>
<td>106.47 ± 10.87</td>
<td>101.83 ± 13.22</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Respiratory rate (breath/ min)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Range</td>
<td>16.0 – 28.0</td>
<td>24.0 – 29.0</td>
<td>0.024</td>
<td>0.981</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mean ± SD.</td>
<td>20.0 ± 5.14</td>
<td>20.03 ± 5.77</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

RBG: random blood glucose, t: Student t-test, SD: Standard deviation, °C: degree Celsius

Table 5: Comparison between both groups according to risk factors.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Risk Factors</th>
<th>1st Group RBG ≤ 150 mg/dl (n = 30)</th>
<th>2nd Group RBG &gt; 150 mg/dl (n = 30)</th>
<th>χ²</th>
<th>p</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No.</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>No.</td>
<td>%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hypertension</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>36.7</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>40.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neuropathy</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>26.6</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>16.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hyperlipidemia</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>20.0</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>36.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smoking</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>16.6</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

RBG: random blood glucose, χ²: Chi square test
The APACHEII score was significantly higher in the second group than the first group (mean± SD 10±1.3 vs. 9±1.2 respectively $p=0.003$). As regards the CRP and lactate, there was no significant difference between both groups Table (6).

Diagram 3: Comparison between both groups according to risk factors.

The duration of ICU stay was significantly higher in the second group than the first group with median and interquartile range 4.0 (3.0– 7.0) vs. 4.0 (3.0– 5.0) respectively $p=0.0341$ Table (7).

Diagram (5) also shows the comparison between the 2 groups regarding hospital stays in relation to blood sugar level.

There was no significant difference in the development of complications (Acute kidney injury, Acute coronary syndrome, chest infection and pyuria) during ICU stay between both groups. Table (8), Diagram (4). There was a statistically significant increase of mean blood glucose in second group in comparison to first group on days 2,3,4,5 and 6 ($p<0.05$).

Table 6: Comparison between both groups according to laboratory investigations (CRP and Lactate) and APACHEII score.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1st Group RBG ≤ 150 mg/dl (n = 30)</th>
<th>2nd Group RBG &gt;150 mg/dl (n = 30)</th>
<th>t</th>
<th>P</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>CRP</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Range</td>
<td>0 – 5</td>
<td>2 – 10</td>
<td>2.231</td>
<td>0.0656</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mean ± SD.</td>
<td>5.94 ± 1.85</td>
<td>6.11 ± 1.09</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Lactate</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Range</td>
<td>0.5 – 2</td>
<td>0.5 – 2</td>
<td>1.912*</td>
<td>0.061</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mean ± SD.</td>
<td>1.50 ± 0.60</td>
<td>1.85 ± 0.81</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>APACHEII score</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Range</td>
<td>7 - 11</td>
<td>7 - 12</td>
<td>-3.096</td>
<td>0.003*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mean ±SD</td>
<td>9 ±1.2</td>
<td>10±1.3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

RBG: random blood glucose, CRP: c reactive protein, APACHEII: Acute Physiology and Chronic Health Evaluation score II, SD: Standard deviation t: Student t-test.
Table 7: Comparison between both groups according to ICU Length of stay from admission till discharge.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ICU length of stay in days</th>
<th>1st Group RBG ≤ 150 mg/dl (n = 30)</th>
<th>2nd Group RBG &gt;150 mg/dl (n = 30)</th>
<th>Test of sig.</th>
<th>P</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Range</td>
<td>2.0 – 6.0</td>
<td>2.0 – 8.0</td>
<td>U = 613.50</td>
<td>0.0341*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Median (IQR)</td>
<td>4.0 (3.0 – 5.0)</td>
<td>4.0 (3.0 – 7.0)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ICU: intensive care unit, RBG: random blood glucose, IQR: Inter quartile range U: Mann Whitney test.

