



International Journal of Home Science

ISSN: 2395-7476

IJHS 2021; 7(3): 186-191

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www.homesciencejournal.com

Received: 26-07-2021

Accepted: 29-08-2021

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Changes in central obesity/abdominal obesity in women with metabolic syndrome risk factors by changing their regular diet pattern

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Abstract

In the context of globalization, westernized dietary pattern i.e. using more processed foods, ready to eat convenient foods (changed) has increased. At the same time Metabolic syndrome has become a major health issue. This study investigated the association between consumption of these processed foods/convenient foods on metabolic syndrome risk factors in women population. In this study, health survey was conducted among 300 women aged 20-70 yrs, who were visiting for periodic check up in a diagnostic centre. Dietary pattern, family history of disease, socio economic status were derived by validated self-administered questionnaire. From this, 160 interested participants were selected for 6 weeks nutrition intervention program after signing concern form. IDF definition of MS was used for screening of the subjects. Anthropometric measurements such as weight, height, BMI, waist circumference, Tummy measurements and visceral fat analyzed at base line and after 6 weeks of nutritional intervention and results were analyzed using appropriate statistical measures. Participants' dietary pattern was analyzed for processed foods/Ready to eat and convenient foods. We observed a significant weighty loss (74.668 ± 10.086) after 6 week intervention compared with base line values (76.786 ± 10.194) ($t=12.602, P < 0.05$) in experimental groups than control gps (68.867 ± 7.928 @ baseline; 68.582 ± 7.897 @ 6wk intervention). A significant reduction in BMI, V. Fat, WC, Tummy measurement & Hip measurement were also observed. Central obesity in MS is directly associated with increased intake of processed food/Ready to eat and convenient foods. Further studies with larger sample sizes and of longer duration are needed to examine the role of these foods in the prevention and management metabolic syndrome.

Keywords: Metabolic syndrome, central obesity, BMI, waist circumference, processed food

Introduction

The metabolic syndrome (MS) is a complex disorder. According the recent research studies [1-8]. It is identified with major component of central obesity, hypertriglyceridemia and low high density lipoprotein cholesterol concentration, elevated blood pressure and elevated plasma glucose levels. They are associated with insulin resistance, pro-inflammatory state & decreased level of cardio-respectively fitness. Sedentary life style and obesity are (strongly) major contributing factors for developing metabolic syndrome. This represents a growing public health problem [9]. General Raven described this as syndrome X [10]. And proposed that because of insulin resistance, glucose imbalance and several metabolic abnormalities happening. This concept was named as Metabolic Syndrome by World Health Organization (WHO). In 1998, WHO defined Metabolic syndrome has person having diabetes, impaired glucose tolerance, impaired fasting glucose or Insulin resistance, plus 2 or more of the following abnormalities.

Blood pressure $\geq 160/90$ mm of Hg, Triglycerides ≥ 150 mg/dl HDL cholesterol ≤ 35 mg/dl (Male) ≤ 39 mg/dl in female. Waist and Hip ratio ≥ 0.90 male, ≥ 0.85 female & BMI ≥ 30 kg/m², urinary albumin excretion rate ≥ 20 μ g/min or Alumina/Creatinine ratio ≥ 20 . There is no clinically applicable test for insulin resistance. Hyper insulinemic clamp test for insulin resistance is complex and expensive. Considering this, National Cholesterol Education program expert panel (III) (in 2001) and International Diabetic Federation (2005) proposed new definition for metabolic syndrome based on anthropometric measurements. International Diabetic Federation suggested a sample screening tool for metabolic syndrome, that is a

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person must have central obesity (Waist Circumference) ≥ 94 cm for Europid men & ≥ 80 cm for Europid women (with ethnicity specific values for other groups). Plus any two of the following four factors:

Triglycerides ≥ 150 mg/dl or under treatment for lipid abnormality. HDL cholesterol < 40 mg/dl in males and < 50 mg/dl in females. Under treatment for lipid abnormality. Blood pressure systolic ≥ 130 mmof Hg or Diastolic ≥ 85 mmof Hg or treatment for hypertension, Fasting plasma glucose ≥ 100 mg/dl or diagnosed with Type 2 diabetes. For Indians IDF proposed central obesity to be measured as waist circumference ≥ 90 cm for men, ≥ 80 cm for women. According to several research reports [14-17] for any given BMI Indians tend to have increased waist circumference and also have excess body fat and abdominal/central obesity. WHO has revised the BMI cut off for Asian Indians to be 25 kg/m² for obese instead of 30kg/m² for recommended [18].

