

# Research on the protective effects of antioxidants on metabolic syndrome induced by thyroid dysfunction

Y. CHEN<sup>1</sup>, Z. ZHOU<sup>2</sup>, X.-X. LI<sup>3</sup>, T. WANG<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Gerontology, The Second Affiliated Hospital of Zhengzhou University, Zhengzhou City, Henan Province, China

<sup>2</sup>Department of Respiratory Medicine, Second Affiliated Hospital of Zhengzhou University, Zhengzhou City, Henan Province, China

<sup>3</sup>Department of Neurology, The Second Affiliated Hospital of Zhengzhou University, Zhengzhou City, Henan Province, China

<sup>4</sup>Department of Cardiology, Second Affiliated Hospital of Zhengzhou University, Zhengzhou City, Henan Province, China

**Abstract.** – **OBJECTIVE:** This paper researches on the protective effects of antioxidants on metabolic syndrome induced by thyroid dysfunction. While the role of Lipoic acid (LA), Resveratrol (R) and Quercetin (Q) are recognized, the mechanisms for their am-  
**Key Words:** Impact factor, Metabolic syndrome, Thyroid abnormality, Numerical analysis algorithm.

**SUBJECTS AND METHODS:** In the cross-sectional study, a total of 1198 university workers (1198 males and 107 females) aged 60 participated. Anthropometric measurements (weight and height), blood pressure, fasting plasma glucose, lipids, liver and kidney function tests were carried out, thyroid stimulating hormone (TSH), free thyroxine (FT4), free triiodothyronine (FT3), total antioxidant capacity (T-AOC) and peroxidation products, malondialdehyde (MDA), advanced oxidation protein products (AOPP) and dityrosine levels were measured.

**RESULTS:** A further evaluation of oxidative stress markers in subclinical hypothyroidism showed the differences. Among middle-aged men with SCH (n = 467), MDA concentrations (8.14 ± 1.29 nmol/ml) were significantly higher than controls (7.34 ± 1.31 nmol/ml; n = 190) while AOPP, dityrosine and T-AOC levels were different.

**CONCLUSIONS:** It was demonstrated that prevalence of MS components was high. Targeting thyroid hormone restoration, inhibition of ACE and GSK3β via PI3K/AKT signaling path-

ways using LA, Resveratrol and Quercetin are potential novel therapeutic approaches for developing pharmaceuticals that could make significant in MS treatment.

**Key Words:** Impact factor, Metabolic syndrome, Thyroid abnormality, Numerical analysis algorithm.

## Introduction

Non Communicable Diseases (NCDs) including cardiovascular diseases (CVDs), type 2 diabetes mellitus, chronic respiratory diseases and cancers are the leading causes of death worldwide. They account for almost 80% of global mortality, with 94 million of deaths occurring in low- and middle-income countries. China is emerging economies threaten by increasing rates of NCDs. WHO estimates that NCDs account for over 80% of total deaths, and for more than 70% of the country's health expenditures. Since the beginning of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, the country has made progress in prevention, but there are still large action gaps in implementation<sup>1,2</sup>. In the current National plan for Prevention and Treatment of NCDs (2012-2015), the main priorities are targeted towards prevention, timely detection and management of high-risk populations and promotion of healthy lifestyles<sup>3</sup>. However, the challenge is the prevalence of the main risk factor and the metabolic syndrome (MS) is varied across many regions of the country in rural-urban

areas, among gender coupled with lack of awareness on existence of cardiovascular risks<sup>4</sup>. MS is almost becoming an epidemic, and is likely to overwhelm the health care systems and slow economic growth. Thus, targeting MS may be an important approach for the prevention, control and management of NCDs. Workplace environment is an important setting for health promotion and MS prevention since workers represent a large proportion of the total population. Work based health promotion programmes are effective in improving health related outcomes such as obesity, diabetes mellitus and cardiovascular disease risk factors. More specifically, work based health programs are an effective means of promoting a healthy diet and regular physical activity. Through the workplace, it is possible to influence health behaviors via multiple levels of influence; by direct efforts such as health education and increasing the availability of healthy foods and opportunities for physical activity; or indirectly through social support and social norms promoting healthy behaviors. However, the crucial basis for developing and implementing such interventions requires the determination of the major cardiovascular risk factors as well as their distribution patterns among workers in different occupations. The influence of occupation on cardiovascular risks is attributed to differences in work conditions such as shift work form and duration of work. Moreover, occupational factors including noise and chemical exposures and psychosocial factors such as work stress, social support, and socioeconomic status have significant effects on CVD risk. Such variations in work conditions lead to differences in metabolic disease prevalence, which suggests the need for workplace specific interventions. In China, extensive research on MS prevalence has been carried out on the general population; however, information on workers is currently limited. Available reports demonstrate workplace related increase in MS prevalence among policemen and retired workers, while studies on university workers are few. The impact of occupational factors such as heavy workload, secondary long working hours, extended work schedules in Chinese universities, and differences in working conditions in comparison to the general population, the health status of university workers merits more attention. Workers are continuously exposed to work stress, which results in derangements in metabolic homeostasis mediated through indirect effects on health behaviors and direct effects on neuroendocrine stress pathways.

