

## XXXVI COMU 2017 – Congresso Médico Universitário da FMUSP

### Researches Classified – Award Panels Clinical

#### **KLOTHO 1818T polymorphism associated with myocardial infarction, abdominal aortic calcification and lower creatinine clearance in community-dwelling older subjects: the Sao Paulo Ageing & Health Study (SPAH)**

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**Introduction.** The KLOTHO gene was discovered in 1997 when its defective expression in mice led to a syndrome that resembles human ageing (short lifespan, arteriosclerosis, and osteoporosis). Since then, at least 10 mutations and single-nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs) were described in humans. Nonetheless, the effects of each SNP in human ageing is still obscure.

**Objectives.** This study aims to evaluate three KLOTHO gene polymorphisms in an elderly population and their potential association with the prevalence of senility-related outcomes.

**Methodology.** This study was based on data from the Sao Paulo Ageing & Health Study (SPAH), conducted on 65 year-old and over community individuals. Local ethics committee approved the study and participants provided written informed consent.

Of the original 1020 participants, 601 (381 men/220 women) had DNA samples collected. Genomic DNA was isolated from peripheral blood leukocytes using salting-out methodology. The TaqMan allelic discrimination method was employed for genotyping, using specific probes. The analyzed SNPs were 1818 C>T (rs564481), 395 G>A (rs1207568), and 1117 G>C (rs9527025), all chosen due to previous data in literature.

The patients were followed for  $4.06 \pm 1.07$  years, and had data collected about mortality, history of cardiovascular events (*angina pectoris*, myocardial infarction [MI], and stroke), fractures and other outcomes as follows: osteoporosis was diagnosed by densitometry. Aortic calcification was quantified using Kauppila's method. Clearance was calculated using CKD-EPI formula.

Allele frequencies were estimated using the gene counting method, and departures from the Hardy–Weinberg equilibrium were tested using a  $\chi^2$  test. Data with normal distributions are expressed as median and were compared using the Mann-Whitney's or Kruskal-Wallis tests, depending on the number of groups. Categorical variables are expressed as relative frequencies and were analyzed using the Pearson's chi-squared test. P values  $\leq 0.05$  were considered significant.

**Results.** Of the 601 subjects, 27 (4.49%) presented MI. Analyzing the 1818 C>T SNP, 1818 TT genotype was associated with a higher frequency of developing MI (TT: 8.3%/ CT: 6.7%/ CC: 1.7%; P=0.006). 395 G>A and 1117 G>C had no statistically significant association with MI.

Subjects with the 1818 TT and 1117 GG genotypes independently featured lower creatinine clearances [mL/min/1.73m<sup>2</sup>] (TT: 55.5/ CT: 58.2/ CC: 58; P=0.047 and GG: 50/ GC: 60.1/ CC: 57.3; P=0.046, respectively). Furthermore, the presence of 1818 C allele determined higher clearances (TT: 55.5/ CC+CT: 58.1; P=0.033). 395 G>A had no statistically significant association to creatinine clearance.

Regarding abdominal aortic calcification scores, the 1818 TT genotype and the absence of the 1818 C allele determined a tendency to higher scores (TT: 4.0/ CT: 2.0/ CC: 2.0; P=0.068 and TT:4.0/ CC+CT:2.0; P=0.065, respectively). 395 G>A and 1117 G>C had no statistically significant association with abdominal aortic calcification.

No statistically significant association between the three SNPs and osteoporosis, sarcopenia or mortality were found.

**Discussion and Conclusion.** Our study provides an original finding that the KLOTHO 1818 TT genotype was associated with MI, lower creatinine clearance and a tendency to higher aortic calcification in Brazilian community-dwelling older adults, supporting the involvement of KLOTHO polymorphism in cardiovascular outcomes and the concept that the related pathogenesis is multifactorial.

**Keywords:** Polymorphisms; Myocardial infarction; Aortic calcification.