Metabolic syndrome is a multi-factorial disorder associated with genetic factor and dietary factors. Research evidence it is clear that dietary pattern characterized by high intakes of processed food, meat, refined grains and fried foods were associated with increased incidence of Metabolic Syndrome risk factors.

Research methodology

A total of 300 women aged between 20-70 years were randomly interviewed through a questionnaire (Prepared for dietary pattern analysis after pilot study) depending on IDF definition for Mets i.e., abdominal obesity or central obesity as a tool for this study who were attending to diagnostic centre for health checkup. Out of this 160 women who were willing to participate in 6 week nutrition intervention program were enrolled after giving their written concern to participate in the study. These women were divided in to 4 groups according to their medical history. One of the experimental group consists of subjects who were already diagnosed has diabetic or hypertensive or Hypothyroid or on medication for health issues. The other experimental group consists of subjects, who were not using any kind of medication or not diagnosed with any health issues. And respective control groups (E-No Medication Group, E-2 Medication Group).

Study design

All the participants were recruited to attend the program for 6 weeks. Anthropometric data and dietary pattern were assessed at base line and after 6 weeks.

Dietary counseling was given to all the Experimental participants at base line to discuss about the dietary intervention for both the experimental groups. The dietary intervention consisted of discussion about Metabolic Syndrome, Health hazards of processed/ready to eat foods and health benefits of whole food groups. Participants were visiting twice a week for diet counseling and their diet recalls/Diet diaries were analyzed. Participants were encouraged to increase the whole food groups instead of processed or convenient foods in take.

Anthropometric measures

Weight was measured in light clothes and not wearing shoes to the nearest of 100g. Height was measured by using tape while standing not wearing shoes and had the shoulders in normal position. Body mass Index (BMI) was calculated as weight (in kg) divided by height (in Mt²). Waist circumference (WC) was measured at the iliac crest. Hip circumference was measured at the maximum level, by using an un stretchable tape. Tummy measurements were measured at novel point. Visceral fat was assessed by a bio electrical impedance device (OMRON).

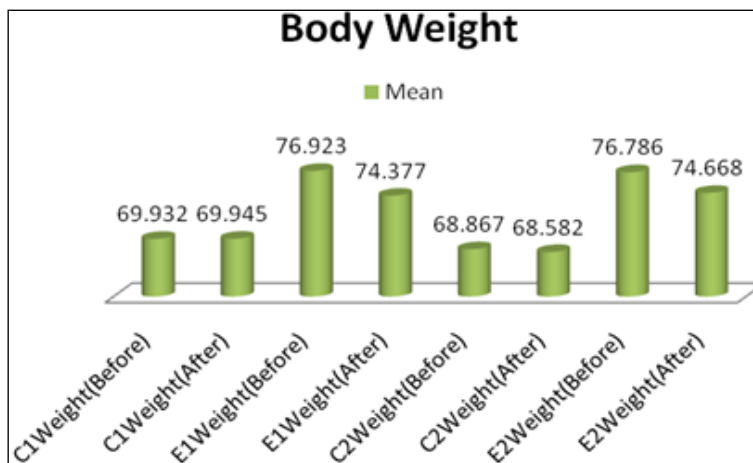
Statistical analysis: Descriptive statistics were performed for the study ad continuous variables are presented as means \pm standard deviation. Variables were compared by T-Test (Paired). The results were discussed based on a significance level of 5%.

Results & Discussion

Participants in the both the experimental groups had significant reduction in body weight, BMI, visceral fat, waist circumference (WC), Tummy measurements & Hip measurements at 5% level. Over the 6 week of intervention period.