Acute or chronic stress has direct effects on hypothalamic-pituitary-thyroid-adrenal axis (HPT) and the sympathetic nervous system resulting in clinical presentation of visceral obesity, diabetes, atherosclerosis and MS. Thyroid hormones are end hormones of the HPT axis and are, therefore, altered in acute and repeated stress<sup>5,6</sup>. Despite the growing stress levels in university workers, there is paucity of data on the association of cardiovascular risks with thyroid function. Thyroid hormones, mainly the active triiodothyronine ( $T_3$ ), has significant effects on lipids, glucose and blood pressure resulting in elevated plasma levels and increased blood pressure and consequently, the development of atherosclerosis. Furthermore,  $T_3$  plays an important role in the regulation of mitochondrial function in several metabolically very active tissues such as skeletal muscle, heart, kidney, and liver. Thus alterations in thyroid levels lead to enhanced generation of reactive oxygen species (ROS) during metabolism resulting in overconsumption of non-enzymatic and enzymatic antioxidants<sup>7</sup>. This disturbs the pro-oxidant/antioxidant balance leading to oxidative stress and consequent damage to cellular structures, lipids, proteins, and DNA. Reduction of oxidative stress by prevention of ROS formation and/or quenching of ROS using antioxidants has been used as an intervention approach in the past years. These strategies are reported to be effective in laboratory experiments while several clinical trials indicate that they do not reduce cardiovascular events, and in some cases antioxidants have worsened the outcomes. This may be caused by the antioxidants are not selectively taken up by mitochondria, but instead are dispersed throughout the body. Therefore, strategies for the targeted delivery of antioxidants to mitochondria are currently being developed. Mitochondria-targeted antioxidants developed as pharmaceuticals are shown to be effective and can be used in a wide range of human pathologies. These small molecules are developed from derivatives of antioxidants. Lipoic acid (LA) is a universal antioxidant known for its protective effects from chronic diseases associated with oxidative stress<sup>8,9</sup>. As an antioxidant, LA directly terminates free radicals, chelates transition metal ions (e.g., iron and copper), increases cytosolic glutathione and vitamin C levels and prevents toxicities associated with their loss. Moreover, polyphenols, occurring in fruit and vegetables, wine, tea, extra virgin olive oil, chocolate, and other cocoa products have been shown to exert beneficial effects on many

chronic diseases. Like LA, their biological effects are attributed to their antioxidant properties, either through their reducing capacities per se or through their possible influences on intracellular redox status. The ability to modulate the activity of various enzymes and thus interfere in signaling mechanisms in various cellular processes may be ascribed in part to their physiochemical properties that allow them to participate in different metabolic cellular oxidation-reduction reactions. Studies reporting the protecting effects of LA, Resveratrol and Quercetin on obesity and obesity-induced oxidative stress injuries on the heart, kidney and lungs have so far shown positive results however the mechanisms are not fully elucidated<sup>10</sup>.

## Subjects and Methods

**Experiment 1:** This was a cross-sectional study of 2428 University employees on annual clinical examination (November 2015-December 2015) at First Hospital in University. Some variables such as age, weight and height were missing in 155 participants hence were not included in analysis. A total of 2273 participants were therefore evaluated (1198 males and 1075 females). The employees were further categorized into two occupational categories: administrative and academic workers. Administrative workers are involved with office work. They included the University top management staff, directors, deans of schools and the administrative department heads, top management staff from human resource, student affairs, graduate school, finance, property, medical, library, security and housing department. Academic workers are involved with research and teaching, and they included professors, associate professors, lecturers and laboratory technicians. All the study protocols were approved by University ethics committee and the Hospital Management. Informed consent was given by all participants. Study protocols were conducted according to the Declaration of Helsinki recommendations of 1975, revised 2000.

**Experiment 2:** A random sample of 1150 adults (592 males and 358 females) aged between 20-60 years was obtained from the larger population sample (n=2428) for evaluation of thyroid function. The study protocols are explained which included the determination of anthropometric measurements, blood pressure,

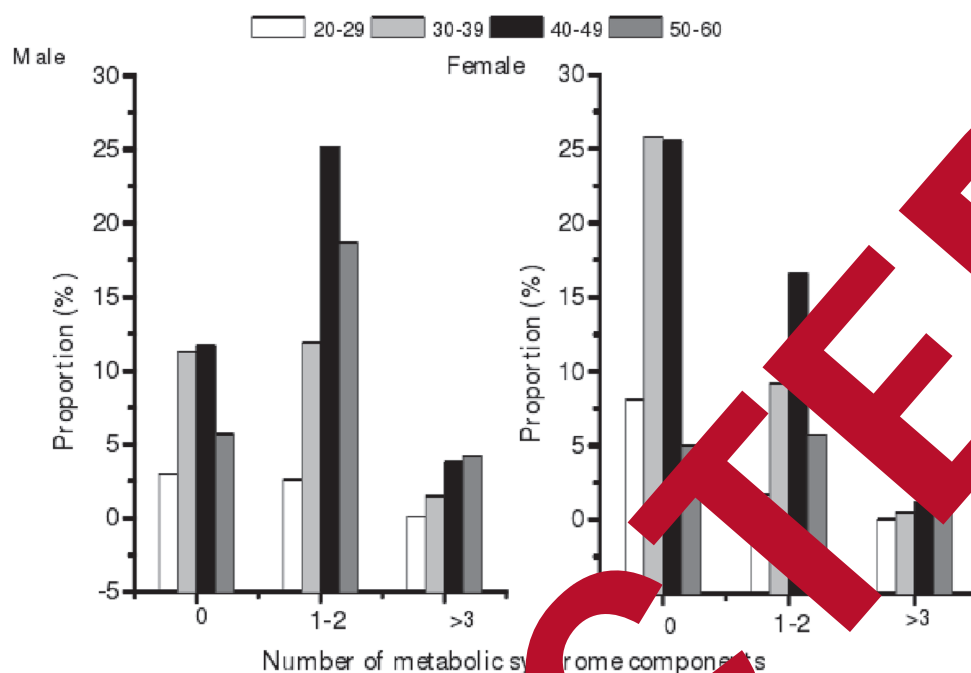
fasting plasma glucose (FPG), lipids and the diagnostic criteria for MS. Patients with diabetes mellitus, hyperthyroidism, sub-clinical hyperthyroidism, or individuals with thyroid disease or taking thyroxine, anti-thyroid drugs for treatment, or taking glucocorticosteroids, beta-blockers, amiodarone, anti-epileptic drugs, salicylates, diuretics and other medications that affect thyroid function or taking lipid lowering drugs or with abnormal liver and kidney function tests were excluded from the study. Pregnant women or those within the first year of postpartum period were also excluded from the study.