Table 8: Comparison between both groups according to the development of complications.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Complications</th>
<th>1st Group RBG ≤ 150 mg/dl (n = 30)</th>
<th>2nd Group RBG &gt;150 mg/dl (n = 30)</th>
<th>χ²</th>
<th>P</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No.</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>No.</td>
<td>%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acute kidney injury</td>
<td>2 3.3</td>
<td>4 13.0</td>
<td>0.218</td>
<td>1.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acute coronary syndrome</td>
<td>0 0.0</td>
<td>2 3.3</td>
<td>3.158</td>
<td>0.237</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chest infection</td>
<td>2 3.3</td>
<td>3 10.0</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>1.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pyuria</td>
<td>3 10.0</td>
<td>4 13.0</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>1.000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

RBG: random blood glucose, χ²: Chi square test

Diagram 4: Comparison between the two studied groups as regards the development of complications

Table 9: Comparison between both groups according to blood glucose in relation to ICU stay

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ICU stay (days)</th>
<th>Mean blood glucose</th>
<th>P</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1st Group RBG ≤ 150 mg/dl (n = 30)</td>
<td>2nd Group RBG &gt;150 mg/dl (n = 30)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Day</td>
<td>145</td>
<td>155</td>
<td>0.0632</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second Day</td>
<td>130</td>
<td>165</td>
<td>0.0234*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Third Day</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>160</td>
<td>0.0125*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fourth Day</td>
<td>130</td>
<td>175</td>
<td>0.0023*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fifth Day</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>180</td>
<td>0.00167*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sixth Day</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>170</td>
<td>0.00113*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

RBG: random blood glucose.

This table shows that there was statistically significant increase of mean blood glucose in second group in comparison to first group at day 2,3,4,5 and 6 (P.<0.05).
DISCUSSION:

Diabetes mellitus (DM) patients still have a worse prognosis following ischemic episodes than those without diabetes, despite advancements in DM patient care. Critically ill patients in the intensive care unit, most commonly encounter hyperglycemia. whatever the cause for admission (sepsis, acute myocardial infarction, stroke, post cardiovascular surgery, etc.), is the occurrence of hyperglycemia is linked to increased mortality and morbidity (5).

Nonetheless, there is ongoing debate regarding the pathophysiology and, specifically, the management of hyperglycemia in critically ill patients. A blood glucose level more than 140 mg/dL without a prior history of diabetes or a glycated hemoglobin (HbA1c) more than 6.5% is referred to as stress hyperglycemia which is frequently encountered in the ICU. Even when there is no prior history of diabetes mellitus, stress hyperglycemia is considered a prevalent issue among critically ill patients and is linked to higher rates of mortality and morbidity (6).

The literature shows conflicting results regarding the target for maintaining glucose level in these patients and its relation to the patient’s short-term outcome. According to some data, hyperglycemia, at 180 mg/dL, is linked to an increased risk of infection-related death and morbidity in intensive care unit patients. On the other hand, in comparison to conventional management aimed at BG 180 mg/dL, several current clinical trials involving patients who are critically ill have not shown a decrease in mortality when maintaining euglycemia (7).

Considerable harm is encountered in events of severe hypoglycemia, which also leads to increased mortality (3). Since a single severe hypoglycemic episode was linked to an increased risk of death on its own. To lower the risk of this happening, safe tight glycemic control implementation necessitates proper monitoring (8).

Therefore, managing glucose in the intensive care unit is very important during the daily management of a patient that is extremely complex. The purpose of the present study is to assess the effects of glycemic control in critically ill diabetic patients, even though observational and some interventional trials said that strict glucose management can lower mortality in this context. However, more evident research has not supported these findings.

In our current study patients, there that were included were comparable in both age sex and BMI. On the contrary, research has demonstrated that older patients had higher level of hyperglycemia and there was a substantial correlation between age and the occurrences of complications and death (9).
Also, there was no difference in smoking between both groups and this was in accordance with Lou et al (3).

