



# The correlation between Geriatric Nutritional Risk Index (GNRI) and nutritional status in hemodialysis patients

老人營養風險指標與血液透析患者營養狀態  
的相關性探討

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# Abstract

The purpose of this study is to evaluate whether geriatric nutritional risk index (GNRI) could be a useful clinical predictor for nutritional status in chronic hemodialysis patients. One hundred ninety two hemodialysis patients with hemodialysis duration more than 3 months. GNRI was calculated as  $[14.89 \times \text{albumin (g/dL)}] + [41.7 \times (\text{body weight/ideal body weight})]$ . SAS 9.1 was used to perform Spearman rank correlation and simple linear regression to assess correlation between GNRI and subject characteristic, anthropometric data and blood biochemistry data and when  $p < 0.05$  was considered as significant. The result show that GNRI was significantly negatively correlated with age ( $r = -0.22$ ,  $p = 0.0018$ ), preprandial blood glucose (AC-sugar) ( $r = -0.42$ ,  $p < 0.0001$ ) and Kt/V ( $r = -0.27$ ,  $p = 0.0002$ ) and positively correlated with body mass index (BMI) ( $r = 0.49$ ,  $p < 0.0001$ ), albumin (Alb) ( $r = 0.83$ ,  $p < 0.0001$ ), creatinine ( $r = 0.21$ ,  $p < 0.05$ ), total protein ( $r = 0.37$ ,  $p < 0.0001$ ), hemoglobin ( $r = 0.22$ ,  $p < 0.05$ ), total cholesterol ( $r = 0.24$ ,  $p < 0.05$ ), and triglyceride ( $r = 0.26$ ,  $p < 0.05$ ). GNRI was significant correlated with creatinine (Cr) ( $\beta = 0.6502$ ,  $r^2 = 0.052$ ,  $p = 0.0016$ ) and total cholesterol (TC) ( $\beta = 0.055$ ,  $r^2 = 0.0691$ ,  $p = 0.0002$ ). Conclusion: GNRI might be an indicator of nutritional status in HD patients.

Key words : Hemodialysis, geriatric nutritional risk index (GNRI).



# Introduction

- Malnutrition is highly prevalent in chronic HD patients (Fouque *et al.*, 2008) and is associated with increasing risk of mortality (Pifer *et al.*, 2002).
- Regular nutritional assessment is recommended for all dialysis patient (Fouque *et al.*, 2008; Pifer *et al.*, 2002; K/DOQI *et al.*,2000).
- Geriatric Nutritional Risk Index (GNRI) was developed as simple method to assess nutritional and reported that GNRI is a useful tool for assessment of nutrition status, not only for elder patients but also for chronic hemodialysis (HD) patients ( Yamada *et al.*,2008).
- Malnutrition and nutritional management is important for patients on chronic HD.



# Result

Table 1. Spearman rank correlation between GNRI and subjects' characteristic, anthropometric data and and blood biochemistry data.<sup>1</sup> (n=192)

	Sex	Age (year)	HD duration (year)	BMI	Alb (g/dL)	Cr (mg/dL)	TP (mg/dL)	Hb (g/dL)	TC (mg/dL)	TG (mg/dL)	AC-sugar (mg/dL)	Kt/V
GNRI	0.04	-0.22	-0.12	0.49	0.83	0.21	0.37	0.22	0.24	0.26	-0.42	-0.27
p-value <sup>2</sup>	0.626	0.0018	0.1097	<0.0001	<0.0001	0.0044	<0.0001	0.0026	0.0009	0.0003	<0.0001	0.0002

<sup>1</sup>Values are correlation coefficients. GNRI=Geriatric Nutrition Risk Index, HD=Hemodialysis duration, BMI = body mass index, Alb = albumin, Cr = creatinine, TP = total protein, Hb = hemoglobin, TC = total cholesterol, TG = triglyceride, AC-sugar = preprandial blood glucose,

<sup>2</sup> Statistical analysis by Spearman rank correlation at  $p < 0.05$ .



# Result

- Subjects' characteristics, anthropometric data and blood biochemical data were collected (Table 1).
- GNRI was significantly negatively correlated with age ( $r = -0.22$ ,  $p = 0.0018$ ), preprandial blood glucose (AC-sugar) ( $r = -0.42$ ,  $p < 0.0001$ ) and Kt/V ( $r = -0.27$ ,  $p = 0.0002$ ).
- GNRI was significantly positively correlated with body mass index (BMI) ( $r = 0.49$ ,  $p < 0.0001$ ), albumin (Alb) ( $r = 0.83$ ,  $p < 0.0001$ ), creatinine (Cr) ( $r = 0.21$ ,  $p < 0.05$ ), total protein (TP) ( $r = 0.37$ ,  $p < 0.0001$ ), hemoglobin (Hb) ( $r = 0.22$ ,  $p < 0.05$ ), total cholesterol (TC) ( $r = 0.24$ ,  $p < 0.05$ ), and triglyceride (TG) ( $r = 0.26$ ,  $p < 0.05$ ).

