Vitamin D, Vitamin D Binding Protein, And Airflow In COPD

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RATIONALE: Several lines of evidence suggest a relationship between vitamin D, vitamin D binding protein (VDBP), and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD).

METHODS: We selected 498 subjects of the Evaluation of COPD Longitudinally to Identify Predictive Surrogate Endpoints study (ECLIPSE) for a pilot study. These included 75 smoker and 75 non-smoker controls and three groups of 116 subjects each with GOLD stage 2, 3, and 4 COPD. The latter three groups included the 58 subjects with the highest and lowest CT emphysema score (% of lung voxels <-950 Hounsfield units) in each GOLD stage. Serum samples from visit 7, which corresponded to 2½ years after study entry, were assessed. For this preliminary report, 25(OH)D and VDBP levels were assessed on 153 and 354 subjects, respectively. 25(OH)D was measured with liquid chromatography-mass spectroscopy and VDBP measured with competitive ELISA. FEV1 was measured concurrently with the serum sampling. CT-scan emphysema was assessed at year 3 for smoker controls and COPD subjects, and at study entry in non-smoker controls. **RESULTS:** A range of serum levels for both 25(OH)D and VDBP were observed (Figure 1). With this limited sample set, single variant analysis demonstrated a significant inverse association between VDBP and 25(OH)D (p=.01) and a direct correlation between 25(OH)D and FEV1 % predicted (p=.02) (Table 1). The associations between VDBP and FEV1 and of both 25(OH)D and VDBP with emphysema did not achieve significance with the samples evaluated.

CONCLUSIONS: 25(OH)D levels correlate with lung function in COPD. VDBP levels in serum are inversely related to 25(OH)D levels. This supports the concept that free vitamin D levels will be more strongly related to lung function than total vitamin D.

Figure 1. Histogram for 25(OH)D(ng/mL), Vitamin D Binding Protein (mg/dL)

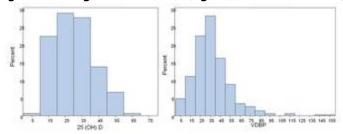


Figure 2. Plot of 25(OH)D vs. VDBP

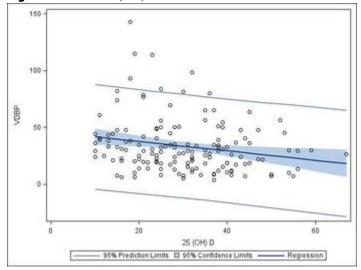


Table 1. Spearman Correlations among Variables of Interest

	Fractional Tissue Volume	FEV1	FEV1	35(011)D
	(-950 Hounsfield Units)	(L)	% Predicted	25(OH)D
FEV1	-0.657			
Forced expiratory volume	p<.01			
(1 second) (L)	(n = 495)			
FEV1 % Predicted	-0.676	0.936		
	p<.01	p<.01		
	(n = 495)	(n = 494)		
Vitamin D (ng/mL)	-0.118	0.122	0.190	
	p=0.15	p=0.14	p=0.02	
	(n = 153)	(n=152)	(n=153)	
Vitamin D Protein	-0.045	0.009	0.033	-0.223
(mg/dL)	p=0.40	p=0.86	p=0.54	p=0.01
	(n=354)	(n=352)	(n=352)	(n=151)

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