ASSOCIATION BETWEEN ALKALINE PHOSPHATASE AND TOTAL BONE MINERAL DENSITY IN CKD STAGE 5 PATIENTS

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BACKGROUND & AIMS

The altered bone and mineral metabolism in patients with chronic kidney disease (CKD) directly contributes to vascular calcification (1, 2). Recent prospective studies report on an inverse relationship between bone mineral density (BMD) and vascular calcification in CKD patients (3, 4). Alkaline phosphatase (ALP) and bone specific ALP (BALP) are predictors of increased mortality in patients with CKD. BALP has shown higher sensitivity and specificity than total ALP in reflecting histological alterations in bone. However, associations between ALP, BALP and BMD in previous studies are inconsistent (1).

The aim of this study was to evaluate the relation of total ALP and BALP with measurements of total BMD in CKD patients during 24 months.

PATIENTS & METHODS

This observational prospective study followed 194 patients with CKD stage 5 during their first 24 months in dialysis.

Collection of blood samples and measurements of BMD were performed close to the start of dialysis as well as at 12 and 24 months after date of enrolment, respectively. Presence of cardiovascular disease as reported by the patients' nephrologists were obtained from medical charts.

Serum concentrations of total ALP and BALP were assessed using routine technique and the Ostaste® BALP ELISA-kit (Immunodiagnostic Systems Ltd, Boldon, United Kingdom), respectively. Total body BMD was measured by dual-energy X-ray absorptiometry (DXA), using the iDXA™ device (Lunar Corp., Madison, Wisc., USA).

RESULTS

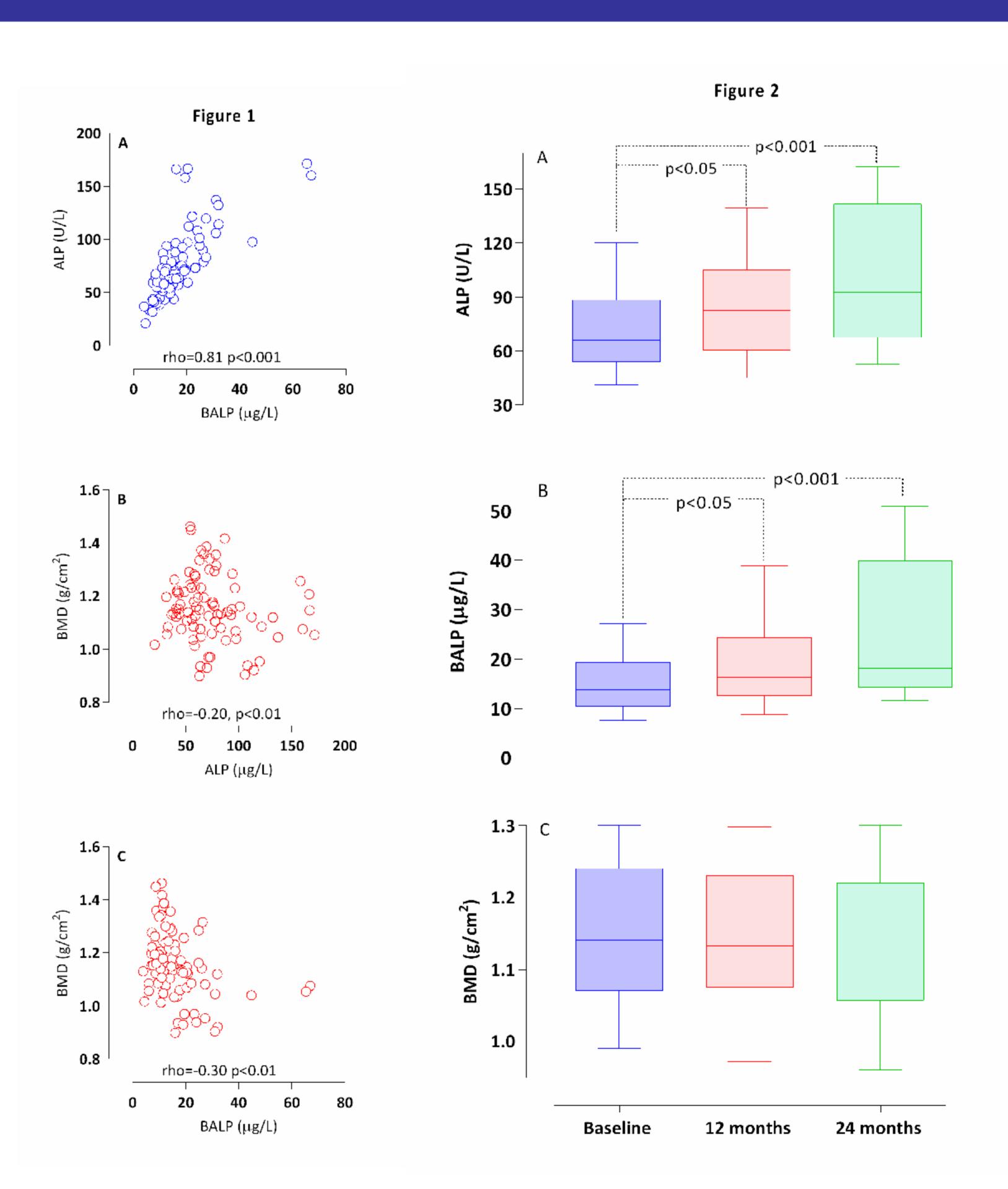
Baseline characteristics (n=194)	
Age, years	57 (34 - 68)
Male, n (%)	126 (66)
Smoking, n (%)	91 (47)
Body mass index, kg/m²	24.2 (19.8 – 30.9)
Diabetes, n (%)	61 (32)
Systolic blood	148 (180 - 120)
pressure, mmHg	
Diastolic blood	87(71 - 102)
pressure mmHg	7 4 (0.7)
Presence of	71 (37)
cardiovascular disease,	
n (%) Hemodialysis, n (%)	71 (39)
Residual GFR, ml/min/1.73m ²	6.4(4.2 – 9.0)
Albumin, g/l	34 (27 - 40)
Hemoglobin, g/l	107(90 - 123)
PTH, ng/l	240 (71 - 555)
Calcium, mmol/l	2.39 (2.02 – 2.69)
Phosphate, mmol/l	2.0 (1.4 – 2.7)
ALP, U/I	65.2 (43.2 – 120.1)
BALP, μg/l	13.5 (7.1 – 27.3)
Total BMD, g/cm²	1.14 (0.97 – 1.31)

Total ALP correlated inversely with total BMD at baseline (Fig 1B) and at 12 and 24 months after the start of dialysis. A similar correlation was found between BALP and total BMD at baseline (Fig 1C) and at 12 and 24 months. These correlations were significant even after adjusting for age and gender. During the study period, the serum concentrations of ALP and BALP increased significantly (p<0.001), whereas BMD values remained stable (Fig 2). No significant association was found between baseline values of neither ALP nor BALP and cardiovascular morbidity.

Data is expressed as number, percentages or median with 10th and 90th percentiles. Spearman's rank test was used to assess bivariate associations. A multiple linear backward regression analysis was performed to assess independent associations.



These results suggest that BALP could be a more appropriate marker than ALP in the prediction of total BMD in CKD patients. Further studies to elucidate the clinical value of longitudinal assessments of ALP and BALP in CKD patients are warranted.



References

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