

# Seasonal effect of vitamin D deficiency in patients with acute myocardial infarction

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## Abstract

**Background:** Vitamin D is a major regulator of mineral bone metabolism. The lower vitamin D levels in patients with acute myocardial infarction (AMI) and the seasonal variation of vitamin D levels are proposed.

**Aim:** The evaluation of the seasonal relationship of 25(OH)D levels in patients with AMI and analysis of confounding factors (gender or diabetes mellitus) affecting the levels of vitamin D in AMI patients.

**Methods:** Fifty-nine consecutive patients with mean age  $58 \pm 9.4$  years were admitted to the Department of Invasive Cardiology. Subjects had diagnosed uncomplicated myocardial infarction. Blood samples for analysis were collected on patient admission to the cardiac unit after heparin treatment. Samples for routine laboratory tests were immediately processed. For 25(OH)D, the 25-hydroxycholecalciferol test, which measures total vitamin D levels in serum (DRG Instruments GmbH, Marburg, Germany), was applied.

**Results:** Median serum 25(OH)D concentration in AMI patients was below the recommended optimal values 7.1 (2.3–13.3) ng/mL. Fifty-three (89.8%) patients had vitamin D deficiency (VDD) below 20 ng/mL, six (10.2%) patients had suboptimal 25(OH)D levels (between 20 ng/mL and 30 ng/mL), and no one had the recommended reference range. The seasonal effect of 25(OH)D variations among AMI patients was observed with the lowest levels in the beginning of the year (January–March) and the highest levels at the end of the year (September–December) ( $p = 0.007$ ). Patients with normoglycaemia had significantly higher (9.2 [2.3–16.8] ng/mL) vitamin D levels compared to patients with impaired glucose tolerance (2.3 [2.3–3.9] ng/mL) or diabetes mellitus (8.5 [2.5–13.3] ng/mL) ( $p = 0.01$ ).

**Conclusions:** A high prevalence of VDD in AMI patients has been confirmed. Supplementation of vitamin D in AMI patients with hyperglycaemia can bring greater benefits.

**Key words:** vitamin D, cardiovascular risk, myocardial infarction, clinical biochemistry

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## INTRODUCTION

Nowadays, a large increase in interest in vitamin D as a potential dietary factor contributing to cardiovascular diseases has been observed [1, 2]. It has recently been reported that lower vitamin D levels may be associated with poor collateral vasculature development in patients with stable coronary

artery disease [3]. The other cross-sectional analyses showed the associations between lower vitamin D levels and the risk of cardiovascular diseases or poor prognosis for patients with major adverse events (MACE) [3–6]. Moreover, the association between vitamin D deficiency (VDD) and endothelial dysfunction is well established [7].

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In the organism, vitamin D is a major regulator of bone metabolism. However, recent data indicate their pleiotropic action in various biological processes, thus vitamin D is considered to be a steroid hormone involved in the intestinal absorption of calcium and the regulation of calcium homeostasis. The hormonally active form of vitamin D is calcitriol or  $1\alpha,25\text{-dihydroxycalciferol D}$  ( $1\alpha,25(\text{OH})_2\text{D}_3$ ). In contrast to 25-hydroxyvitamin D ( $25(\text{OH})\text{D}_3$ ), which is a prohormone and the major circulating metabolite of vitamin D, the levels of  $1\alpha,25(\text{OH})_2\text{D}_3$  are about 1000-fold lower than those of  $25(\text{OH})\text{D}_3$ . Although  $1\alpha,25(\text{OH})_2\text{D}_3$  portrays the biological active form of vitamin D, it is widely accepted that  $25(\text{OH})\text{D}$  is the robust indicator of vitamin D status in individuals, especially in hypovitaminosis or VDD [6].

In humans, cutaneous synthesis of vitamin D is responsible for > 90% of  $25(\text{OH})\text{D}$  levels in the serum, and some seasonal variations in circulating vitamin D levels have been observed, especially for Northern and Central European populations [8–11]. However, it is still not well recognised if there is any relationship between seasonal variation of  $25(\text{OH})\text{D}$  levels and the incidence of acute myocardial infarction (AMI) [4]. These associations might explain the observed relationship between the seasonal periodicity of cardiovascular mortality with a winter peak and summer nadir [12, 13].