### Data Collection, Physical Assessment, Blood Sample Collection and Preservation

The anthropometric measurements, weight (kg) and height (m) were measured using weight-height machine (HW-700, Zhengzhou, China) and used to calculate body mass index (BMI). BMI  $\geq 28$  kg/m<sup>2</sup> was defined as obesity. Systolic and diastolic blood pressure was measured on the upper right arm using standard sphygmomanometer (YE-665 A, Jiangsu, China) after at least five minutes of rest. All measurements were taken by trained medical personnel. The overnight fasting blood samples were obtained in the morning by venipuncture and collected into sodium heparin vacutainer tubes. Blood samples were kept on ice immediately, and plasma separated by centrifugation (KDC-1044, Hangzhou, China) at 1000 × g for 10 minutes at 4°C. Using standard biochemical reagents, an automatic Biochemical Analyser (HF 400, Shanghai, China) was used to measure enzymatically the levels of fasting plasma glucose (FPG), lipid profiles; triglycerides (TG), total cholesterol (TC), low-density lipoprotein cholesterol (LDL), high-density lipoprotein cholesterol (HDL), liver and kidney function tests<sup>14</sup>. All biochemical analyses were conducted in some content at the University hospital laboratory.

### Definition of Metabolic Syndrome

Metabolic syndrome was defined according to the Modified criteria of the National Cholesterol Education Program Adult Treatment panel<sup>15,16</sup>. These criteria require the presence of at least three of the following five components: waist circumference  $\geq 90$  cm (males),  $\geq 80$  cm (females); systolic blood pressure  $\geq 130$  mmHg or diastolic blood pressure  $\geq 85$  mmHg or subjects treated with antihypertensive drugs; FPG  $\geq 5.6$  mmol/l; TG  $\geq$



**Figure 1.** Sex-specific prevalence of the number of metabolic syndrome components by age groups.

1.695 mmol/l and HDL < 1.036 mmol/l (males), 1.295 mmol/l (females). Plasma TSH, free thyroxine (FT<sub>4</sub>) and free triiodothyronine (FT<sub>3</sub>) concentrations were determined by radioimmunoassay (xh6080, Xi'an) at Beijing Sino-ultrasonic Biological Technology. The TSH assay sensitivity was 0.5 mU/l; intra- and inter-assay coefficients of variations of 0.5% and 10%, respectively. FT<sub>4</sub> assay sensitivity was 0.16 pmol/l; intra- and inter-assay coefficients of variations of 0.5% and 10%, respectively. FT<sub>3</sub> assay sensitivity was 0.15 pmol/l while intra- and inter-assay coefficients of variations were 4.5% and 9.8%, respectively. Normal thyroid function (euthyroidism) was defined as TSH level of 0.40-4.5 mU/l with normal FT<sub>4</sub> (19-25.60 pmol/l) and FT<sub>3</sub> (5.20-9.20 pmol/l) levels while subclinical hypothyroidism (SCH) was defined as TSH levels of 4.5 mU/l with normal FT<sub>4</sub> and FT<sub>3</sub> levels.

