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Study of comparative evaluation of Atorvastatin and Salacinol (*Salacia roxburghii*) on BMI, Lipid profile and adiponectin in patient of chronic kidney disease with hypertension

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Abstract

Hippocrates in 5th century B.C blamed malfunctioning kidney for certain signs and symptoms. Progression of renal failure is an area of Nephrology where our understanding has improved appreciably in the last century but still our knowledge is like a drop in ocean. Progression of renal failure is an area of Nephrology where our understanding has improved appreciably in the last century but still our knowledge is like a drop in ocean. We have ample of evidence that progression of renal failure can be slowed down but we still need more definite information whether established renal failure can be reversed. Retarding the progression of renal failure is one of the most important task for the nephrologists as it not only improves the quality of life of the patient but also delays the development of end stage renal disease. This pilot clinical study was planned to explore the therapeutic potential of salacinol on BMI, Lipid profile and Adiponectin.

Objectives: To study of comparative evaluation of atorvastatin and salacinol (*Salacia roxburghii*) on BMI, Lipid profile and Adiponectin in patient of chronic kidney disease with hypertension

Methods: The present study was conducted in the Department of General medicine, Institute of Medical Sciences, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi. Eighty patients of mild to moderate stable chronic renal failure with hypertension attending Nephrology OPD were admitted in Nephrology ward from May 2015 to June 2016 were included in the study. Initially patients were explained in detail about the experimental nature of the drugs and plan of study and only willing patient were included in the study after signing of the written consent. Before starting the drugs a through history was taken and clinical examination was done. The patients were then subjected to baseline urine, hematological, biochemical and immunological investigation.

Results: Overall 80 patients completed the six months follow-up and were finally included in the study. Atorvastatin and Salacinol group finally had 40 patients and there were 40 patients in Atorvastatin group. Age of patient ranged from 20 years onwards. Mean age of patient in various group were well matched & there was no significant statistical differences. Mean age of group-I was 53.9 yrs & Mean age of Group-II was 51.75 Yrs. There was male preponderance in our patient. Overall 65% patients were male & 35% were female. In Group-I 62.3% patient were male while in Group-II 67.5% were male. Mean body mass index in Group-I & Group-II at baseline were 25.9±2.3 & 26.7±1.7 & on subsequent follow up at three and six months were statistically significant. LDL/HDL ratio at baseline in Group-I & Group-II were 4.35±0.50 & 4.44±0.53 respectively changes were statistically significant on subsequent visit at three and six months on intergroup comparison changes were statistically significant at the end of three months & six months probably of hypolipidemic role of salacinol. Similarly serum cholesterol value comparison in intergroup, changes were statistically significant at three & six months. Mean Adiponectin level at baseline in group-I and Group-II were 5.29 and 4.25 respectively and changes were statistically significant at three and six months in group-I while at six months in Group-II. On intergroup comparison were statistically significant at three and six months. On intergroup changes baseline comparison, changes were also statistically significant.

Conclusion: The male patients dominated over the female patients with a male to female ratio of 2:1. Age of the patient ranged from 20yrs onward. Majority of the patient were above 40yrs of age. Commonest symptom was weakness in all the groups followed by anorexia, swelling over body, pallor & sleep disorders. In patient treated with Atorvastatin and Salacinol BMI (Body mass index) showed significant decrease (<0.05) on 3rd and six months. Patient treated with Atorvastatin and Salacinol, lipid profile including LDL/HDI, ratio, serum total cholesterol & triglyceride showed significant decrease (<0.05) at three months and at the end of study. In patient treated with Atorvastatin and salacinol, the changes in Adiponectin level were statistically significant (<0.001) at three and six months.

Keywords: Atorvastatin, Salacinol (*Salacia roxburghii*), BMI

Introduction

Hippocrates in 5th century B.C blamed malfunctioning kidney for certain signs and symptoms. He commented that

suppression of urine was a sign and could be followed by smell of urine in the breath, coma and convulsions since then our understanding of nephrology has had revolutionary

changes. Progression of renal failure is an area of Nephrology where our understanding has improved appreciably in the last century but still our knowledge is like a drop in ocean.

We have ample of evidence that progression of renal failure can be slowed down but we still need more definite information whether established renal failure can be reversed. Retarding the progression of renal failure is one of the most important task for the Nephrologists as it not only improves the quality of life of the patient but also delays the development of end stage renal disease, This also forestalls the considerable financial burden of dialysis, transplantation and immunosuppressive drugs.

