

# Effect of Interlukin-36 gamma and Tumor Necrosis Factor alpha on Patients with Polycystic Ovary Syndrome on Governorate Messan in Iraqifemale

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## Abstract

**Background:** Polycystic ovary syndrome PCOS is a heterogeneous disorder. PCOS affects 6–10% of women during their reproductive life. Its complete phenotype is manifested by ovulatory dysfunction, hyperandrogenism and polycystic ovaries.

**Objective:** The aim of this study is to evaluate a new recent member of the IL-1 super family of cytokines interleukin-36 (IL-36) levels in serum that has a crucial role in diagnosis diseases and in order to evaluate its utility as a clinical biochemical parameter in Polycystic ovary syndrome.

**Methods:** The present study was conducted on 100 subjects which divided in to 4 groups. First group includes 25 healthy individuals as control group . Second group includes 25 female with PCOS as patient group newly diagnosis . Third group includes 25 patients with PCOS after 12 months from diagnosis. Fourth group also 25 patients after 24 months and more. All subjects attending from teaching AL-Sadder hospital and AL-Zahrawi hospital in Governorate of Messan in Iraq. Parameters measured in the sera of patient and healthy groups were interleukin-36 (IL-36), tumor necrosis factor alpha and ceruloplasmin concentration.

**Results:** A recent member of super family cytokines Interleukin-36 (IL-36) was determined in serum of polycystic ovary syndrome. Higher significant elevation was found when compared with healthy control.

**Conclusion:** From this study a conclusion was drawn, that evaluation of concentration of a new superfamily cytokines (IL-36) could be considered as clinical biochemical parameter in polycystic ovary syndrome in Iraqifemale patients in Governorate of Missan. Also this study may demonstrated a relation between increased IL-36 levels and increased TNF- $\alpha$  and ceruloplasmin levels.

**Keywords:** polycystic ovary syndrom, interleukin-36 (IL-36), cytokines, TNF- $\alpha$ , Ceruloplasmin

## Introduction

Polycystic ovary syndrome PCOS is a heterogeneous disorder. PCOS affects 6–10% of women during their reproductive life (Goodarzi et al., 2011). Its complete phenotype is manifested by ovulatory dysfunction, hyperandrogenism and polycystic ovaries (Dinka et al. 2013). Patients with PCOS are in the high risk group for coronary heart disease because of their abnormal lipid profile, insulin resistance and obesity (Wild et al. 2010). All these findings show that there is an increase in prevalence of cardiovascular disease (CVD) and DM in PCOS with time (Ali et al. 2011). Women with PCOS are prone to inflammation. They also develop heart disease, diabetes, high blood pressure, asthma, thyroid disorders and other disease caused by chronic inflammation at an alarming rate (Rourk, Kay and Lyle. 2006). Interleukin (IL-36) cytokines (previously designated as novel IL-1 family member cytokines, IL-1F5-IL-1F10) constitute a novel cluster of cytokines structurally and functionally similar to members of the IL-1 cytokines cluster (Ravisankaret al. 2012). In addition, seven novel IL-1 family members have been identified on the basis of their sequence homology; three-dimensional protein structure, gene location and receptor binding profile. These proteins are now termed IL-36 Ra, IL-36 $\alpha$ , IL-36 $\beta$ , IL-36  $\gamma$  (Dinarelo et al. 2010). IL-36 $\alpha$ , IL-36 $\beta$ , IL-36  $\gamma$  bind a heterodimeric receptor consisting of the IL-36 receptor (IL-36 R) subunit and the IL-1 receptor accessory protein (IL-36 AcP) (Twone et al. 2004). Interleukin-36 cytokines and IL-36R are abundantly expressed by keratinocytes and other epithelial cell types (Solenne et al. 2012). Interestingly, it has recently been shown that  $\gamma\delta$  T-cells can express IL-36 $\beta$  under specific conditions (Yang et al., 2010). IL-36 $\alpha$ , IL-36 $\beta$ , and IL-36 $\gamma$  can induce IL-17 and TNF expression in keratinocytes, which can be synergized by the cytokine IL-22 (Carrier et al., 2011). IL-36  $\gamma$  is highly expressed in epithelial cells of the intestine, lungs, and skin; however IL-36 has previously been characterized in human