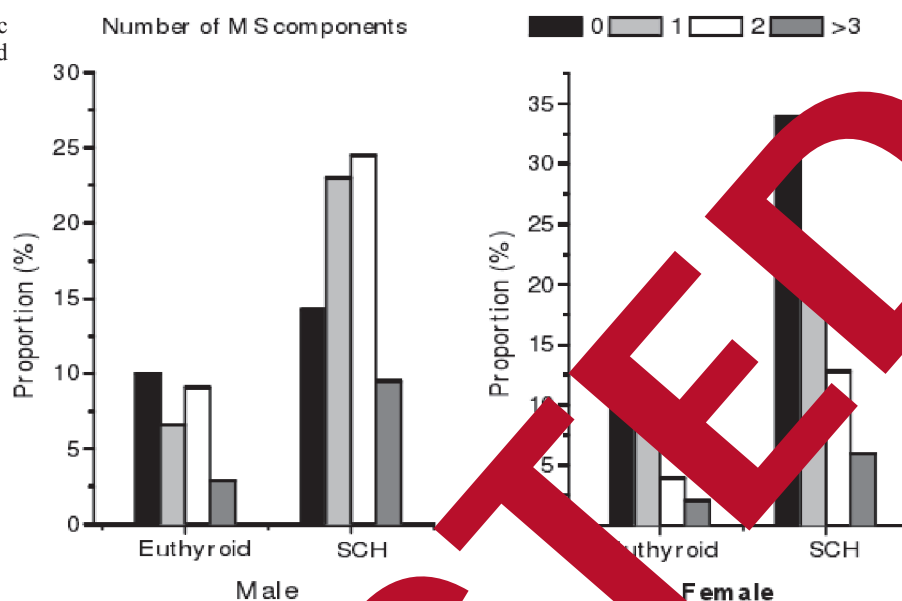
## Results

Participants were categorized into four age groups: 20-29, 30-39, 40-49 and 50-60 years old. Prevalence of MS components (hypertension, hyperglycemia, hypertriglyceridemia and low HDL) varied across age groups in both males ( $\chi^2 = 74.896$ ,  $p = 0.001$ ) and females ( $\chi^2 = 53.587$ ,  $p = 0.001$ ). As shown (Figure 1), prevalence in the number of components was greater in 40-49 years age group among males (25.2%) and females (16.6%). Specifically, over a quarter (25.2%) of males and 16.6% of females aged between 40 and 49 years had at least one MS components. Table I shows the prevalence of MS and its components by sex. The overall prevalence MS was 6.1%, and was significantly higher ( $p < 0.01$ ) in males (5.1%) than females (1.1%). The most prevalent compo-

**Table I.** Prevalence of metabolic syndrome and its components by sex.

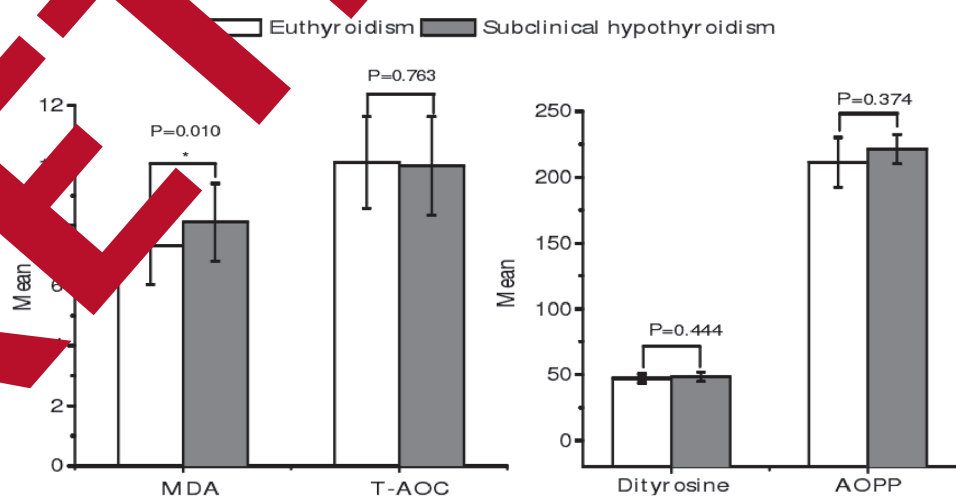
	All (n = 2273)	Male (n = 1198)	Female (n = 1075)	p
Metabolic syndrome	139 (6.1)	115 (5.1)	24 (1.1)	0.001
High body mass index	75 (4.0)	65 (3.5)	10 (0.5)	0.001
Hypertension	857 (37.9)	640 (28.3)	217 (9.6)	0.001
Hyperglycemia	294 (13.3)	234 (10.6)	60 (2.7)	0.001
Elevated triglycerides	462 (20.8)	357 (16.1)	105 (4.7)	0.001
Low HDL	307 (13.8)	137 (6.2)	170 (7.7)	0.001

**Figure 2.** Prevalence of metabolic syndrome components by thyroid status.



...ent in all participants was hypertension (37.9%), followed by elevated triglycerides (20.8%), low HDL (13.8%), hyperglycemia (13.3%), and obesity (4%). Male workers showed higher prevalence ( $p < 0.01$ ) than females. Hypertension (26.9%) and elevated TG (16.1%) were most frequent in males while hypertension (9.6%) and low HDL (7.7%) were common in females. Thyroid dysfunction of workers was evaluated to examine possible association with lipid, glucose and blood pressure. Plasma TSH levels ranged between 3.201 and 6.949 mIU/L while FT<sub>4</sub> and FT<sub>3</sub> were within normal reference levels ( $< 25.60$  pmol/l and  $< 9.20$  pmol/l, respectively). TSH and levels of thyroid hormones in participants were categorized into two groups: euthyroidism