The aim of the present study was to evaluate the seasonal relationship of  $25(\text{OH})\text{D}$  levels in patients admitted to an interventional cardiology unit because of AMI. The second aim was to investigate if there are any confounding factors (gender or diabetes mellitus [DM]) affecting the levels of vitamin D in AMI patients.

## METHODS

Fifty-nine consecutive patients ( $n = 46$  of men) with mean age  $58 \pm 9.4$  years (range 40–79) were admitted to the Department of Invasive Cardiology of the Edward Szczechlik Hospital in Tarnow (Poland) between July 2010 and March 2013. Patients had diagnosed uncomplicated myocardial infarction according to the European Society of Cardiology/American Heart Association redefined guidelines [13, 14]. According to the same criteria, patients were classified as ST elevation myocardial infarction (STEMI;  $n = 23$ ) and non-STEMI (NSTEMI;  $n = 36$ ). All patients underwent urgent coronary angiography and subsequent coronary intervention according to guidelines. In order to analyse the seasonal variation of  $25(\text{OH})\text{D}$  levels, patients were distributed into four groups according to the time of admission: (1) January–March, (2) April–June, (3) July–September, and (4) October–December.

Inclusion criteria were as follows: presence of infarct-related lesion in coronary artery identified during routine coronary angiography [15]. An additional inclusion criterion was the information about restraining of vitamin D supplementation. Estimated glomerular filtration rate was below  $60 \text{ mL/min/1.73 m}^2$ . Exclusion criteria were as follows: any

clinical signs of heart failure (in Killip classes II, III, and IV) observed before catheterisation, prior fibrinolysis, mechanical or electrical complications of acute coronary syndrome, left bundle branch block on electrocardiogram, anticoagulation, known malignant disease, active or chronic infection, or other inflammatory disease. All subjects gave written, informed consent in accordance with the requirements of the institutional Local Ethics Committee.

The distribution of classic risk factors (DM, arterial hypertension, and smoking status) were recorded (Table 1). Definitions of hypertension and diabetes were adopted from the scientific statements of the European Society of Cardiology (<http://www.escardio.org>). Impaired glucose tolerance (IGT) was defined as two-hour glucose levels rise from 7.8 to 11.0 mmol/L in the 75-g oral glucose tolerance test. DM was classified according to the International Diabetes Federation guidelines (2012) [16].

### Blood sampling

Blood samples for analysis were collected on patient admission to the cardiac unit, after heparin treatment. Samples for routine laboratory tests were immediately processed. Serum for  $25(\text{OH})\text{D}$  analysis was allowed to coagulate for 30 min, centrifuged (2000 G for 10 min), and frozen at  $-80^\circ\text{C}$  until further assessment.

### Laboratory tests

The routine blood tests included serum glucose, creatinine, high sensitivity C-reactive protein, fibrinogen levels, and lipid profile assessment. Cardiac troponin T levels were analysed by means of high sensitivity test (Roche Diagnostics, Basel, Switzerland) during admission. The cut-off for AMI was set at the level above 14 ng/mL. For  $25(\text{OH})\text{D}$  we used the 25-hydroxycholecalciferol test, which measures total vitamin D levels in serum (Cat. No. HYE-5334, DRG Instruments GmbH, Marburg, Germany). The method is applied as competitive solid phase enzyme — linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA) on the HYBRID XL analyser (DRG Instruments GmbH, Marburg, Germany). The assay is based on competition of the endogenous form of  $25(\text{OH})\text{D}$  with the  $25(\text{OH})\text{D}$ -biotin conjugate for binding to the well-coated vitamin D binding protein. After incubation, unbound conjugate is washed off and bound  $25(\text{OH})\text{D}$ -biotin conjugate is detected by streptavidin-peroxidase conjugate. The concentration of  $25(\text{OH})\text{D}$  in a patient sample is inversely proportional to the amount of detected peroxidase. The result is the effect of additive concentrations of  $25(\text{OH})\text{D}_3$  and  $25(\text{OH})\text{D}_2$ . This assay detected vitamin  $\text{D}_2$  with specificity 74.7% and vitamin  $\text{D}_3$  with specificity 100%. The dynamic range of the assay is defined such as the limit of detection and maximal value on the master curve. The range of assay is between 2.3 ng/mL and 130 ng/mL. The sensitivity of the method is identical to that at the beginning of the dynamic range. The total assay