The Acute Physiology and Chronic Health Evaluation (APACHEII) in our current study revealed a significant increase in the higher hyperglycemia group. In line with our research, Cichosz and Schaarup reported that the APACHE score was higher in the two groups with hyperglycemia than in the non-hyperglycemia groups. This contradicts the findings of Lou et al. (2021), who found no statistically significant relationship between the APACHE II score and e,ither the maximum glucose level within first 2 days or the admission glucose level.

In the current study, there was statistically insignificant difference between both groups in vital data (Systolic BP, Diastolic BP, MABP, HR and RR) (P>0.05). However, hemodynamic parameters, the presence of risk factors, and comorbidities indicated that patients with hyperglycemia had decreased systolic and diastolic BP as demonstrated in Hassan et al., (2021) study (10). These findings corroborated those of Pandey et al., (2014), who discovered that there was an increase in variability in both systolic and diastolic BP as demonstrated in Hassan et al., (2021) study (10).

Moreover, Abd El-Monem et al., (2021) was in agreement with our study as the insignificant difference in respiratory rate and ABG between both groups (12). Ganesh et al., (2016) provided an explanation for these results, stating that high anion gap metabolic acidosis, as well as lactate, is the predominant blood gas anomaly in patients having sepsis and septic shock. But lactate was also similar in both groups in our study (13).

In our study, there was similar CRP measurements in both groups. On the contrary, Hassan et al., (2021) revealed a significant elevation in CRP in the hyperglycemia group than the other group. Inflammatory markers like c reactive protein have been linked to type 2 diabetes mellitus and insulin resistance, according to a 2009 study by Sourris et al. Additionally, Ford et al., had demonstrated that individuals without diabetes have higher HbA1c levels and that those with diabetes have higher CRP levels (14).

The length of intensive care unit stay was significantly increased in the higher hyperglycemia group than the other group. This is equivalent to the findings of Abd El-Monem et al., (2021), who demonstrated a statistically significant elevation in the length of intensive care unit stay in the hyperglycemia group relative to the other group. In support of the previous findings, Marik and Bellomo (2013) noted that patients with stress hyperglycemia had longer intensive care unit and hospital stays. They proceeded on to state that because severe stress hyperglycemia affects serum osmolarity, it could be dangerous. Severe hyperglycemia also surpasses the renal threshold, which causes volume depletion and osmotic diuresis (15).

In line with the aforementioned, Lou et al., (2021) reported that moderate and severe hyperglycemia was associated with a marked longer admission in the intensive care unit when compared to the normoglycemic group, based on the peak glucose level forty-eight hours after admission (6).

This aligns with the views of Temel et al. and Callahan and Supinski, who demonstrated that hyperglycemia was a grave element for weakness obtained in the intensive care unit that extended the need for mechanical ventilation (8). Additionally, Becker et al. discovered a significant correlation between an increased ICU and hospital stay and suboptimal hyperglycemic control more than 180 mg/dl in the intensive care unit stay (16).

Similar to our findings, Cichosz et al.’s study found that the length of ICU stay was longer for patients with hyperglycemia than for those without. This suggests that patients
with diabetes have longer ICU stays than patients without hyperglycemia, but the effect is less pronounced\(^9\).

The current study revealed an insignificant difference in complications between both groups. while in Cichosz and Schaarup, 2017 the mortality rate among intensive care unit patients with diabetes was higher than controls.

In this concern, El-Nagar and colleagues (2018) showed that there was a significant link between HbA1c and mortality; the higher the HbA1c, the higher the mortality. This agrees with the study by Mahmoodpoor et al. who reported the same result and confirmed the association between higher HbA1c and the incidence of higher mortality and complication. Moreover, in the study by El-Nagar and colleagues (2018) there was a significant relationship between RBS and mortality rate. This is in agreement with the study by Mahmoodpoor and colleagues (2008), who reported the same result and also confirmed the association between the RBS and increased mortality\(^{20,21}\).