This pilot clinical study was planned to know the beneficial effect of salacinol on BMI, Lipid profile and Adiponectin level. The antidiabetic property of salacia species has been recognized since ancient time. The Ayurvedic practitioners of south India particularly Tamil Nadu and Kerala are using this plant for the treatment of diabetic complications like peripheral neuritis, diabetic gangrene.

The scientific evaluation on salacia species was conducted at BHU by Dubey *et al* (1993) and reported its antidiabetic property and its role in diabetic complications (Dubey 1994, Wani 2006, Singh 2007, Sharma 2007, Rajesh 2009).

The findings were confirmed in collaborative studies in 2005. The antidiabetic and anti-inflammatory activity of salacia was studied by Syed Ismail and Elango (1997) at the Tamil Nadu University. Salacia depresses cardiac angiotensin II signaling of AT-1 receptors

1. Suppression of overexpression of cardiac PPAR- α in diabetic heart
2. Salacia as PPAR- γ agonists in diabetes mellitus and insulin resistance.
3. Salacia as PPAR- α agonists in the management of dyslipidemia
4. Salacia inhibits α -glucosidase
5. Salacia decreases postprandial glycaemia
6. Salacia inhibits aldose reductase
7. Salacia inhibits pancreatic lipase

In view of the need for the drugs to retard or reverse the progression of renal failure and atherosclerosis scavenging property and also in view of the uncharted wealth of traditional medicines which is found in India, this study was planned to explore the therapeutic potentials of the traditional medicines in case of chronic renal failure especially with respect to its atherosclerosis scavenging properties.

Material and Methods

The present study was conducted in the Department of General medicine, Institute of Medical Sciences, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi. Eighty patients of mild to moderate stable chronic renal failure with hypertension attending Nephrology OPD or admitted in Nephrology ward from May 2015 to June 2016 were included in the study. Patient with acute MI, congestive heart failure, unstable angina, myopathy. Non-compliant patient & those patient taking medicines for their disease which is known to improve lipid profile (lipid lowering agent other than atorvastatin) were excluded from the study.

Initially patients were explained in detail about the

experimental nature of the drugs and plan of study and only willing patient were included in the study after signing of the written consent. Before starting the drugs a through history was taken and clinical examination was done. The patients were then subjected to baseline urine, hematological, biochemical and immunological investigation. All the patients were given strict dietary instruction and a diet chart was given for their reference. They were maintained on low protein (0.6mg/kg/day), low salt (5mg/day) as potassium restricted (40-60 meq/day) diet. A caloric intake of 30-35 kcal/kg body weight was planned. All of the patient were needed were given phosphate binders & none of the patient was taking ACE inhibitor. Subsequently patients were allocated randomly to one of the two groups, the first group consisted of patient treated with atorvastatin salacinol and second group was treated with atorvastatin only.

The allocated drug was started and after a period of one month they were assessed for dietary control by asking them to recall their diet in last 24hrs and for any symptomatic improvement or deterioration as compared to the last visit. They were also examined thoroughly and baseline investigations were repeated on three & six months.

The drug used were salacinol & Atorvastatin. Salacinol, is extract from *Salacia roxburghii* which is a climbing shrub or small tree found in evergreen forest of North Bengal, Assam, Sikkim & N.E.F.A. Ripe fruits are edible, common name satrangi saptachakra, swarnamala part used were root. This is antidiabetic drug used in the treatment of diabetes. It is also having anti-inflammatory and analgesic action. The stems have been used as anti-inflammatory cardiogenic, antidiabetic and anti-oxidant

Investigations

The following investigations were done at baseline, 3 months & 6 months.

1. Hematological investigation — These included estimation of hemoglobin by sahli's hemoglobin meter, TLC by Neubaus chamber.
2. Biochemical Analysis
 - Blood sugar (fasting) (Varley, 1980)
 - Blood urea - diacetyl monoxine method (Varley, 1980)
 - Serum creatinine - Alkaline picrate method of Jaffe reaction (Varley, 1980)
 - Serum cholesterol — Timed end point method using cholesterol reagent.
 - Total serum protein — Biduret method (Varley, 1980)
 - Serum Albumin — dye binding capacity buffer method (Varley, 1980)
 - Serum calcium and phosphorous Direct calorimetry with complexing agents (Varley, 1980)
3. Urinalysis
 - Routine examination for urinary pH, albumin sugar and detailed microscopic study was done as described by (Varley, 1980).
 - Quantitative examination of 24hs urinary protein was done by Biduret method.
4. Radiological examination - Ultrasonography of abdomen for kidney size cortical thickness, cortico-medullary differentiation, pelvi-calyceal system Ureters urinary bladder and prostate was done in all patient.

5. Creatinine clearance were estimated by using cockroft-gault equation.
6. Adiponectin estimation was done by ELISA method in department of pathology IM>, BIIU Varanasi.

Sample Collection

Blood were drawn by 20G needle from the median cubital vein of patient with disposable syringe. Patients were healthy at the time of sample collection, without recent illness, infection, inflammation, tissue injuries. 10ml of blood was drawn for these tests. Sample can be refrigerated up to lweek, frozen up to 3 months. Fasting sample should be drawn for best results. On follow up at three and six months, samples were taken using same methodology for routine investigations and other specific tests.

Observations

Ninety five patients of mild to moderate chronic renal failure with abnormal lipid profile were included in the study. Each was randomized to two groups. Group-I was treated with Atorvastatin & Salacinol, Group-II with Atorvastatin. Overall 80 patients completed the six months follow-up and were finally included in the study. Atorvastatin and Salacinol group finally had 40 patients and there were 40 patients in Atorvastatin group.

Table 1: Sex wise distribution in group 1 and group 2

Sex	Group 1		Group 2	
	No.	No.	No.	No.
Male	25	62.5	27	67.5
Female	15	37.5	13	32.2
Total	40	100	40	100

$X^2 = 0.220; p = 0.639$

There was male preponderance in our patients. Overall 65% of patient were male & 35% were female. In Atorvastatin+Salacinol group 62.5% were male & in Atorvastatin group 67.5% were male.

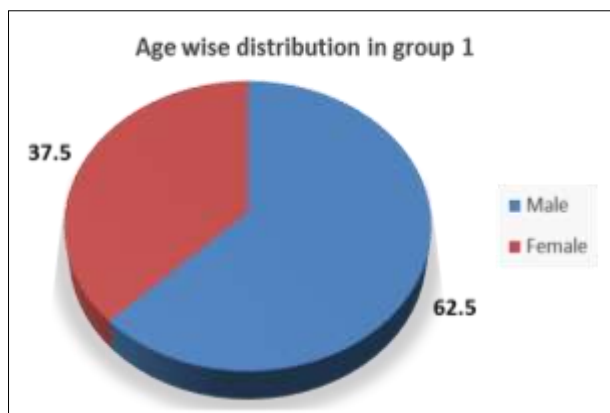


Fig 1

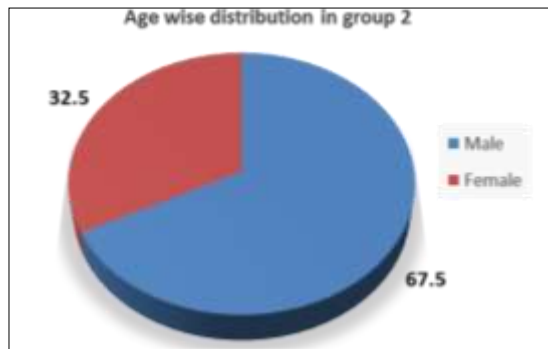


Fig 2

Table 2: Age wise distribution in group 1 and group 2

Age group (years)	Group 1		Group 2	
	No.	No.	No.	No.
20-30	1	2.5	3	7.5
31-40	4	10	0	
41-50	12	30	17	42.5
51-60	13	32.5	13	32.5
> 60	10	25	7	17.5

Age of patient ranged from 20 years onwarads. Mean age of patient in group-I was 53.9yrs ranging from 23yrs to 80yrs while mean age of pt. in group[I was 51.7yrs ranging from 23 yrs to 68 yrs. Mean age of patients in various groups were well matched and there was no significant statistical difference.

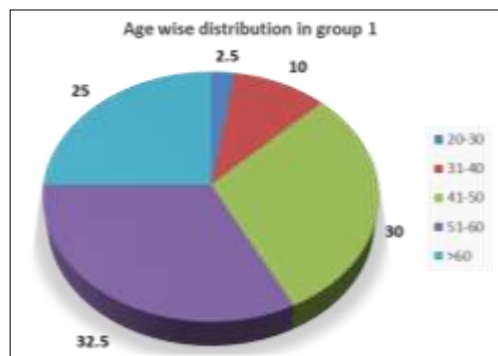


Fig 2

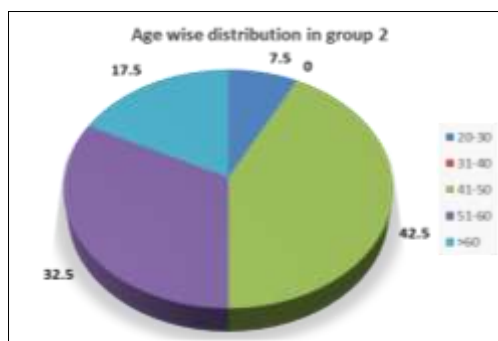


Fig 3

Most common presenting features was the subjective feeling of weakness present in all the patient of Group-I & II. Other common symptoms were anorexia, oedema, pallor, in Group-I

anorexia was present in 82.5% of cases, oedema in 72.5% of cases, pallor in 65%. In Group-II, anorexia was present in 85 0/0, pedal oedema in 52.5% and pallor in 80%.

Table 3: Comparison of BMI between groups and within group on successive follow up

Group	BMI (Mean+-SD)			Within the group comparison paired 't' test	
	0 month	3 month	6 month	0 vs 3	0 vs 6
Group 1	25.9±2.3	23.7±5.8	24.0±5.4	2.419 P<0.020	2.179 P<0.035
Group 2	26.7±1.7	26.4±1.8	26.0±1.8	3.263 P<0.001	7.910P<0.001
t-value	-1.642	-2.812	-2.161	-	-
p-value	0.105	0.006	0.034		

Mean BMI in Group-I at baseline was 25.95±2.39 ranging from 20.1 to 29.8 & there was significant changes on subsequent visit. In Group-II BMI at baseline was 26.71±1.70

ranging from 22.1 to 29.4, and on subsequent visit, significant changes were observed. In intergroup comparison statistically significant changes were observed at three and six month visit.

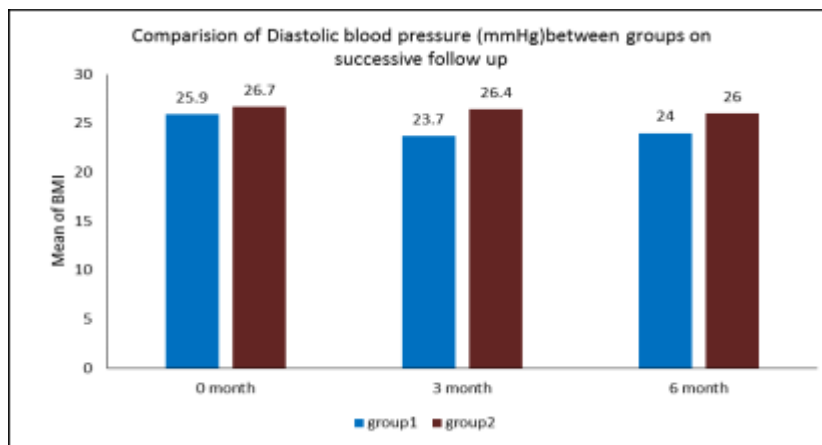


Fig 4

Table 4: Comparison of LDL/HDL ratio between groups and within group on successive follow up

Group	LDL/HDL ratio (Mean+-SD)			Within the group comparison paired 't' test	
	0 month	3 month	6 month	0 vs 3	0 vs 6
Group 1	4.35±0.50	3.26±0.30	2.46±0.27	13.966P<0.001	21.427P<0.001
Group 2	4.44±0.53	3.51±0.47	2.68±0.51	17.036P<0.001	-23.526P<0.001
t-value	-0.796	-2.850	-2.340	-	-
p-value	0.428	0.006	0.022		

LDL/HDL ratio at baseline was 4.35±0.50 in Group-I ranging from 4 to 6 & 4.44±0.53 in Group-II ranging from 3 to 6 & was statistically significant on subsequent visit, while comparing

between two groups, reduction in ratio were statistically significant at three and six months.

Table 5: Comparison of Cholesterol between groups and within group on successive follow up

Group	Cholesterol (Mean+-SD)			Within the group comparison paired 't' test	
	0 month	3 month	6 month	0 vs 3	0 vs 6
Group 1	287.2±24.8	226.6±12.8	177.1±12.5	15.149P<0.001	22.780P<0.001
Group 2	288.6±36.7	244.0±36.5	195.3±37.1	12.559P<0.001	23.601P<0.001
t-value	-0.193	-2.828	-2.936	-	-
p-value	0.848	0.006	0.004		

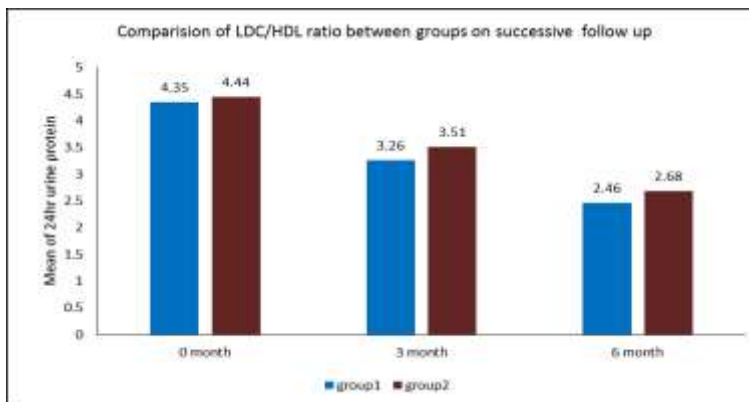


Fig 5

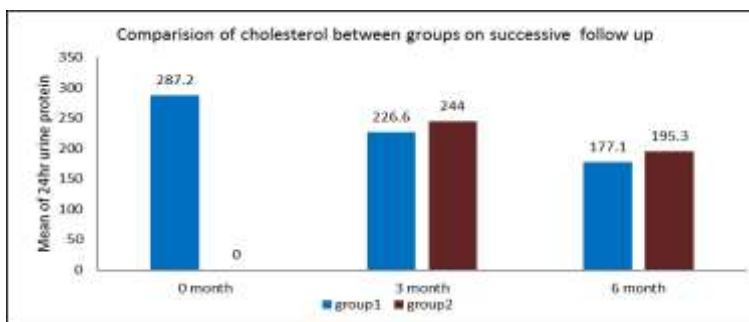


Fig 6

Mean Serum cholesterol at the time of start of study in Group-I was 287.2 ± 24.8 ranging from 254 to 364, while in Group-II was 288.6 ± 36.7 ranging from 254 to 368 & was statistically

significant on subsequent visit. while comparing the reduction between two groups at three and six months, they were statistically significant.

Table 12: Comparison of Adiponectin between groups and within group on successive follow up.

Group	Adiponectin (Mean \pm SD)			Within the group comparison paired 't' test	
	0 month	3 month	6 month	0 vs 3	0 vs 6
Group 1	5.29 \pm 1.49	5.73 \pm 1.35	6.89 \pm 1.16	7.359P<0.001	10.072P<0.001
Group 2	4.25 \pm 1.69	4.14 \pm 1.51	4.00 \pm 1.44	1.428P=0.161	2.137P=0.039
t-value	2.933	4.953	9.848		
p-value	0.004	<0.001	<0.001	-	-

The mean adiponectin value in group 1 and group 2 at baseline were 5.29 ± 1.49 and 4.25 ± 1.69 and on successive follow up changes were statistically significant at 3 and 6 months in group 1 and at 6 months in group 2. On intergroup

comparison changes were statistically significant at 3 and 6 months. However, changes were statistically significant even at baseline.

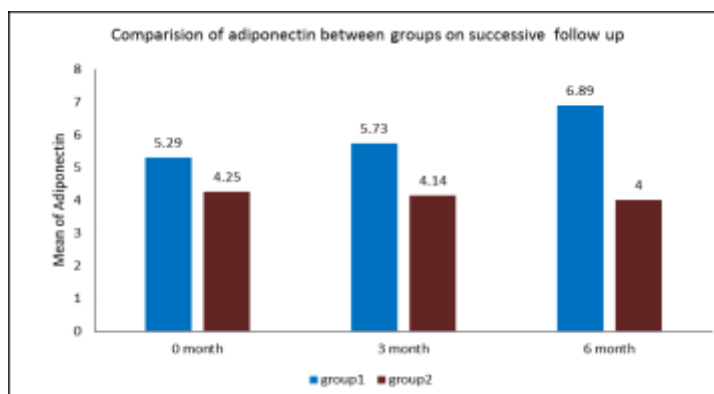


Fig 7

Table 15: Comparison of Triglyceride between groups and within group on successive follow up

Group	Triglyceride (Mean±SD)			Within the group comparison paired 't' test	
	0 month	3 month	6 month	0 vs 3	0 vs 6
Group 1	171.2±27.2	125.1±10.4	107.7±8.2	13.012P<0.001	16.055P<0.001
Group 2	170.5±22.6	136.2±22.3	115.7±20.8	15.148P=0.161	19.113P=0.001
t-value	0.120	-2.854	-2.274		
p-value	0.904	0.006	0.026	-	-

Mean Triglyceride level at baseline in group-1 in 171.2±27.2 ranging from 130 to 279, while in group-2 170.5±22.6 ranging from 140 to 279. Changes in triglyceride level within groups

are statistically significant on subsequent visit in both group. While, in between comparison, mean triglyceride level are statistically significant on 3 month and 6 month visit.

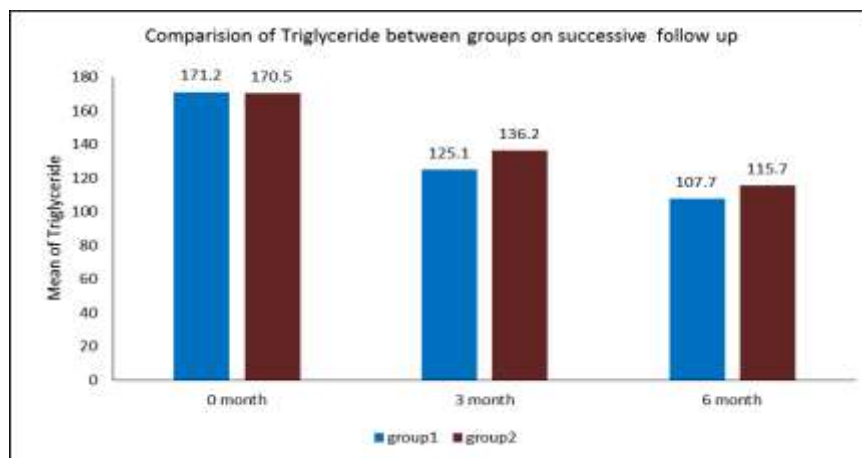


Fig 7

Discussion

Due to rapid urbanization and industrialization, the incidence of diseases particularly Diabetes mellitus, Hypertension and CHD are increasing worldwide at an alarming rate. Due to remarkable risk profile of modern synthetic agents there is an urgent need to develop eco-friendly and bio-friendly plant-based products to replace synthetic chemicals since chronic disease is a lifelong process. India has a rich national heritage in the form of plant based remedies. These plants have shown pharmacological therapeutic potentials in the prevention and managements of various mental and physical diseases. It is pertinent to mention here that we have extensive experience based knowledge but we are lacking with evidence based scientific documentation required for global acceptance of these natural products. Recently World Health Organization has provided guidelines for validation of these plant origin products for its global acceptance.

There is an urgent need to focus new concepts and targets for the managements of chronic diseases. As in the present investigation, we are concentrating on the treatment modalities for chronic kidney disease with hypertension with abnormal lipid profile.

Among 95 patients of chronic renal failure taken for study, Eighty patient of chronic renal failure with hypertension completed the six months follow-up and were finally included in the study. Group-I consisted of forty patients treated with Salacinol and Atorvastatin, Group-II consisted of forty patients treated with Atorvastatin only.

Age of patient ranged from 20 years onwards. Mean age of patient in various group were well matched & there was no

significant statistical differences. Mean age of group-I was 53.9 yrs & Mean age of Group-II was 51.75 Yrs.

There was male preponderance in our patient. Overall 65% patients were male & 35% were female. In Group-I 623% patient were male while in Group-II 67.5% were male. The male predominance in our patient is probably a reflection of male dominance in the social structure of our society. We have a society where male children are more cared for and adult male is the bread earner of the family. So, probably male patient are brought for the treatment to the hospital more frequently.

Most common presenting features was the subjective feeling of weakness in 100% of patients in all groups Other common symptoms were anorexia, edema. nausea & vomiting sleep disorder Systolic blood pressure & Diastolic blood pressure in Group-I at baseline were & 99.4±10.8 while in Group-II were 156.5±12.1 & 94.5±6.8 respectively. On Subsequent follow up SBP & DBP were statistically significant. probably because of tight control of blood pressure by using anti hypertensive therapy along With.

Mean body mass index in Group-I & Group-II at baseline were 25.9±2.3 & 26.7±1.7 & on subsequent follow up at three and six months were statistically significant. On intergroup comparison at 6 months BMI decrement were statistically significant probably because of role of Salacinol (Wong and Schotz 2002,Goldberg and Merkel 2001) found that LPL is one of the most important target responsible for development of obesity. ati obesity role of salacinol might be due to LPL inhibitory role of salacinol.

LDL/HDL ratio at baseline in Group-I & Group-II were

4.35±0.50 & 4.44±0.53 respectively changes were statistically significant on subsequent visit at three and six months on intergroup comparison changes were statistically significant at the end of three months & six months probably of hypolipidemic role of salacinol. Similarly serum cholesterol value comparison in intergroup, changes were statistically significant at three & six months, strongly supporting the above hypothesis.

Mean Adiponectin level at baseline in group-I and Group-II were 5.29 and 4.25 respectively and changes were statistically significant at three and six months in group-I while at six months in group II. On intergroup comparison were statistically significant at three and six months. On intergroup changes baseline comparison, changes were also statistically significant.

As above mentioned, triglyceride changes in Group-I & Group-II were statistically significant on subsequent visit at three and six months. On intergroup comparison, changes were statistically significant at three and six months, suggesting probably the role of salacinol as triglyceride lowering agent (Huang *et al*, 2006a) [20] demonstrated that extract from salacia root decreases plasma triglyceride and non-esterified fatty acid in the liver of Zucker diabetic fatty rat (ZDF). Mangiferin, a component of salacia oblonga root extract (1.4%) lowers blood lipids in type-2 diabetic animals (Li *et al* 2004; Miura *et al*, 2001). This compound specifically activates PPAR- α luciferase activity in HEK293 cells and enhances PPAR- α dependant lipoprotein lipase expression and activity in the THP-I derived macrophage cell line (Huang *et al*, 2006a) [20].

Mean triglyceride level in diabetic & non-diabetic at baseline were 167.6±18.6 & 167.6±14.8 and on comparison with each other changes were statistically significant at six months.

Thus the beneficial effect of salacinol was observed and for further substantiating the finding by prospective study is recommended.

Summary and conclusion

Present study entitled "Study of Comparative evaluation of atorvastatin and salacinol (*Salacia roxburghii*) on GFR and carotid intima media thickness in patient of chronic kidney disease with hypertension" was conducted at the Department of Nephrology, Institute of Medical Sciences, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi between the period of May 2015 to June 2016.

Eighty patient of mild to moderate chronic renal failure were included in the study. Forty patient, each were randomized to two groups. Group-I were on Atorvastatin & Salacinol while Group-II were kept on Atorvastatin only. The salient features of this study are.

1. The male patients dominated over the female patients with a male to female ratio of 2:1.
2. Age of the patient ranged from 20yrs onward. Majority of the patient were above 40yrs of age.
3. Commonest symptom was weakness in all the groups followed by anorexia, swelling over body, pallor & sleep disorders.
4. In patient treated with Atorvastatin and Salacinol BMI (Body mass index) showed significant decrease (<0.05) on 3rd and six months.

5. Patient treated with Atorvastatin and Salacinol lipid profile including LDL/HDL, ratio, serum total cholesterol & triglyceride showed significant decrease (<0.05) at three months and at the end of study.
6. In patient treated with Atorvastatin and salacinol, the changes in Adiponectin level were statistically significant (<0.05) at three and six months.

Thus on overall favorable effect of salacinol was seen with respect to decrease in lipid profile parameter and BMI &. However in this study the follow-up period was only six months which is relatively a short period to assess the effect of salacinol, which has a natural course running into years, A large prospective study is recommended to further establish the findings of this study.

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