**Table 1.** Characteristics of the study group and a comparison with respect to gender

	AMI group (n = 59)	Women (n = 13)	Men (n = 46)	P
Age [years]	58 ± 9.4	61 ± 9.8	57.0 ± 9.3	0.75
Body mass index [kg/m <sup>2</sup> ]	27.0 (24.6–31.0)	29.0 (26.0–32.8)	27.6 (26.0–31.9)	0.68
Current smokers	37 (62.7%)	6 (46.2%)	31 (67.4%)	0.46
Diabetes mellitus	14 (23.7%)	3 (23.1%)	11 (23.9%)	0.96
IGT	11 (18.6%)	3 (23.1%)	8 (17.4%)	0.70
Arterial hypertension	47 (79.7%)	10 (76.9%)	37 (80.4%)	0.93
TC [mmol/L]	5.64 ± 1.34	5.92 ± 1.87	5.57 ± 1.16	0.40
LDL-C [mmol/L]	3.84 ± 1.21	3.97 ± 1.78	3.80 ± 1.00	0.60
HDL-C [mmol/L]	1.14 (0.99–1.43)	1.14 (1.05–1.54)	1.18 (0.96–1.41)	0.64
TG [mmol/L]	1.23 (0.83–2.04)	1.17 (0.77–1.45)	1.28 (0.90–2.04)	0.62
Glucose [mmol/L]	6.82 (5.90–8.14)	5.27 (4.80–6.30)	6.72 (5.86–8.06)	0.52
HbA1c [%]	6.35 (5.8–7.0)	6.50 (5.9–7.4)	5.8 (5.6–6.4)	<b>0.048</b>
Creatinine [μmol/L]	78.0 ± 15.77	66.9 ± 10.27	81.3 ± 15.7	<b>0.003</b>
Fibrinogen [g/L]	3.78 (3.23–4.75)	4.02 (3.53–4.68)	3.74 (3.21–4.75)	0.17
Hs-CRP [mg/L]	4.10 (1.80–11.54)	6.20 (1.90–18.00)	3.90 (1.80–7.30)	0.12
hs-TnTmax [ng/L]	66 (30–166)	82 (42–104)	64 (26–260)	0.72

Values are given as mean ± standard deviation or median (Q1–Q3); AMI — acute myocardial infarction; hs-CRP — high sensitivity C-reactive protein; HbA1c — glycosylated haemoglobin; HDL-C — high-density lipoprotein cholesterol; IGT — impaired glucose tolerance; LDL-C — low-density lipoprotein cholesterol; TC — total cholesterol; TG — triglycerides

**Table 2.** Comparing vitamin D concentrations — 25(OH)D [ng/mL] — in acute myocardial infarction (AMI) patients with respect to gender and glucose tolerance

AMI group (n = 59)	Women (n = 13)	Men (n = 46)	P
7.1 (2.3–13.3)	2.3 (2.3–8.7)	7.7 (2.3–15.2)	0.11 <sup>a</sup>
NG (n = 34)	IGT (n = 11)	DM (n = 14)	P
9.2 (2.3–16.8)	2.3 (2.3–3.9)	8.5 (2.5–13.3)	<b>0.01<sup>b</sup></b>

Bold p-values represent statistical significance. <sup>a</sup>women vs. men comparison — Mann-Whitney U test; <sup>b</sup>Kruskal-Wallis median test; DM — diabetes mellitus; IGT — impaired glucose tolerance; NG — normoglycaemic patients

precision is 14.6%. The reference range for the Central European population was recommended on optimal (target) serum 25(OH)D concentrations ranging from 30 ng/mL to 50 ng/mL (75–125 nmol/L) [9].

### Statistical analysis

It was established whether the continuous data followed the normal distribution by using the Kolmogorov-Smirnov test. Continuous variables are presented as the mean value ± standard deviation (SD) or median with an interquartile interval (Q1–Q3). Categorical variables were expressed as absolute values or percentages and were compared by means of the  $\chi^2$  test. Differences between mean values were verified using the Student's t test when the distribution of variables was normal; in other cases the test Mann-Whitney U or the Kruskal-Wallis Median test were applied. Bivariate correlations were analysed with the Pearson correlation test. P-values below 0.05 were considered significant.

