

Risk factor control in hypertensive and diabetic subjects attended by the Family Health Strategy in the State of Pernambuco, Brazil: the SERVIDIAH Study

Controle dos fatores de risco em hipertensos e diabéticos acompanhados pela Estratégia Saúde da Família no Estado de Pernambuco, Brasil: Estudo SERVIDIAH

Control de los factores de riesgo en hipertensos y diabéticos seguidos por la Estrategia Salud de la Familia en el estado de Pernambuco, Brasil: estudio SERVIDIAH

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Abstract

The SERVIDIAH study (Evaluation of Health Services for Diabetic and Hypertensive Subjects) was conducted in 2010 in the State of Pernambuco, Brazil. A multi-stage random sample of 785 hypertensive and 823 diabetic patients was drawn from 208 Family Health Strategy (FHS) units selected throughout 35 municipalities. Patients underwent a structured interview and weight, height, blood pressure and HbA1c levels (for diabetic patients) were measured. Mean age was approximately 60 years, and women were overrepresented in the sample (70%). 43.7% of hypertensive subjects and 25.8% of diabetic subjects achieved adequate blood pressure control and 30.5% of diabetic subjects had HbA1c levels below 7%. Despite 70% of the patients being overweight or obese, few had adhered to a weight-loss diet. The study of this representative sample of hypertensive and diabetic patients attended by the FHS in the State of Pernambuco shows that improvements in the management of hypertension and diabetes are needed in order to prevent the occurrence of serious and costly complications, especially given the context of increasing incidence of these two conditions.

Hypertension; Diabetes Mellitus; Family Health Program; Risk Factors

Resumo

O estudo SERVIDIAH (Avaliação de Serviços de Atenção Básica à Saúde para Diabéticos e Hipertensos) foi realizado em 2010 no Estado de Pernambuco, Brasil. Foi constituída uma amostra aleatória de 785 hipertensos e 823 diabéticos oriunda dos cadastros de 208 equipes da Estratégia Saúde da Família (ESF) sorteadas em 35 municípios do estado. Os usuários foram entrevistados por meio de formulário padronizado, e tiveram aferição de peso, altura e pressão arterial e, para os diabéticos, da hemoglobina glicada (HbA1c). A idade média foi em torno de 60 anos, com sobrerrepresentação de mulheres (70%). A pressão arterial foi controlada em 43,7% dos hipertensos e 25,8% dos diabéticos; 30,5% dos diabéticos apresentaram HbA1c abaixo de 7%. Apesar de 70% apresentarem sobrepeso ou obesidade, poucos referiram estar seguindo dieta para perder peso. O estudo, nesta amostra representativa de hipertensos e diabéticos cadastrados na ESF de Pernambuco, mostra que melhorias devem ser buscadas a fim de aprimorar a prevenção das complicações desses agravos, cuja incidência está crescente.

Hipertensão; Diabetes Mellitus; Programa Saúde da Família; Fatores de Risco

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Introduction

The rapid increase in prevalence of common nutrition-related chronic diseases, such as arterial hypertension and type 2 diabetes, is a worldwide phenomenon and poses one of the major challenges to public health in the 21st century¹. The diagnosis of these diseases is often delayed due to lack of symptoms and the resulting complications are costly for the patient, in terms of health and quality of life, and for society². The prevention of these complications requires early diagnosis and interventions that favorably influence prognosis, as well as regular monitoring to control blood pressure, blood glucose levels and other cardiovascular risk factors^{3,4}. The systematic, long-term surveillance of patients with chronic illnesses to avoid later life-threatening or incapacitating conditions is not symptom-driven and represents a shift in approach for most health care systems that were originally organized to react to acute illnesses by diagnosing the problem, initiating treatment and dismissing the patient until another acute episode requires renewed medical attention^{5,6}.