Table 1: Mean Comparison of Body Weight of the Sample according to Paired T-Test Before and after 6weeks of Nutritional Intervention

S. No.	Weight(Wt)	Group	Mean	Std.	Std. err	Mean difference	T-Values	Sig (2 tailed)
1.	Weight (Before)	Control Gp1	69.932	13.273	2.384	0.0129 \pm 0.1231	-0.583	0.564
2.	Weight (After)	N= 31	69.945	13.253	2.38			
3.	Weight (Before)	Experimental Gp1	76.923	10.371	1.753	2.5457 \pm 0.736	20.469	0.000
4.	Weight (After)	N=35	74.377	10.209	1.726			
5.	Weight (Before)	Control Gp2	68.867	7.928	1.38	0.285 \pm 0.381	4.296	0.000
6.	Weight (After)	N=33	68.582	7.897	1.375			
7.	Weight (Before)	Experimental Gp2	76.786	10.194	1.676	2.1189 \pm 1.023	12.602	0.000
8.	Weight (After)	N=37	74.668	10.086	1.658			

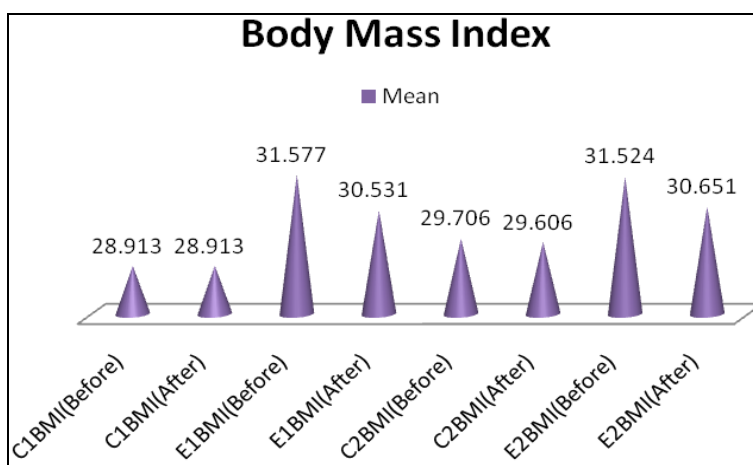


Graph 1: Mean Comparison of Body Weight of Sample according to Paired T-Test Before and after 6weeks of Nutritional Intervention

From the table: 1 and graph:1, Experimental group 1 significantly reduced more weight than experimental group 2, at 5% level while no significant change was seen in control groups. (E 1-2.5457±0.784, E2-2.1189±1.023).

Table 2 Mean Comparison of Body Mass Index of the Sample according to Paired T-Test Before and after 6weeks of Nutritional Intervention

S. No.	Body Mass Index(BMI)	Group	Mean	Std.	Std. err	Mean Difference	T-Values	Sig (2 tailed)
1.	BMI (Before)	Control Gp1	28.913	4.545	0.816	NA	NA	NA
2.	BMI (After)	N= 31	28.913	4.545	0.816			
3.	BMI (Before)	Experimental Gp1	31.577	2.9185	0.4933	1.0457±0.3311	18.686	0.000
4.	BMI (After)	N=35	30.531	2.9112	0.4921			
5.	BMI (Before)	Control Gp2	29.706	3.082	0.536	0.1±0.1837	3.127	0.004
6.	BMI (After)	N=33	29.606	3.0364	0.529			
7.	BMI (Before)	Experimental Gp2	31.524	3.2262	0.5304	0.873±0.4426	11.997	0.000
8.	BMI (After)	N=37	30.651	3.2085	0.5275			

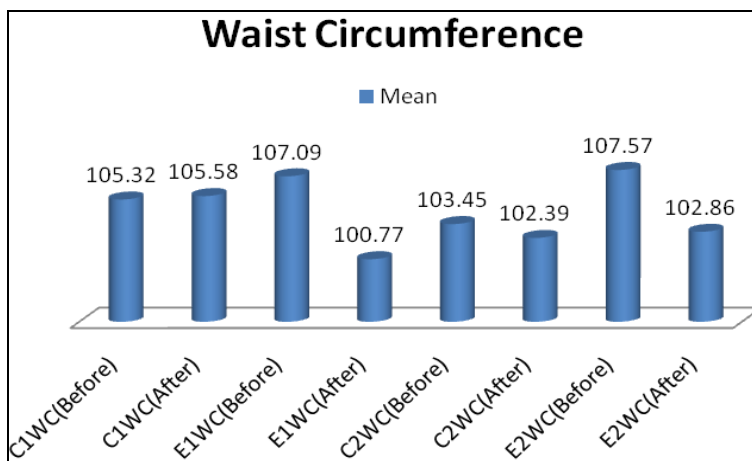


Graph 2: Mean Comparison of Body Mass Index of Sample according to Paired T-Test Before and after 6weeks of Nutritional Intervention

The reduction in BMI (Table: 2) change in the experimental groups was observed from baseline to post-intervention. The experimental group1 showed more reduction in BMI (1.0457±0.331) than the experimental group 2 (0.873±0.441) while no significant change was seen in control groups.