Analyses were performed with Statistica Version 10 (StatSoft, Inc.) and Excel (Microsoft) software.

### RESULTS

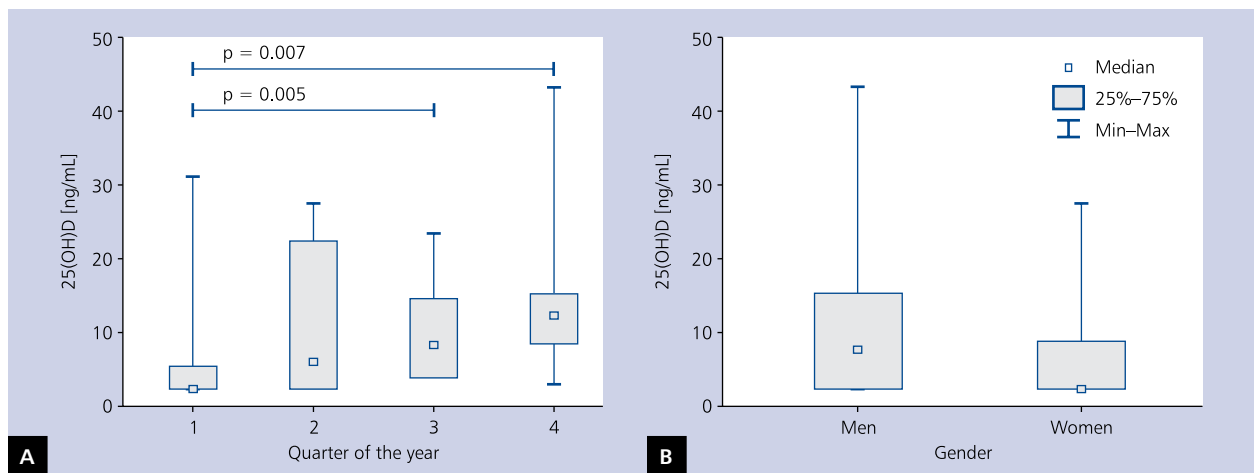
In our study we found that the median serum 25(OH)D concentration in AMI patients was 7.1 (2.3–13.3) ng/mL and this value was below the recommended reference range for healthy population (Table 2) [10]. Detailed analysis of 25(OH)D levels revealed that 53 (89.8%) patients had vitamin D below 20 ng/mL, and six (10.2%) patients had suboptimal 25(OH)D levels (between 20 ng/mL and 30 ng/mL). No one reached the optimal level of 25(OH)D above 30 ng/mL.

Among patients with deficiency, 19 had vitamin D levels so low that the results were close to the lower limit of detection of the assay (2.3 ng/mL). Four people were classified into a group of suboptimal supply to the body with vitamin D. Interestingly, patients with normoglycaemia had significantly higher vitamin D levels than IGT or DM patients ( $p = 0.01$ )

**Table 3.** Comparing biochemical parameters in acute myocardial infarction (AMI) patients with respect to glucose tolerance and diabetes

	NG (n = 34)	IGT (n = 11)	DM (n = 14)	P
TC [mmol/L]	5.72 (4.98–6.49)	6.37 (3.85–6.90)	5.15 (4.50–5.87)	0.25
LDL-C [mmol/L]	4.02 (3.15–4.39)	4.19 (2.32–4.66)	3.29 (2.81–3.96)	0.17
HDL-C [mmol/L]	1.20 (1.09–1.45)	0.99 (0.94–1.25)	1.16 (0.95–1.45)	0.17
TG [mmol/L]	1.04 (0.74–1.92)	1.47 (1.21–2.21)	1.36 (0.97–2.62)	0.21
Glucose [mmol/L]	6.4 (5.7–7.1)	6.72 (6.51–8.29)	8.57 (7.15–10.72)	<b>0.002</b>
HbA1c [%]	NA	5.9 (5.8–6.0)	6.5 (6.3–7.4)	<b>0.03<sup>a</sup></b>
Creatinine [µmol/L]	76.0 (67.0–86.0)	76.0 (67.0–95.0)	78.0 (70.0–83.0)	0.82
Fibrinogen [g/L]	3.83 (3.26–4.75)	4.02 (3.23–4.45)	3.50 (3.15–5.48)	0.91
Hs-CRP [mg/L]	3.80 (1.60–6.30)	3.90 (2.20–20.60)	4.85 (1.60–11.54)	0.56