# Result

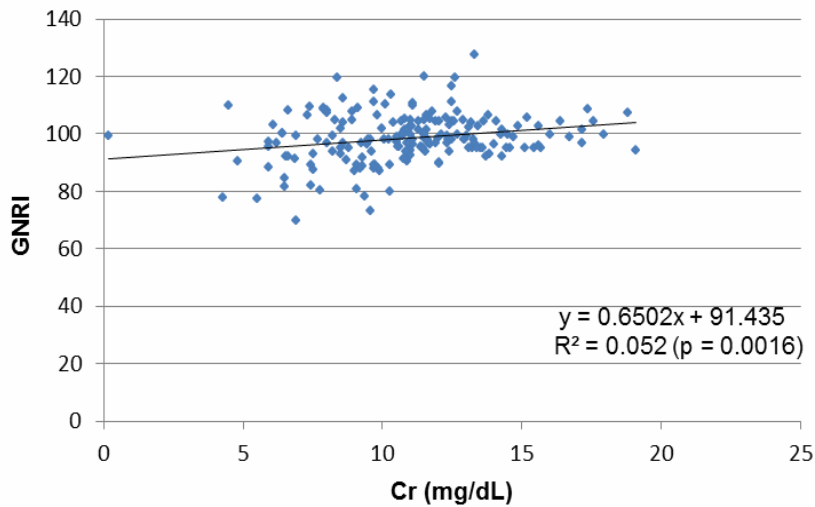


Figure 1. Linear regression between GNRI and Cr. (n = 192)

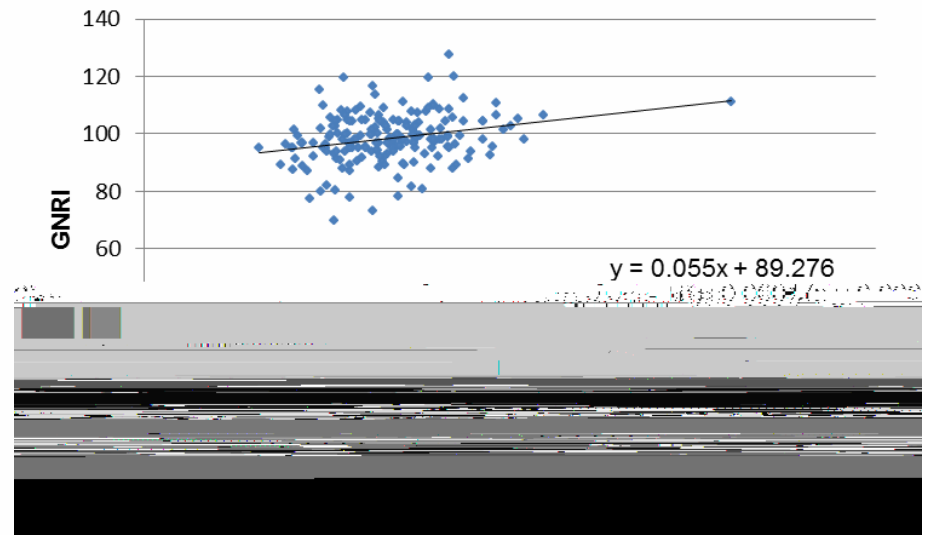


Figure 2. Linear regression between GNRI and TC. (n = 192)



# Result

- GNRI was significantly correlated with creatinine (Cr) and total cholesterol (TC).
- GNRI was significant correlated with creatinine (Cr) ( $\hat{e} = 0.6502$ ,  $r^2 = 0.052$ ,  $p = 0.0016$ ) and total cholesterol (TC) ( $\hat{e} = 0.055$ ,  $r^2 = 0.0691$ ,  $p = 0.0002$ ) (Figure 1 & 2).



# Conclusion

- GNRI was significantly negatively correlated to age, preprandial blood glucose (AC-sugar) and Kt/V. GNRI was significantly positively correlated to body mass index (BMI), albumin (Alb), creatinine (Cr), total protein (TP), hemoglobin (Hb), total cholesterol (TC) and triglyceride (TG).
- GNRI could be a useful clinical predictor for nutritional status in chronic hemodialysis patients.