Associations of parental history of diabetes mellitus with the offspring’s incidence is modified by offspring’s body weight, findings from a Japanese work-site based cohort

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INTRODUCTIONS

- Family history may reflect complex relationships between genetic factors and environmental conditions that are important for developing diabetes.
- A greater risk from maternal history of diabetes compare to paternal history has been reported in some, but not in all studies.
- Cross-sectional report from the same population of our cohort study found that maternal history of hypertension, diabetes and dyslipidemia were more strongly associated with off-spring’s prevalence of metabolic syndrome than paternal history.

Proposed explanations included following:
- Mutations of mitochondrial DNA;
- Intrauterine environment;
- Behavior influence of the mother;
- It has been hypothesized that interactions between genetic- and environmental factors are of specific importance for the development of type 2 diabetes (T2D).
- Previous study indicated that obesity may significantly modify the association between parental history of diabetes and risk of new incidence.

OBJECTIVES

In the current worksite-based Japanese cohort study:
1. The difference in the risk of T2D between individuals with paternal- and maternal history of diabetes was investigated;
2. The interaction effect of overweight on this association was tested.

METHODS

Participants: 5,471 workers (4,299 men; 1,172 women) from 2002 through the year of 2011, aged 18-61 years, and excluding participant without consent (38%)

Exclusion:
1. History of diabetes (n = 430)
2. Baseline fasting blood glucose higher or equal to 126 mg/dL or self-reported under treatment of T2D (n = 221)
3. Body mass index (BMI), sex, smoking and drinking status, physical activity not available (n = 4,446, 3,492; 954 women)

Follow-ups: from May 2002 until April 2011

Diagnosis of T2D:
1. Fasting glucose measured in the annual health check-up first exceeded 126 mg/dL;
2. Self-reported in the questionnaires sent every 2 years during the follow-up. And confirmed by the physician in charge for the date of diagnosis.

Other data collections including:
1. Parental history of diabetes and categorized as: None, Father-only, Mother-only or Both;
2. BMI was calculated from the weight and height measured during the annual health check-up.
3. Smoking status (current, past, never);
4. Alcohol consumption (times/week);
5. Physical activity was defined as participation of moderate or vigorous leisure-time exercise for at least 12 days/month or more than 360 min/month in total (yes or no);

Statistical analysis:
- Baseline descriptive statistics of the participants were reported as mean ± standard deviation (SD) and groups were compared using analysis of variance (ANOVA) test;
- Incidence rate of T2D during the follow-up was evaluated by Poisson regression adjusted for age, sex, smoking status, alcohol consumption, BMI and physical activity;
- Multivariable-adjusted hazard ratios (HRs) and 95% confidence intervals (95% CI) were estimated including the same above covariates by Cox proportional hazard model taking the category of “None” for parental history as the reference group in the total sample analysis;
- Another analyses was performed: HRs of T2D incidence according to the presence of paternal or maternal history of diabetes;
- Stratified by overweight.

METHODS cont.

RESULTS

Table 1. Means (SD) and percentages of the participants at baseline, Archi, 2002.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Father-only</th>
<th>Mother-only</th>
<th>Both</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Age (5 yrs)</td>
<td>48.6 (7.7)</td>
<td>47.7 (7.9)</td>
<td>48.9 (7.6)</td>
<td>48.5 (7.9)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>2,621</td>
<td>2,191</td>
<td>370</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Body mass index (BMI), kg/m²</td>
<td>23.6 (3.2)</td>
<td>23.6 (3.3)</td>
<td>23.6 (3.0)</td>
<td>23.5 (3.1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smokings status</td>
<td>33.9</td>
<td>44.6</td>
<td>31.0</td>
<td>30.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical activity</td>
<td>33.8</td>
<td>34.1</td>
<td>33.5</td>
<td>33.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 2. Hazard ratios (95% CI) according to paternal history of diabetes.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>None</th>
<th>Father-only</th>
<th>Mother-only</th>
<th>Both</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HR (95% CI)</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>1.30 (1.07, 1.58)</td>
<td>1.05 (0.86, 1.27)</td>
<td>1.14 (0.92, 1.43)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>p-value</td>
<td>&lt; 0.001</td>
<td>0.003</td>
<td>0.41</td>
<td>0.21</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Findings:
1. Parental histories (father-only, mother-only, or both) of diabetes were positively associated with T2D incidence in middle-aged male and female workers in Japan.
2. Maternal history of diabetes increased the risk of T2D in normal weight subjects to a degree that was observed in overweight subjects without paternal history.
3. Being overweight significantly increased the risk of T2D in subjects with paternal diabetes history.

REFERENCES


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