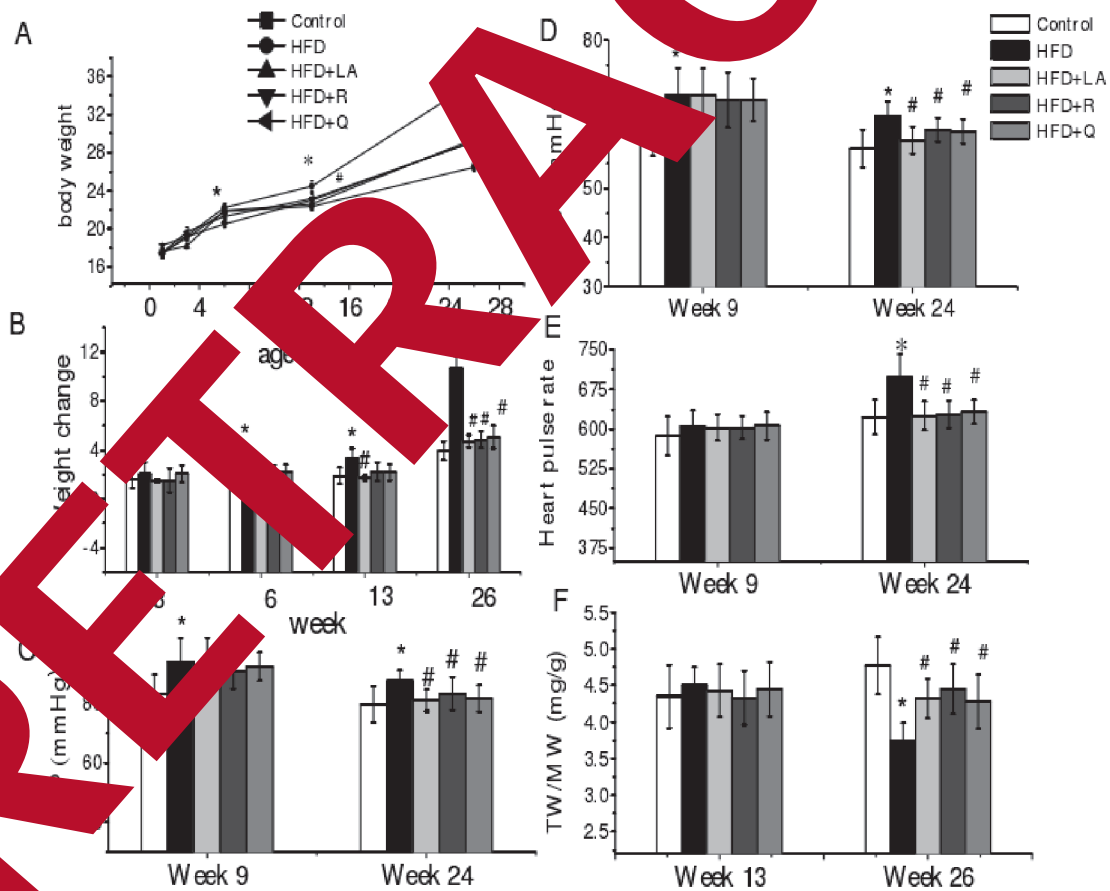
...l SCH. As shown (Figure 2), there was a significant difference ( $\chi^2 = 20.013, p = 0.001$ ) in the number of MS components in male adults with SCH compared to those with normal thyroid function. The proportion of males with 2 MS components was 24.5% and 9.1% in the SCH and euthyroid group, respectively. The corresponding proportions for the presence of 3 or more components were 9.5% and 2.9%. In females, there was no significant difference ( $\chi^2 = 3.604, p = 0.307$ ) in the number of components between the two thyroid groups. Oxidative stress markers and T-AOC were compared between euthyroid and subclinical hypothyroid group (Figure 3). As illustrated, SCH group showed elevated MDA ( $8.11 \pm 1.30$  nmol/ml) levels than euthyroid controls



**Figure 3.** Oxidative stress markers in euthyroid and subclinical hypothyroid middle-aged men.

( $7.34 \pm 1.31$  nmol/ml), whereas AOPP, dityrosine and T-AOC were not different ( $p > 0.05$ ). The corresponding levels in euthyroids were;  $211 \pm 18.87$  mmol/l,  $47.08 \pm 3.44$  pg/ml and  $10.10 \pm 1.52$  U/ml while levels in SCH were  $221.39 \pm 11.21$  mmol/l,  $48.27 \pm 3.61$ pg/mol and  $9.98 \pm 1.64$  U/ml, respectively. MDA levels were not associated ( $p > 0.05$ ) with either TSH or thyroid hormones in SCH. After adjustment for age and BMI, TSH correlated positively ( $\beta = 0.186$ ,  $p = 0.034$ ) and inversely ( $\beta = -0.206$ ,  $p = 0.004$ ) with AOPP and dityrosine, respectively. AOPP correlated positively with  $FT_4$  ( $\beta = 0.185$ ,  $p = 0.038$ ) while none of the oxidative stress markers associated with  $FT_3$  and T-AOC. In the euthyroid group, dityrosine inversely correlated with  $FT_4$  ( $\beta = -0.397$ ,  $p = 0.015$ ) after age and BMI adjustment while it correlated with  $FT_3$  ( $\beta = -0.324$ ,  $p = 0.017$ ) when only age was adjusted. Moreover, T-AOC reduced ( $\beta = -0.327$ ,  $p = 0.030$ ) with increased MDA. The mice fed with HFD consistently gained more