Data analysed by means of Kruskal-Wallis median test and (\*) Mann-Whitney U test, bold p-values represent statistical significance; values are given as median (Q1–Q3); DM — diabetes mellitus; hs-CRP — high sensitivity C-reactive protein; HbA1c — glycated haemoglobin; HDL-C — high-density lipoprotein cholesterol; IGT — impaired glucose tolerance; LDL-C — low-density lipoprotein cholesterol; NA — not available; NG — normoglycaemic patients; TC — total cholesterol; TG — triglycerides



**Figure 1.** Graphical presentation of median values of vitamin D concentrations in acute myocardial infarction patients during admission to the Department of Invasive Cardiology; **A.** Seasonal changes: (1) January–March, (2) April–June, (3) July–September, and (4) October–December; **B.** Gender difference. Number of patients analysed in each quarter of the year: n = 18 (1); n = 10 (2); n = 22 (3); n = 9 (4). Data are presented as median values with the interquartile interval and minimal–maximal values. Analysis was performed as Kruskal-Wallis median test

(Table 2). Additionally, we compared biochemical parameters in those subgroups to see if there were any relevant differences. The only significances were observed in glucose and glycated haemoglobin levels (Table 3).

The most interesting finding of our study is that patients admitted at the beginning of the year (January–March) had the lowest vitamin D levels and the highest levels at the end of the year (October–December) (2.3 [2.3–5.3] vs. 12.3 [8.3–15.2] ng/mL; p = 0.007) (Fig. 1A). Consecutively, in the second quarter of the year the median 25(OH)D was 5.9 (2.3–22.3) ng/mL and in the third one was 8.4 (3.9–14.5) ng/mL (p = 0.005). We did not find differences in 25(OH)D between men and women, but the tendency towards lower vitamin D levels was observed in women (7.7 [2.3–15.2]

vs. 2.3 [2.3–8.7] ng/mL; p = 0.11) (Fig. 1B). The other interesting observation was that in the first quarter of the year the concentrations of 25(OH)D negatively correlated with glucose levels (r = –0.62; p = 0.014). Such a relationship was not observed in other seasons.

A tendency towards lowering 25(OH)D levels in STEMI patients compared to NSTEMI patients was observed (2.3 [2.3–11.3] vs. 8.3 [3.2–14.9] ng/mL; p = 0.06). Nevertheless, the seasonal analyses with respect to DM and IGT incidence in STEMI patients were not performed due to the limited patients number.

Overall, in the DM group no correlations between biochemical and epidemiological parameters and 25(OH)D concentrations were found. However, in the IGT group we

observed significant correlations between 25(OH)D concentrations and fibrinogen ( $r = 0.70$ ;  $p = 0.034$ ) or triglyceride levels ( $r = 0.72$ ;  $p = 0.029$ ). No correlations were found between sex or body mass index.

## DISCUSSION

The primary finding of our study is that most AMI patients have VDD. Furthermore, we confirmed our working hypothesis that in AMI patients' vitamin D levels are subject to variations, depending on the season. This seasonal effect was so strong that it was observed even in VDD patients. Additionally, we found that hyperglycaemic conditions are related to VDD deficiency in the AMI group.

Several studies indicated that VDD is a very common finding in populations inhabiting northern latitudes [8, 9, 17]. This deficiency has been observed despite common knowledge about vitamin D sources and its potential food intake.

In our study we found that 53 patients had vitamin D levels below 20 ng/mL (50 nmol/L), so we can consider that most of the AMI population suffer from VDD. Our results are taken in relation to the guidelines prepared for the population of Central Europe. According to the recommendations of prophylaxis of vitamin D deficiency in Poland, the concentration of vitamin D < 20 ng/mL has been treated as VDD, and levels between 20 ng/mL and 30 ng/mL are characterised as suboptimal, with insufficient vitamin D supply to the body [10, 11]. Additionally, we can confirm that the distribution of VDD in cardiovascular patients is in concordance with the previous investigation by Goleniewska et al. [4]; nevertheless, we did not check the association between the severity of coronary lesions and vitamin D levels.