female reproductive tract (FRT). IL-36R and its ligands are expressed in skin and internal epithelial tissues exposed to pathogens, such as trachea, lung and esophagus, but also in the brain, gut and kidney (Kumar et al.2000, Towne and Sim.2012, Ichii et al.2010).Several studies suggest that IL-36 exerts pro-inflammatory effects contributing to the pathogenesis of psoriasis and lung inflammation (Towne, 2012, Chustz et al. 2011, Tortola et al, 2012). In addition, we recently described that IL-36 stimulates cytokine production by dendritic cells (DC) more efficiently than other IL-1 family members(Vigne et al.2011). In addition, IL-36 acts in synergy with IL-12 to induce the polarization of nave CD4+ T cells into T helper (Th)1cells (Vigne et al. 2012). Consistently, IL-36 enhances Th1 responses in vivo (Vigne et al. 2012, Vigne et al. 2011).These observations led to the hypothesis that IL-36, being expressed in epithelia and in immune cell, might acts as an early danger signal to active cells of the innate and adaptive immune system.Depending on context, this activation might enhance host responses against pathogens, amplify pathological inflammation, as illustrated by the occurrence of generalized pustular psoriasis in patients with mutated IL-36Ra (Onoufraids et al. 2011, Merrakchi et al. 2011). Tumor necroses factor alpha (TNF- $\alpha$ ) is an adipokine involved in systemic inflammation and is a member of group cytokines that stimulate the acute phase reaction. It is produce chiefly by activated macrophages (M1), although it can be produced by many other cell types such as CD+ lymphocytes, natural killer NK cells and neurons (Swardfager et al.2010). The primary role of TNF- $\alpha$  is in the regulation of immune cells being an endogenous pyrogen, is able to induce fever, apoptotic cell death, cachexia inflammation and to inhibit tumor genesis and viral replication and respond to sepsis vial IL-1 and IL-6 producing cells (Swardfager et al.2010).PCOS is a proinflammatory state as evidenced by elevated plasma concentrations ofhigh sensitive C-reactive protein(hsCRP). Inobesity-related diabetic syndrome, TNF- $\alpha$  is overexpressed in adipose tissue andinduces insulin resistance through acute and chronic effects on insulin sensitive tissues.Chronic exposure to TNF- $\alpha$  decreases the expression of glucose transporter 4 (GLUT4),the insulin-sensitive two glucose transport protein. Because decreased GLUT4 expression hasbeen identified in PCOS, it is possible that TNF- $\alpha$ contributes to this post receptor defect. The sourceof excess circulating TNF- $\alpha$ in PCOS is likely to be adipose tissue in theobese. In lean women with PCOS increased visceral adiposity has been proposed as a sourceof excess TNF- $\alpha$ (González et al. 2005).

Ceruloplasmin is one of the acute phase proteins and the majority of the antioxidant ceruloplasmin activity in serum depends on the level of Cu<sup>+2</sup> containing protein, this single glycoprotein containing six or seven copper atoms (Walfe.2009).Ceruloplasmin contains six cupredoxin domains and has a molecular weight of 120 kDa (Ganna, and Ross.2013).Ceruloplasmin is the major copper- carrying protein in the blood and in addition plays a role in iron metabolism. It was described in 1948 (Vinayaket al.2010).Ceruloplasmin known to have antioxidant property, its level is increased in plasma in infections and malignant conditions and inflammatory disorder, especially in Hodgkins disease, its level decreased in Wilson's disease and used in the diagnosis of the disease (Shivananda. 2007).

### Material and method

This study was carried out inMissan Governorate, Iraq. The subjects consisted of one hundred (100) female patientsdiagnosed of polycystic ovary syndrome that attended the teaching AL-Saddar hospital and AL-Zahravi hospital in Governorate of Missan, Iraq..They were diagnosed by physician at the hospital using Ultra sound .The patients were divided into four groups depending on duration of PCOS diseases, (G2) from 3monthes to 1years ,(G3)from 1years to 2 years, (G4) from 2years to 4 years and more . In addition, to group (G1) of 25 healthy were enrolled in the study as a control group.

#### 1-Sample Collection and Preparation:

About 10 ml of venous blood were collected from the patients in the different centers using the standard vein puncture technique and its after obtaining a consent from the patient and the center management. This was discharged into a plain tube without additives and allowed to clot. The serum from the sample was separated after centrifugation at 3,000 rpm and stored frozen at -20 OC.Untilanalyses of the samples.