weight than controls, and was markedly increased ( $p < 0.05$ ) by 6<sup>th</sup> week (Figure 4 A-B). Supplementation with LA ( $22.60 \pm 0.73$  g) reduced weight to control levels ( $22.38 \pm 0.46$  g) at 6 week whereas Resveratrol and Quercetin inhibited weight gain at the end of feeding. At 26 weeks, body weight reduced in HFD + LA ( $29.42 \pm 0.25$  g), HFD + R ( $29.18 \pm 0.75$  g) and HFD + Q ( $29.13 \pm 0.69$  g) compared with HFD ( $35.40 \pm 0.52$  g) mice, and higher than controls ( $26.47 \pm 0.52$  g). As compared to control and antioxidant groups, the HFD mice had significantly ( $p < 0.05$ ) higher systolic blood pressure (SBP) and diastolic blood pressure (DBP) at 9<sup>th</sup> week (Figure 4 C-D). However, the SBP ( $76.19 \pm 3.52$  mmHg) and DBP ( $64.635 \pm 2.95$  mmHg) of HFD mice increased at 24 weeks compared to controls (SBP,  $79.724 \pm 6.239$  mmHg; DBP,  $62.058 \pm 3.819$  mmHg) which antioxidants reduced blood pressure to normal levels. Similarly, the heart pulse rate of HFD mice ( $698.95 \pm 42.58$  beats per minute) was



**Figure 4.** Changes in physiological parameters of mice over the experimental period. Plots are shown for body weight in grams (A), weight change (B), SBP-systolic blood pressure (C), DBP-diastolic blood pressure (D), heart pulse rate in beats per minute (E) and TW/MW-tissue weight/body weight (F).

higher ( $p < 0.01$ ) than controls ( $622.71 \pm 32.84$  beats per minute) at 24 weeks while the rate was reduced by all antioxidants. The TW/MW ratio reduced significantly ( $p < 0.01$ ) in HFD mice ( $3.75 \pm 0.24$  mg/g) compared to controls ( $4.77 \pm 0.39$  mg/g) at 26 weeks and was improved with antioxidant supplementation (Figure 4F). The ACE activity in HFD mice ( $0.755 \pm 0.435$  U/mg protein), HFD + LA ( $0.146 \pm 0.048$  U/mg protein), HFD + R ( $0.216 \pm 0.08$  U/mg protein) and HFD + Q ( $0.162 \pm 0.035$  U/mg protein) were significantly lower ( $p < 0.01$ ) than controls ( $1.474 \pm 0.199$  U/mg protein) at 13 weeks (Figure 5 A). However, by 26<sup>th</sup> week, the activity increased ( $p < 0.05$ ) in HFD mice ( $0.69 \pm 0.225$  U/mg protein) compared to controls ( $0.28 \pm 0.114$  U/mg protein) while reduced in HFD + LA ( $0.231 \pm 0.02$  U/mg protein) and HFD + Q ( $0.182 \pm 0.096$  U/mg protein) mice. Moreover, compared to controls ( $5.760 \pm 1.838$  U/mg protein), the activity of NOS significantly increased ( $p < 0.01$ ) in HFD mice ( $9.450 \pm 1.004$  U/mg protein) at week 13 and reduced in HFD + LA ( $4.367 \pm 0.569$  U/mg protein), HFD + R ( $4.456 \pm 1.971$  U/mg protein) and HFD + Q mice ( $3.091 \pm 0.818$  U/mg protein) (Figure 5B). Conversely, the activity reduced ( $p < 0.01$ ) in HFD mice ( $0.52 \pm 0.656$  U/mg protein) compared to controls ( $1.319 \pm 2.155$  U/mg protein) at the end of feeding

while HFD + R ( $10.466 \pm 2.798$  U/mg protein) increased activity to control levels. Furthermore, the activity of  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -ATPase was significantly higher ( $p < 0.01$ ) in HFD mice ( $12.73 \pm 1.6$  U/mg protein) than controls ( $7.75 \pm 1.6$  U/mg protein) at 26 weeks while reduced to control levels in HFD + LA ( $6.20 \pm 1.57$  U/mg protein), HFD + R ( $6.68 \pm 1.60$  U/mg protein) and HFD + Q mice ( $5.77 \pm 1.63$  U/mg protein). At 13 weeks,  $\text{Na}^+/\text{K}^+$ -ATPase activity was lower ( $p < 0.01$ ) in HFD mice ( $5.262 \pm 1.455$  U/mg protein) compared to controls ( $10.472 \pm 1.1$  U/mg protein), HFD + LA ( $8.162 \pm 1.084$  U/mg protein), HFD + R ( $9.632 \pm 1.337$  U/mg protein) and HFD + Q ( $9.75 \pm 1.099$  U/mg protein). However, the activity increased significantly ( $p < 0.01$ ) in HFD mice ( $14.93 \pm 2.48$  U/mg protein) at 26 weeks than in controls ( $8.00 \pm 0.28$  U/mg protein) while reduced with antioxidant supplementation to control levels (Figure 5 C). The enzyme activities of HFD + LA, HFD + R and HFD + Q mice were  $8.50 \pm 0.14$  U/mg protein,  $8.98 \pm 1.1$  U/mg protein,  $7.27 \pm 2.35$  U/mg protein, respectively. The relative changes in the expression of thyroid hormone receptor gene (TR $\alpha$ 1), phosphodiesterase iodothyronine type I (DIO1) and redox sensitive genes are shown in Figure 6. At 26 weeks, the HFD mice had a 1.5-fold increase ( $p < 0.05$ ) in TR $\alpha$ 1 expression compared