Table 3: Mean Comparison of Waist Circumference of the Sample according to Paired T-Test After 6weeks of Nutritional Intervention

S. No.	Waist Circumference(WC)	Group	Mean	Std.	Std. Err	Mean difference	T-Values	Sig(2 tailed)
1.	WC (Before)	Control Gp1	105.32	8.871	1.593	0.258±0.815	-1.763	0.088
2.	WC (After)	N= 31	105.58	8.902	1.599			
3.	WC (Before)	Experimental Gp1	107.09	6.926	1.171	6.314±1.795	20.812	0.000
4.	WC (After)	N=35	100.77	6.933	1.172			
5.	WC (Before)	Control Gp2	103.45	6.746	1.174	1.061±1.619	3.763	0.001
6.	WC (After)	N=33	102.39	6.046	1.053			
7.	WC (Before)	Experimental Gp2	107.57	6.449	1.06	4.703±2.197	13.022	0.000
8.	WC (After)	N=37	102.86	6.378	1.048			



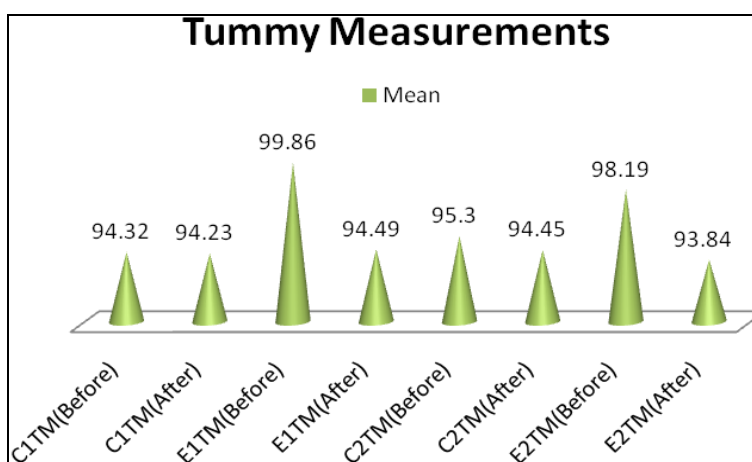
Graph 3: Mean Comparison of Waist Circumference (Wc) of Sample according to Paired T-Test After 6weeks of Nutritional Intervention

The reduction in waist circumference (Table 3 and graph: 3) was observed in the groups from baseline to post intervention period. The experimental group 1 showed more significant

reduction in waist circumference (6.314 ± 1.795) than the experimental group 2 (4.703 ± 2.197). While the change in control groups was not significant at 5% level.

Table 4: Mean Comparison of Tummy Measurements of the Sample according to Paired T-Test Before and after 6weeks of Nutritional Intervention

S. No.	Tummy Measurement	Group	Mean	Std.	Std. err	Mean difference	T-Values	Sig (2 tailed)
1.	TM (Before)	Control Gp1	94.32	8.324	1.495	0.097±0.651	0.828	0.414
2.	TM (After)	N= 31	94.23	8.139	1.462			
3.	TM (Before)	Experimental Gp1	99.86	6.643	1.123	5.371±1.911	16.628	0.000
4.	TM (After)	N=35	94.49	6.577	1.112			
5.	TM (Before)	Control Gp2	95.3	6.237	1.086	0.848±1.395	3.495	0.001
6.	TM (After)	N=33	94.45	5.663	0.986			
7.	TM (Before)	Experimental Gp2	98.19	6.48	1.065	4.351±2.898	9.132	0.000
8.	TM (After)	N=37	93.84	7.143	1.174			