### 2-Assay method

#### 2.1-Determination of serum IL-36 gamma levels (pg/ml)

This assay employs the quantitative sandwich enzyme immunoassay technique. Antibody specific for IL1F9 has been pre-coated onto a micro plate.Standards and samples are pipetted into the wells and any IL1F9 present is bound by the immobilized antibody.

#### 2.2-Determination of serum TNF $\alpha$ levels (pg/ml)

The DEMEDITEC TNF- $\alpha$  human ELISA is a sandwich $\alpha$  assay for determination of TNF- $\alpha$  in serum.

#### Determination of serum cerluplasmin level (g/L)

The procedure consists in an immuno precipitation in a agarose between an antigen and its homologous antibody.It is performed by incorporating one of the two immune reactants (usually antibody) uniformly throughout a layer of agarose gel, and then introducing the other reactants (usually antigen) into well punched in the gel. Antigen diffuses radially out of the well into the surrounding gel- antibody mixture, and a visible ring of

precipitation forms where the antigen and antibody reacted (Berne . 1974).

### Statistical analysis

Results were expressed as Mean $\pm$  SEM. Student-test was used to show the difference between groups variation was considered significant when P-values are  $\leq 0.05$ . The correlation coefficient (r) test is used to describe the association between the different studied parameters.

### Result

Table (1) shows that levels of IL-36, TNF- $\alpha$  and CP concentration in sera of G1, G2, G3 and G4 for control and patients respectively. For IL-36 was a highly significant increase in G1vsG2 and non-significant between G1vsG3 and significant in G1vsG4 when compared between control and patient group. also a non-significant increase for TNF- $\alpha$  in G1vsG3 and G1vsG4, but increase significant G1vsG2 when compared between control and patient group. While non-significant increase in CP levels for all groups G1vsG2, G1vsG3, G1vsG4 compared with control and patients groups. Table (2) shows positive correlation for IL-36, TNF- $\alpha$ , CP and duration of disease, the positive correlation in G4 for IL-36 (r = 0.319), TNF- $\alpha$  for G3 and G4 (r = 0.0002, r = 0.099), as shown in figure (1,2,3) respectively, while there was negative (-ve) correlation G2 and G3 for IL-36 (r = -0.267, r = -0.309), TNF- $\alpha$  G2 (r = -0.202), CP in G2, G3 and G4 (r = -0.398, r = -0.215 and r = -0.156) and duration.

### Discussion:-

Modulation of immune responses by the action of different cytokines is essential for optimal protection against invading microorganisms. Over the past decade, cytokines of the IL-1 family have been recognized for their crucial roles in innate and adaptive immune responses. These cytokines target distinct CD4 T-cell subsets. IL-1 has a key role in the differentiation of Th17 cells, while IL-18 and IL-33 are known to enhance Th1 and Th2 polarization, respectively (Sims, Towne and Blumberg, 2010). In our previous study, we demonstrated that the newly named IL-36 cytokines exerted stimulatory effect on DCs and CD4 T cells promoting Th1 responses *in vitro* and *in vivo*. This direct effect of IL-36 on immune cells was also demonstrated in human monocyte-derived DCs. (Mutamba et al. 2012). The results of the present study showed the serum of IL-36 level was high-significantly in patients with polycystic ovary syndrome patients than in healthy control. No data in the literature was found concerning the level of IL-36 in such patients. Seventy five women with PCOS and 25 controls were included and it was found that IL-36 levels was elevated in G2 (689.74 $\pm$ 137.94) and (561.46 $\pm$ 112.29) in G3 and level of IL-36 in G4 (439.69 $\pm$ 87.93) was low. The process of an inflammatory response the invading pathogens or damaging insults is of critical importance to the homeostasis of the human body. Puder et al. demonstrated that the increase in low grade chronic inflammation and insulin resistance in women with PCOS is associated with central fat excess. Independently of each other, both total body fat as well as central fat excess has a major impact on serum levels of inflammatory mediators, on the white blood cell WBC, and on estimates of insulin resistance (Puder et al. 2005). In this study, serum activity TNF- $\alpha$  it was found that levels in G2 and G4 was elevated (8.39 $\pm$ 1.67, 7.26 $\pm$ 1.45) compared with level in G3 was low (5.72 $\pm$ 1.14). Also in this study, serum TNF- $\alpha$  activity was non-significantly increased in patients with PCOS than healthy controls. This result was contrast to that found in a study done by Pudder et al. who measured inflammatory markers like TNF- $\alpha$ , C-reactive protein and white blood cells who found that to be non-significantly in obese women with PCOS compared to control group (Puder et al. 2005). Also this study was contrast with study of Nadia and Haydar (Nadia and Haydar, 2010). Another proinflammatory cytokine is IL-18, which was reported to be increased in PCOS. IL-18 induces the production of TNF- $\alpha$  which promotes the synthesis of IL-6, which is also considered a strong risk marker for cardiovascular disease. Collectively, the above findings indicate that low-grade chronic inflammation could be a novel mechanism contributing to increased risk of coronary heart disease in PCOS (Thozhukat and Stephen, 2010). So that, in this study we show the levels of CP for groups found in G2 was elevated (24.86 $\pm$ 4.972) compared with level in G3 and G4 was lower (13.16 $\pm$ 2.63, 14.07 $\pm$ 2.21), and the activity of CP was non-significant increase in G2, G3 and G4 than control healthy. Ceruloplasmin is an abundant glycoprotein in human plasma and is mainly produced by the liver; (Ganna, and Ross, 2013). The present study is in agreement with other suggested data that believe Ceruloplasmin is high in a variety of neoplastic and inflammatory states since it behaves as an acute phase reactant, although levels raise more slowly than do those of other acute phase reactants, Increases are described in autoimmune disease (Vinayak et al. 2010).