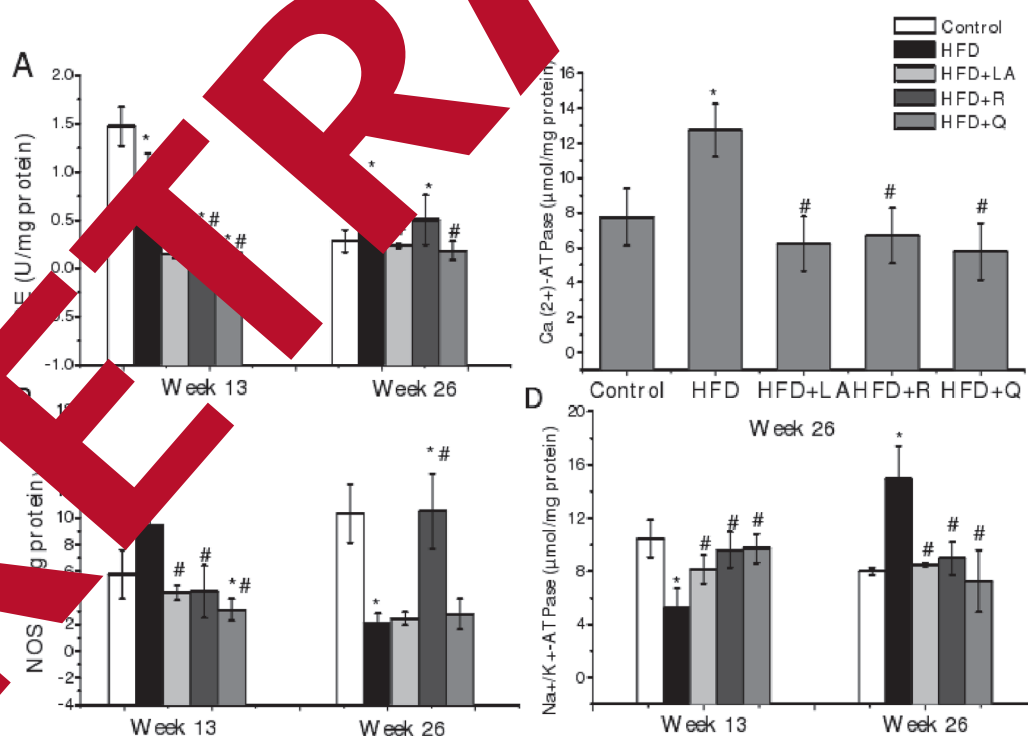
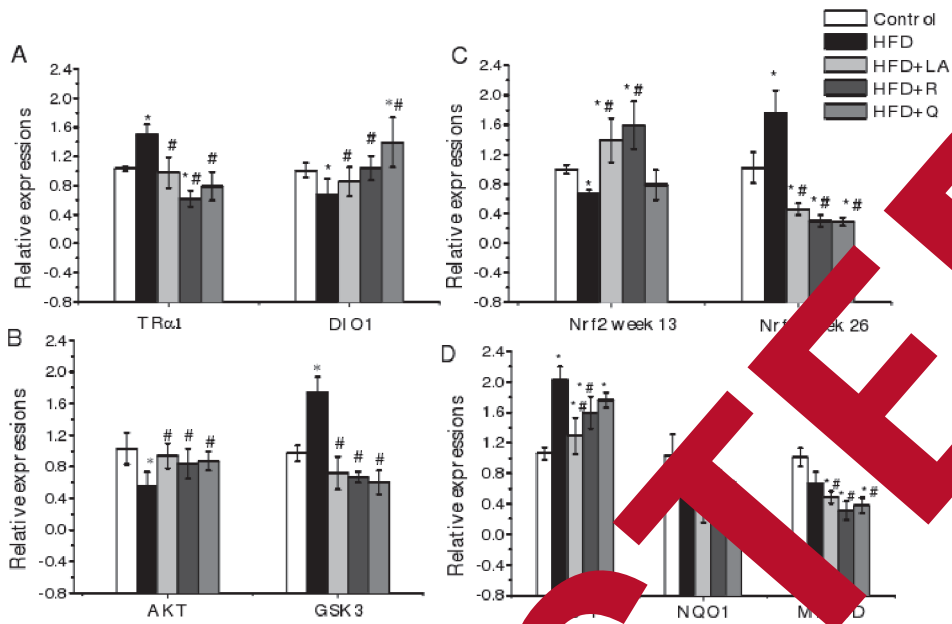


Figure 5. Effect of diet on enzyme activity of ACE, NOS,  $\text{Na}^+/\text{K}^+$ -ATPase and  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -ATPase in the heart.



**Figure 6.** Expression changes of TRα1, DIO1, Akt, GSK3β, MDA, Nrf2 and its target genes in the heart.

to controls and antioxidant groups, whereas DIO1 expression declined (Figure 6 A). Additionally, the mRNA levels of Akt were lower ( $p < 0.05$ ) in the HFD group while GSK3β increased 1.7 fold compared to control mice (Figure 6 B). Antioxidants increased ( $p < 0.05$ ) the expression of Akt and reduced GSK3β expression. In HFD, the expression of Nrf2 and its target genes increased 1.8 and 2- fold respectively compared to controls while expression in antioxidant mice was lower (Figure 6 C, D). The mRNA levels of MDA and NQO1 were lower in HFD compared to controls. Levels of MnSOD in antioxidant mice were lower than HFD while NQO1 expression was not different ( $p > 0.05$ ).