In 2001, the Brazilian Ministry of Health launched a plan to improve primary care for hypertensive and diabetic individuals which focuses on three key areas: continuous professional education, promotion of healthy lifestyle habits and registration of hypertensive and diabetic patients in primary care units⁷. Primary care in Brazil, particularly in the North-east Region, is increasingly provided through the Family Health Strategy (FHS). A FHS team comprises of at least one physician, one nurse, one nurse technician and a lay Community Health Worker (CHW), and is responsible for the primary care of the population of a specific geographical area. This strategy has been shown to have a positive impact on various health and social indicators^{8,9}. However, to date, few studies have assessed the implementation and real results of the plan to improve primary care for hypertensive and diabetic individuals within the FHS. This was the main aim of the SERVIDIAH study (*Evaluation of Health Services for Diabetic and Hypertensive Subjects*), conducted between 2009 and 2010 which analyzed a representative sample of hypertensive and diabetic individuals registered in the FHS in the State of Pernambuco, Brazil.

One of the objectives of the plan to improve primary care for hypertensive and diabetic subjects is to achieve control of hypertension and diabetes and other cardiovascular risk factors to prevent potential future complications. The objective of the present analysis of the SERVIDIAH database was to describe and compare the de-

gree of control of these disorders among subjects attended by the FHS in the State of Pernambuco by municipality size.

Methodology

The SERVIDIAH study is an epidemiological survey of a representative sample of patients with hypertension or type 2 diabetes registered with FHS units in the State of Pernambuco conducted between November 2009 and December 2010. The study covered 35 municipalities (Figure 1), of which 16 were small (less than 20,000 inhabitants), 16 were medium-sized (between 20,000 and 100,000 inhabitants), and three were large (over 100,000 inhabitants). The small and medium-sized municipalities were randomly selected from the 2000 Brazilian census using the random command of Epi Info software (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Atlanta, USA), while the three large municipalities (Recife, Caruaru and Petrolina) were chosen because they are the capital cities of the three macroregions of the State of Pernambuco (Zona da Mata, Agreste, Sertão). One out of ten FHS units were randomly selected from the FSH units listed in August 2008 on the National Register of Health Establishments (CNES), the most recently consolidated database available at the time of study design.