However, the global recommendations are less restricted. It has been generally accepted that blood 25(OH)D levels below 10 ng/mL (or 25 nmol/L) are qualified as 'deficient', but there is no currently accepted definition for 'optimal' 25(OH)D levels [18]. In the Central European population the correct target for supplementation is 30–50 ng/mL (75–125 nmol/L) [11]; nevertheless, the 25(OH)D concentration should exceed 30 ng/mL (75 nmol/L) to maximise the effect of vitamin D on calcium metabolism [18].

Despite a significant vitamin D deficiency in AMI patients we observed the seasonal effect in 25(OH)D levels, with higher levels in the fourth quarter of the year (October–December) and the lowest in the first one (winter). The seasonal variation of vitamin D serum levels is a common phenomenon in the northern hemisphere at latitudes greater than around 40°N, where sunlight is not intense enough to generate vitamin D synthesis in the skin from October to March [18, 19]. We may consider that the seasonal deficit in sunlight during the winter months may especially affect elderly patients with high cardiovascular risk, having more deleterious effect on them [20]. However, no association between vitamin D status and incidence of ischaemic heart disease or stroke has been confirmed in the general population [21].

Vitamin D deficiency has been reported in 2–30% of European adults, increasing in cardiovascular patients to 80% in some studies [2, 4, 22, 23]. Among factors which accompanied VDD risk, female sex is usually considered as important. In our study we observed the tendency to lower serum 25(OH)D levels in AMI women than in AMI men ( $p = 0.11$ ). Our finding is in concordance with some recent reports showing that gender significantly affects vitamin D status in patients with coronary artery disease, and female sex is an independent predictor of cardiovascular risk [23, 24]. It is essential that in our study patients were not supplemented with vitamin D. In common practice, women in postmenopausal period are protected against osteoporosis, and vitamin D supplementation is recommended. Such substantial deficits in 25(OH)D levels may be explained by the fact that patients for this study were recruited 3–5 years ago, from a less urbanised region of Malopolska. Currently, osteoporosis prevention is more common and patients better controlled and more self-confident with respect to osteoporosis risk.

An interesting association between DM and IGT and low 25(OH)D levels was documented. Hyperglycaemia is frequently observed in patients with AMI, in our study more than 40% of patients had DM or IGT, and hyperglycaemic conditions may favour the coagulation properties of blood in AMI [25]. However, it is still unresolved whether VDD impairs glucose tolerance or if vitamin D supplementation improves glycaemic control. We can assume that vitamin D fortification or even supplementation would be more beneficial for AMI patients with DM or IGT than for normoglycaemic ones.

## CONCLUSIONS

The high prevalence of VDD in acute cardiovascular patients should be considered as an additional and interfering risk factor. In patients with previous AMI the monitoring of vitamin D levels due to its supplementation should be taken into account. Patients with hyperglycaemia may be more beneficial after vitamin D supplementation. Additional conclusion is that the vitamin D control (e.g. 25(OH)D assessment) should be provided for patients at risk to avoid over-dosage of vitamin D supplementation or insufficiency.

**Conflict of interest:** none declared

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# Sezonowe zmiany w niedoborach witaminy D u chorych z zawałem serca