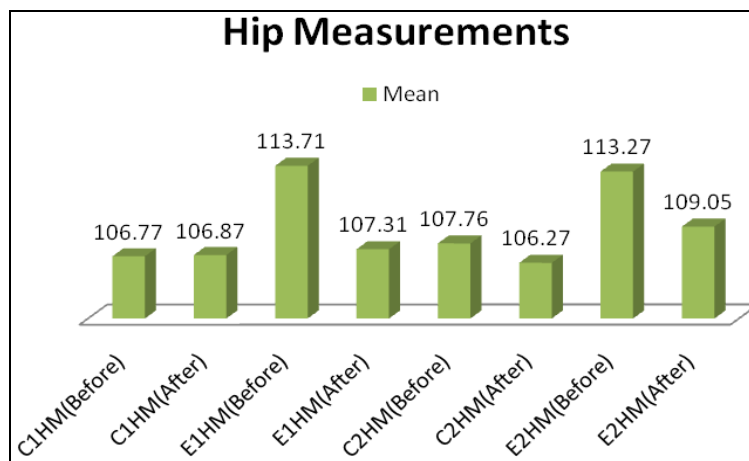
Graph 4: Mean Comparison of Tummy Measurements of Sample according to Paired T-Test Before and after 6 weeks of Nutritional Intervention

The reduction in Tummy measurements (Table 4 and graph: 4) was observed in all the groups from baseline to post intervention period. The experimental group 1 showed more

significant reduction in tummy measurements (5.371 ± 1.91) than the experimental group 2 (4.351 ± 2.898). There was no significant change in both control groups.

Table 5: Mean Comparison of Hip Measurements of the Sample according to Paired T-Test Before and after 6 weeks of Nutritional Intervention

S. No.	Hip Measurement	Group	Mean	Std.	Std. Err	Mean difference	T-Values	Sig(2 tailed)
1	HM(Before)	Control Gp1	106.77	8.667	1.557	0.097±0.908	-0.594	0.557
2	HM(After)	N= 31	106.87	8.535	1.533			
3	HM(Before)	Experimental Gp1	113.71	7.148	1.208	6.400±2.061	18.373	0.000
4	HM(After)	N=35	107.31	6.574	1.111			
5	HM(Before)	Control Gp2	107.76	6.759	1.177	1.485±1.787	4.772	0.000
6	HM(After)	N=33	106.27	6.54	1.138			
7	HM(Before)	Experimental Gp2	113.27	7.026	1.155	4.216±2.175	11.792	0.000
8	HM(After)	N=37	109.05	7.416	1.219			



Graph 5: Mean Comparison of Hip Measurements of Sample according to Paired T-Test Before and after 6weeks of Nutritional Intervention

The reduction in HIP measurements (Table: 5) was observed in both the experimental groups from baseline to post intervention program. The experimental group 1 showed more significant change in HIP measurements (6.400 ± 2.061) than the experimental group 2 (4.216 ± 2.175). There was no significant change in control groups.

Overall, the experimental group 1 showed significant reduction in body weight, BMI, Visceral fat, waist circumference, Tummy measurements and hip measurements than the experimental group 2. From baseline to post-intervention.

This study demonstrated improvements in body composition and metabolic indicators following a 6 week nutrition intervention program. This study aimed to provide all the participants information and guide lines to understand the link between diet pattern metabolic syndrome risk factors.

Eliminating all the processed/Convenient foods refined foods and eating whole grain food for 6 weeks, resulted in decreasing body weight, BMI, VF, WC & HIP measurements. High values of waist line and body mass index are main parameters and the most important indicators for screening & diagnosing the Mets [24]. A number of studies in recent years have found that dietary pattern is associated with insulin resistance, which is an important risk factor Mets [25]. More ever most of the whole grain foods dietary pattern have a low glycemic load, which will reduce the risk of insulin resistance [26]. The western dietary pattern (Process foods, fast foods, refined flours, snacks and drinks) have a high glycaemic index, which has been associated with an increased risk of Mets [27-30]. Based on this research studies, we found similar results in the present study that the healthy dietary pattern (whole grain) is associated with reduced risk factors than western diet pattern or processed/convenient food pattern [31-34].

Conclusion

The current findings indicate that Changes in dietary pattern associated with reduction in central obesity and overall weight in women with Metabolic Syndrome risk factors. Nevertheless, additional prospective studies are needed to confirm the associations between dietary pattern and Metabolic Syndrome.

Limitations

There are clear limitations in this study. The main limitation is small sample and small period of time and the other most important limitation is Diet Diaries, over weight individuals are more likely under report their energy intake. Because of

this current estimates of dietary components could be under estimated and they play a major role in metabolic risk factors. Further research is needed, has this study was done as a part of Ph.D. study with limited funds and period.

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