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Troponin I in asymptomatic haemodialysis patients in end stage renal disease versus controls

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Objectives: Patients with end-stage renal disease (ESD) in haemodialysis (HD) have an increased incidence of coronary artery disease. The specificity of cardiac troponin I (cTnI) in these patients is controversial, and varies according to the studies and / or the assay method used. Our objective is to study the prevalence of high levels of cardiac troponin I in asymptomatic patients with end-stage renal disease.

Methods: This is a prospective study that included 37 asymptomatic haemodialysis patients from the department of nephrology-haemodialysis of the University Hospital of Casablanca. Patients with a history of cardiovascular or ischemic disease, severe anemia or recent infection have been excluded. The samples were made before the haemodialysis session for the first group. The cardiac troponin I assay was performed using an enzyme immunoassay method

Results: The mean age of the patients was 40 years, with a slight male predominance (20H / 17F). The average haemodialysis duration was 16 years. None of the patients or controls had a cardiac troponin I level of > 0.04ng/mL

Conclusions: According to our results, end-stage renal disease and haemodialysis did not interfere with the cardiac troponin I assay. Several other studies have confirmed the specificity of cardiac troponin I in the diagnosis of coronary insufficiency. The main reason for the controversy is the lack of standardization of the reference values for the different assay methods. Also, it should be noted that most studies report an elevation of troponin T in end-stage renal disease, which can be confusing for some clinicians