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## Streszczenie

**Wstęp:** Witamina D jest głównym regulatorem metabolizmu kostnego. W ostatnich latach obserwuje się ogromny wzrost zainteresowania witaminą D. Ze względu na jej receptorowe działanie coraz częściej jest traktowana nie tylko jako witamina, ale również jako hormon steroidowy. Klasyczna aktywność witaminy D nierozdzielnie wiąże się z gospodarką mineralną: utrzymuje homeostazę wapniowo-fosforanową i kontroluje metabolizm kostno-szkieletowy. Aktywną hormonalnie formą witaminy D jest kalcytriol lub  $1\alpha,25$ -dihydroksykalcyferol ( $1\alpha,25(\text{OH})_2\text{D}_3$ ). W przeciwieństwie do 25-hydroksywitaminy D ( $25(\text{OH})\text{D}$ ), która jest prohormonem i głównym krążącym metabolitem witaminy D, stężenie ( $1\alpha,25(\text{OH})_2\text{D}_3$ ) jest około 1000-krotnie niższe niż  $25(\text{OH})\text{D}$ . Mimo że  $1\alpha,25(\text{OH})_2\text{D}_3$  ukazuje biologicznie aktywną postać witaminy D, jest powszechnie akceptowane, że to stężenie  $25(\text{OH})\text{D}$  jest wskaźnikiem stanu witaminy D u chorych, szczególnie u pacjentów z niedoborem witaminy D. Postuluje się, że u chorych z ostrym zawałem serca (AMI) występują niskie stężenia witaminy D, które mogą ulegać sezonowej zmienności.

**Cel:** Głównym celem niniejszego badania była ocena sezonowej zmiany stężenia witaminy D ( $25(\text{OH})\text{D}$ ) u pacjentów z AMI. Drugim celem było zbadanie, czy czynniki, takie jak płeć lub cukrzyca mają związek z poziomem  $25(\text{OH})\text{D}$  u tych chorych.

**Metody:** Do badania włączono 59 osób (śr. wieku  $58 \pm 9,4$  roku) przyjętych na oddział kardiologii interwencyjnej. U pacjentów stwierdzono AMI bez powikłań. Próbkę krwi pobrano od chorych po podaniu heparyny, wykonując jednocześnie rutynowe oznaczenia. Pomiar stężenia  $25(\text{OH})\text{D}$  — witaminy D przeprowadzono z zastosowaniem metody immunoenzymatycznej (analyzer HYBRID XL, DRG, Marburg, Niemcy).

**Wyniki:** Otrzymane wyniki interpretowano w odniesieniu do wytycznych stworzonych dla populacji Europy Środkowej. Stężenie  $25(\text{OH})\text{D}$  poniżej 20 ng/ml oznacza deficyt, między 20 ng/ml a 30 ng/ml charakteryzuje suboptymalne zaopatrzenie organizmu w witaminę, natomiast wartości prawidłowe, docelowe dla suplementacji wynoszą 30–50 ng/ml. Wartość mediany dla  $25(\text{OH})\text{D}$  mieściła się poniżej zalecanej normy: 7,1 (2,3–13,3) ng/ml. Niedobór witaminy D ( $< 20$  ng/ml) stwierdzono u 53 (89,8%) chorych, u 6 (10,2%) pacjentów zanotowano niskie stężenia (20–30 ng/ml), u żadnego chorego nie zaobserwowano prawidłowego stężenia witaminy D. Stwierdzono również sezonowe zmiany w stężeniach  $25(\text{OH})\text{D}$ : najniższe na początku roku (styczeń–marzec), a najwyższe między wrześniem a grudniem ( $p = 0,007$ ). Chorzy z wyrównaną glikemią charakteryzowali się znacząco wyższymi stężeniami witaminy D (9,2 [2,3–16,8] ng/ml) niż pacjenci z nieprawidłową tolerancją glukozy (2,3 [2,3–3,9] ng/ml) lub cukrzycą (8,5 [2,5–13,3] ng/ml) ( $p = 0,01$ ).

**Wnioski:** Potwierdzono znaczące niedobory witaminy D u chorych z AMI. Potwierdzony wysoki odsetek pacjentów z niedoborem witaminy D w grupie AMI powinien być traktowany jako dodatkowy czynnik ryzyka i czynnik zakłócający dla chorób układu sercowo-naczyniowego. U osób po przebytych AMI należy wziąć pod uwagę monitorowanie stężenia witaminy D ( $25(\text{OH})\text{D}$ ) ze względu na jej niedobór i konieczną suplementację oraz w celu uniknięcia przedawkowania witaminy D. Chorzy z hiperglikemią mogą również osiągnąć większą korzyść z suplementacji witaminy D w porównaniu z pacjentami z wyrównanym stężeniem glukozy.

**Słowa kluczowe:** witamina D, diagnostyka laboratoryjna, czynniki ryzyka, zawał serca

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