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**Table (1):- Level of IL-36, TNF- $\alpha$  and CP in sera of the four group studies**

parameter	Mean $\pm$ SEM G1	Mean $\pm$ SEM G2	Mean $\pm$ SEM G3	Mean $\pm$ SEM G4	G1 vs G2	G1 vs G3	G1 vs G4
IL-36 Pg/ml	330.25 $\pm$ 66.05	510.74 $\pm$ 102.14	370.46 $\pm$ 72.09	439.69 $\pm$ 87.93	HS	NS	S
TNF- $\alpha$	6.61 $\pm$ 1.32	8.39 $\pm$ 1.67	5.72 $\pm$ 1.14	7.26 $\pm$ 1.45	S	NS	NS
CP	12.39 $\pm$ 2.47	24.86 $\pm$ 4.97	13.16 $\pm$ 2.63	14.07 $\pm$ 2.21	HS	NS	S

**P values < 0.05 considered significant (S)**

**P values < 0.001 considered high significant (HS)**

**P values > 0.05 considered non-significant (NS)**

**Table (2): Correlation analysis between biochemical parameters among three studied groups**

		G2	G3	G4
IL-36 Pg/ml & months	r	NS	NS	NS
	P	P > 0.05	P > 0.05	P > 0.05
TNF- $\alpha$ & months	r	NS	S	NS
	P	P > 0.05	P < 0.05	P > 0.05
CP & months	r	NS	NS	NS
	P	P > 0.05	P > 0.05	P > 0.05