El-Nagar et al. (2018) demonstrated a noteworthy relation between HbA1c and mortality, indicating that an elevation in HbA1c corresponded to an increase in mortality. This is consistent with the research conducted by Mahmoodpoor et al., who also found a correlation between higher HbA1c and an increased risk of death and complications\(^{20,21}\).

Furthermore, El-Nagar and colleagues’ (2018) study found a significant correlation between RBG and mortality rate. This is consistent with the research conducted in 2008 by Mahmoodpoor et al., who also reported the same outcome and verified the link between higher mortality and RBS\(^{20,21}\).

Taking complications into account, a cohort of patients receiving intensive glucose control between 80 and 140 mg/dL studied the relation between glucose management and sepsis severity. The researchers concluded that there was a higher risk of hypoglycemia and hyperglycemia in those with high degree of sepsis or septic shock\(^{17}\).

The Efficacy of Volume Substitution and Insulin Therapy in Severe Sepsis (VISEP study) was a randomized multi-center trial that compared intensive versus conservative insulin therapy. Additionally, the fluids (10% pentastarch vs. modified Ringer's lactate) were studied for resuscitation. Strict glucose management did not help patients with high degree of sepsis, and the trial was early terminated for safety concerns due to elevated incidence of hypoglycemia\(^{18}\).

An examination of subgroups in the NICE-SUGAR trial revealed no improvement in the mortality rate for patients with high degree of sepsis. According to the Surviving Sepsis Campaign Guidelines, insulin therapy should be initiated following two following blood glucose readings above 180 mg/dL\(^{19}\).

According to El-Nagar et al.’s (2018) multivariate regression analysis, the most independent risk factors for mortality in critically ill patients were HbA1c, stroke, and renal disease. This is consistent with the findings of a study by Bonora et al., which also confirmed that the most independent risk factors for mortality in ICU were higher HbA1c, renal disease, and stroke. Hyperglycemia was not among those factors\(^{22}\).

The absence of significant in the development of complications between both groups can be due to the small sample size used. So, additional observational and randomization and controlled studies are recommended to be performed for additional evaluation of the development of complications with different levels of hyperglycemia.

**Conclusion:**

Glycemic control in the intensive care unit is a very important part in the management of ICU patients. Hyperglycemia is associated
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with higher APACHEII score and longer intensive care unit stay.

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Tأثير التحكم في نسبة السكر في الدم على تسمم الدم لدى مرضى السكري المصابين بأمراض خطيرة (دراسة أترابية مستقبيلة)

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الخلفية العلمية: رتفاع السكر في الدم أمر شائع وغالباً ما يكون متعدد العوامل في المرضى المصابين بأمراض خطيرة، يمكن أن يؤدي ارتفاع السكر في الدم إلى تسمم الدم، وإطلاق السيتوكين، وتنشيط الصفائح الدموية، وخلل في الميتوكوندريا، واضطرابات الكهارل والقواعد الحمضية، وقد ارتبط بنتائج ضارة في مجموعة متنوعة من الإعدادات لدى المرضى الذين ليس لديهم تاريخ من مرض السكري. ولم يتم تأكيد هذا الاشتباه لدى مرضى السكري.

المريض المشتركين والوسائل: تم إجراء هذه الدراسة الأترابية في مستشفى جامعة عين شمس - مستشفى الزليون التخصصي. تم تقسيم المرضى إلى مجموعتين: قياسات المجموعة الأولى أقل من أو يساوي 150 ملجم/ديسيلتر بينما قياسات المجموعة الثانية أعلى من 150 ملجم/ديسيلتر.

النتائج: تم تقييم الغموض لدى المرضى في وحدة العناية المركزه في المجموعة الأولى، مقارنة بالمجموعة الثانية.

الخاتمة: ارتفاع النسبة في الدم يؤدي إجمالاً إلى ارتفاع السكر في الدم حيث يمكن أن يؤدي إلى إثراء المريض بالخطر. ويُقترح إجراء المزيد من الدراسات المراقبة والدراسات العشوائية لمزيد من تقييم تباين المضاعفات.