### Discussion

Occupation was observed to influence cardiovascular risks as reported in other workplace studies. For example, administrative work was associated with increased prevalence of hypertension and hyperglycemia in male workers, and hyperlipidemia in females. However, administrative workers showed lower prevalence of hyperglycemia as compared with those in academic workers. Prevalence of obesity, low HDL and MS was not different between the two occupations in both sexes. In addition, there was no association between professional position and cardiovascular

risks in academic workers. The difference in cardiovascular risks in administrative and academic work is ascribed to nature of work in the two occupation groups. Administrative or office work involves sedentary behavior characterized by too much sitting while academic work requires movements to lecture buildings. Too much acute and chronic uninterrupted sitting is associated with cardiovascular risks independently of physical activity due to low energy expenditure, reduced insulin action and reduced skeletal muscle lipoprotein lipase activity. Lipoprotein lipase is a key enzyme for fatty acid and lipoprotein metabolism in muscle. A decrease in its activity results in reduced uptake of TG and glucose. In this regard, sedentary behaviors could potentially be targeted independently from physical activity and dietary intake interventions to reduce MS in the workplace. Current interest is on determinants of cardio metabolic risks in workplace to facilitate health interventions that help reduce rising medical costs. Interventions such as stretch-break programs and use of sit-stand devices reduce sitting time and generate health benefits. The study showed marked heterogeneity in metabolic alterations by gender, occupation and thyroid function. In the study, the dyslipidemia pattern, increased blood pressure, and hyperglycemia observed in male workers compared to females is attributed to the action of thyroid hormones. The active thyroid hormone, T3 has significant effects





- N. Parental determinants of metabolic syndrome among adolescent asian indians: a cross-sectional analysis of parent-offspring trios. *J Diabetes* 2016; 8: 494-501.
- 7) NEILANDS J, TROEDSSON U, SJÖDIN T, DAVIES JR. The effect of delmopinol and fluoride on acid adaptation and acid production in dental plaque biofilms. *Arch Oral Biol* 2014; 59: 318-323.
  - 8) BITTAR DG, PONTES LR, CALVO AF, NOVAES TF, BRAGA MM, FREITAS PM, TABCHOURY CP4, MENDES FM1. Is the red fluorescence of dental plaque related to its cariogenicity?. *J Biomed Opt* 2014; 19: 065004.
  - 9) SANDS KM, TWIGG JA, LEWIS MA, WISE MP, MARCHESI JR, SMITH A, WILSON MJ, WILLIAMS DW. Microbial profiling of dental plaque from mechanically ventilated patients. *J Med Microbiol* 2016; 65: 147-159.
  - 10) LATERZA L, PISCAGLIA AC, LECCE S, GASBARRINI A, STEFANELLI ML. Onset of ulcerative colitis after thyrotoxicosis: a case report and review of the literature. *Eur Rev Med Pharmacol Sci* 2016; 20: 685-688.
  - 11) PENG XG, CHEN ZF, ZHANG, KJ, WANG, PG, LIU ZM, CHEN ZJ, HOU GY, NIU M. VEGF Trapon inhibits tumor growth in papillary thyroid carcinoma. *Eur Rev Med Pharmacol Sci* 2015; 19: 235-240.
  - 12) TAN L, WANG H, LI C, PAN Y. 16s rDNA-based metagenomic analysis of dental plaque and bacteria in patients with severe acute exacerbations of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease. *J Periodontol Res* 2014; 49: 760-769.
  - 13) T. TAKAMURA, R. OGAWA. Physiological reflexions at acupoints for prevention of muscle cramps in lower extremities caused by hemodialysis. *J Jpn Soc Pain Clin* 2009; 17: 439-442.
  - 14) MONTANARI G, CESCHIN F, MASOTTI R, CHINEA B, QUARTARONE G. Observational study on the performance of the narhnel method (nasal irrigator and physiological saline solution) versus physiological saline solution for the prevention of recurrences of viral rhinitis and associated complications of the upper airway. *Minerva Pediatr* 2010; 62: 9-16.
  - 15) ELBOGA U, KURDOGLAN H, SAKIN K, KALEMCI E, DEMIR HD, BASIRI M, ZEKI CELEN H, OZKAYA M. F-18 FDG PET imaging in the diagnostic work-up of thyroid cancer patients with high serum thyroglobulin, negative 131 whole body scan and suppressed thyrotropin 18-year experience. *Eur Rev Med Pharmacol Sci* 2015; 19: 396-401.
  - 16) TURAN T, AKYÜZ AR, SAHIN S, KUL S, YILMAZ AS, KARA F, MENTESE SO, AYKAN AÇ, DEMIR S, CELIK S, KARAHAN SC. Association between the plasma levels of IMA and coronary atherosclerotic plaque burden and systemic burden in early phase of non-ST-segment elevation acute coronary syndromes. *Eur Rev Med Pharmacol Sci* 2017; 21: 576-583.