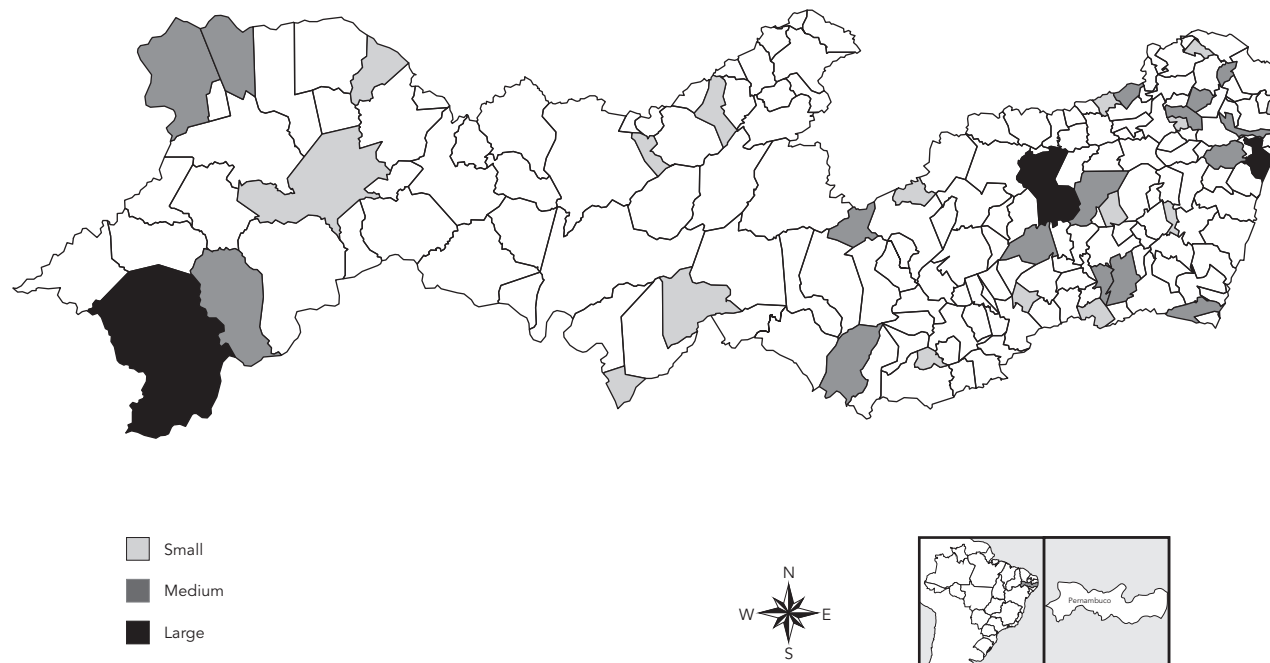
Selection of subjects

One CHW from each selected FHS unit (a total of 37 in small municipalities, 98 in medium-sized municipalities and 73 in large municipalities) was selected to participate in the study. Subjects were randomly selected from the patient list compiled by each CHW since this record is considered the most accurate and up to date patient registry. The following numbers of hypertensive and diabetic subjects over 20 years of age were selected from these lists: small municipalities (six hypertensive and six diabetic subjects); medium-sized municipalities (three hypertensive and three diabetic subjects); large municipalities (four hypertensive and four diabetic subjects). The aim was to ensure an even balance of around 300 subjects in each municipality size category, allowing a 10% difference in control between municipality size, with a statistical power of 80% and a 5% significance level.

Subjects registered by the CHW as having arterial hypertension but not diabetes were considered hypertensive and those registered as having type 2 diabetes were considered diabetic, regardless of the presence or absence of associated arterial hypertension. Sample members were select-

Figure 1

Map of the State of Pernambuco, Brazil, with randomized municipalities by population size.



ed randomly from the list until the desired final number of hypertensive and diabetic subjects for each FHS unit was obtained. All efforts were made to include all designated subjects. Those subjects that were unable to participate in an interview at the FHS unit itself, or some local public facility nearby or on a weekday, were interviewed at home or at the workplace or on weekends. In order to maintain representativeness, subjects were not substituted when it was not possible to interview the individual. The general response rate was 86.7%.

The study was approved by the Ethics Committee of the Aggeu Magalhães Research Centre, Oswaldo Cruz Foundation (CPqAM/Fiocruz) and the Brazilian National Commission of Ethics in Research (CONEP). All participating subjects were duly informed of the objectives and procedures of the study, and all signed an informed consent form.

Data collection

Data was collected using a structured questionnaire and face-to-face interviews conducted by

trained investigators. Information was gathered about demographic and socio-economic characteristics, physical activity (no/yes), tobacco consumption, adherence to salt-free, sugar-free, and/or weight-loss diets, hypertension or diabetes care received at the FHS unit, type of treatment and clinical control of hypertension or diabetes and of other cardiovascular risk factors, as well as satisfaction with the care received and potential expenses related to health care.

Systolic and diastolic blood pressures were measured to the nearest mmHg at the left wrist three times during the interview, with the subject seated for at least 10 minutes prior to measurement. The mean of the three values was used for the analysis. Blood pressure was considered well controlled if mean systolic and mean diastolic blood pressure were below 140mmHg and 90mmHg, respectively, in hypertensive subjects, and below 130mmHg and 80mmHg, respectively, in diabetic subjects³.

Glycemic control was assessed by measuring HbA1c levels from a capillary blood sample using the in2it point-of-care analyzer (Bio-Rad Laboratories Inc., Berkeley, USA). In accordance with

the recommendations of the American Diabetes Association ⁴, diabetes was considered as well controlled if HbA1c was below 7%.

Study subjects were weighed wearing light clothing using a Tanita BC553 electronic scale (Tanita Corp., Tokyo, