



Impact of a group-based treatment program on adipocytokines, oxidative status, inflammatory cytokines, and pulse wave velocity in obese children and adolescents

Jeerunda Santiprabhob¹, Kawewan Limprayoon², Prapun Aanpreung³, Ratiya Charoensakdi⁴, Ruchaneekorn W. Kalpravidh⁴, Benjaluck Phonrat⁵, Rungsunn Tungtrongchitr⁶

¹ Division of Endocrinology and Metabolism, ² Division of Respiratory and Critical Care, ³ Division of Gastroenterology, Department of Pediatrics, ⁴ Department of Biochemistry, Faculty of Medicine Siriraj Hospital, Mahidol University, ⁵ Department of Clinical Tropical Medicine, ⁶ Department of Tropical Nutrition and Food Science, Faculty of Tropical Medicine, Mahidol University

OBJECTIVES

Authors have no conflict of interest

- The link between obesity and dysregulation of adipocytokines, inflammatory cytokines and oxidative stress has been found to associate with the pathogenesis of obesity-related complications, such as T2D and CVD¹⁻³.
- This study aimed to evaluate the effect of a group-based lifestyle modification program on adipocytokines, inflammatory cytokines, oxidative status, and brachial-ankle pulse wave velocity (ba-PWV) in obese youths.

METHODS

- This study was part of a 1-yr uncontrolled prospective study of a group-based treatment program for the management of childhood obesity conducted at Department of Pediatrics, Siriraj Hospital, Mahidol University (Bangkok, Thailand)⁴.
- Recruited participants were 8–18 years of age and had percentage weight for height (% wt for ht) >120%

RESULTS

- 126 obese youths were recruited (12.3 ± 2.1 yrs, 67 males) and 115 participants completed the study.
- At the end of the study:
 - ✓ % wt for ht, % total fat, leptin, IL-6, hsCRP and ba-PWV decreased
 - ✓ HMW adiponectin increased
 - ✓ no significant change in oxidative status

	Baseline	End of study	p
Weight (kg)	84.8 ± 23.0	84.5 ± 22.1	0.718
Height (cm)	157.3 ± 0.1	161.1 ± 0.1	<0.001
% wt for ht (%)	181.8 ± 39.1	169.3 ± 36.3	<0.001
BMI (kg/m ²)	33.9 ± 7.2	32.3 ± 6.9	<0.001
WC (cm)	98.5 ± 13.6	94.9 ± 14.0	<0.001
% total fat (%)	48.2 ± 5.1	45.0 ± 6.8	<0.001
Total lean mass (kg)	40.4 ± 8.8	43.2 ± 9.2	<0.001
HOMA-IR	6.7 ± 3.7	5.2 ± 3.7	0.001
Adiponectin (ug/mL)	3.46 ± 4.71	5.03 ± 5.38	<0.001
Leptin (ng/mL)	39.32 ± 24.06	27.22 ± 18.01	<0.001
IL-6 (pg/mL)	45.76 ± 86.22	9.07 ± 31.18	<0.001
GPx (U/gHb)	26.02 ± 8.26	25.14 ± 7.14	0.301
SOD (U/gHb)	2996.5 ± 903.6	3254.5 ± 1204.4	0.076
pMDA (nmol/L)	1.15 ± 0.35	1.07 ± 0.37	0.094
HsCRP (mg/L)	4.9 ± 4.5	3.7 ± 4.5	<0.001
Mean ba-PWV (cm/s)	1035 ± 175	958 ± 161	<0.001

- The intervention consisted of two parts:
 - 1) an initial hospitalization: to evaluate obesity-related complications and instruct on living a healthy lifestyle
 - 2) outpatient group-based sessions focusing on lifestyle modification: 5 group sessions held at 1, 2, 3, 6, and 9 mo.
- An OGTT, HMW adiponectin, leptin, IL-6, highly sensitive CRP (hsCRP), superoxide dismutase (SOD), glutathione peroxidase (GPx), and plasma malondialdehyde (pMDA), and ba-PWV were evaluated pre-and post intervention.

- Change (Δ, before-after) in % wt for ht was positively correlated with Δ leptin (r=0.624, p<0.001) and Δ HOMA-IR (r=0.230, p=0.021) (adjusted for sex and Tanner stage)
- Δ adiponectin was negatively correlated with Δ % total fat (r=-0.289, p=0.003) (adjusted for sex and Tanner stage)
- Δ ba-PWV were positively correlated with Δ pMDA (r=0.233, p=0.036) and Δ HOMA-IR (r=0.253, p=0.025) (adjusted for sex, Tanner stage, Δ %wt for ht, Δ systolic/diastolic BP)

- 24 patients had increase in % wt for ht (6.6 ± 6.8%)
 - However, they had increase in muscle mass and decrease in IL-6, leptin, and ba-PWV.
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| Δ lean mass, mean (95% CI) | -4.4 (-5.9, -2.9) kg | (p<0.001) |
| Δ IL-6, mean ± SD | 26.6 ± 78.5 pg/mL | (p=0.019) |
| Δ leptin, mean (95% CI) | 6.4 (1.1, 11.7) ng/mL | (p=0.021) |
| Δ ba-PWV, mean (95% CI) | 74 (8, 140) cm/s | (p=0.031) |

Conclusions

- A group-based healthy lifestyle program for obese youths had beneficial effects on adipocytokines, inflammatory process, and arterial stiffness.
- These improvements may reduce the risk of obese youths developing atherosclerosis.
- Participants without change in weight status also benefited from living a healthy lifestyle, as shown by a reduction in leptin, IL-6, and ba-PWV.

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