

**Insulin-Like Growth Factor-1 in acute ischemic stroke:
Clinical and radiological study**

Thesis

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Abstract

Background: Cerebrovascular disease is highly prevalent in the general population, frequently leading to permanent disability and reduced quality of life. Insulin growth factor-1 (IGF-I) is recognized as an important neuro-protective factor against cerebral ischemic insult. **Aim of the work:** to study the relationship between serum IGF-I levels and acute ischemic stroke (AIS), carotid intima media thickness and stroke volume and the role of IGF-I as a prognostic marker in patients with AIS and post stroke cognitive impairment. **Patients and Methods:** two hundred patients with AIS (1st 24 hours) were subjected to neurological examination, assessment of stroke severity using NIHSS, stroke disability using mRS scale, neuro-psychological assessment using Modified Mini-Mental State Examination (3MS), measurement of stroke volume using Diffusion weighted image (DWI) MRI, extra-cranial carotid duplex and measurement of (serum IGF-1, cholesterol level, CRP level). One hundred ages, sex and conventional vascular risk factors matched controls were included for comparison. **Results:** Serum IGF-I levels were significantly reduced in cases of first AIS compared with control cases. There was statistically significant negative correlation between low serum IGF-1 level and unfavorable stroke outcome, there was statistically significant correlation between low IGF-1 levels and increased CIMT, But there was no statistically significant correlation between low IGF-1 level and stroke volume or post stroke cognitive decline. A reduced IGF-I level was an independent risk factor for ischemic stroke with cut off value less than 148.3 ng/ml associated with increased AIS risk. **Conclusion:** Low IGF-I levels are significantly related to risk of ischemic stroke occurrence, independent from other risk factors, low IGF-1 levels was associated with increased CIMT and reduced serum IGF-1 levels could predict unfavorable post stroke functional outcome.

Key words: IGF-1, stroke outcome, intima media thickness.