**P values < 0.05 considered significant (S)**

**P values < 0.001 considered high significant (HS)**

**P values > 0.05 considered non-significant (NS)**

**R values mean correlation coefficient**

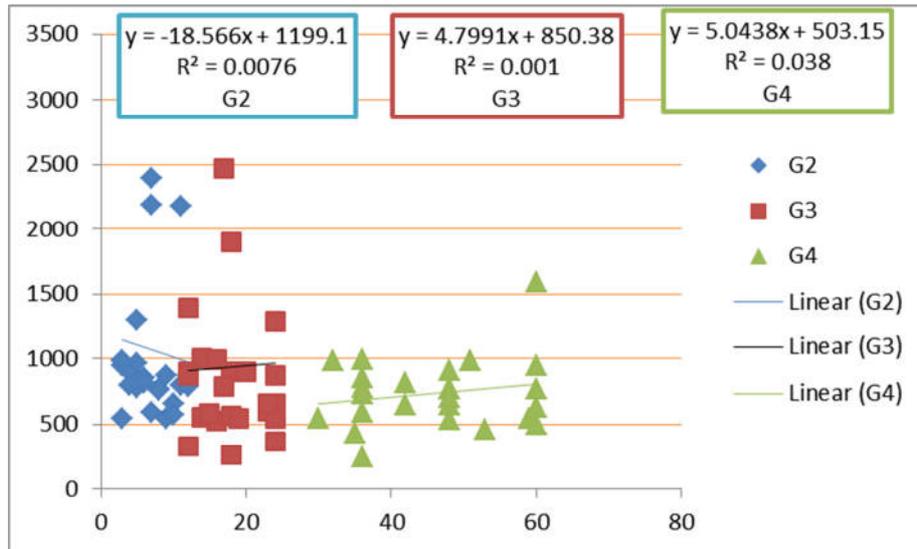


Fig1: correlation between IL-36 and duration of disease in months.

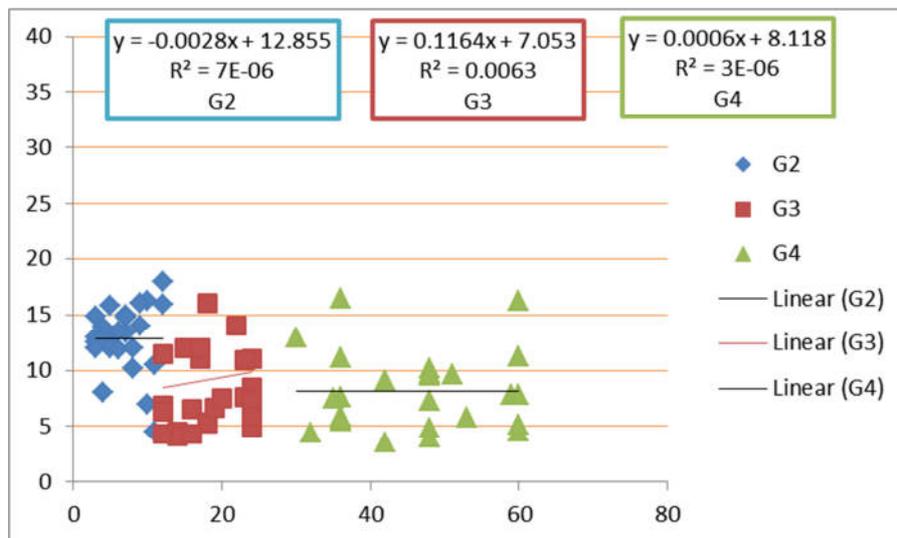


Fig2: correlation between TNF-  $\alpha$  and duration of disease in months.

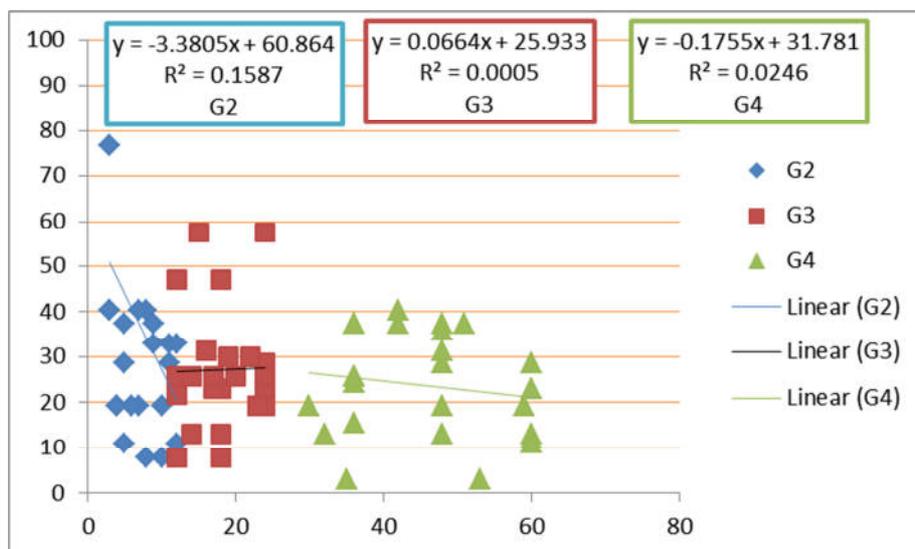


Fig3: correlation between CP and duration of disease in months.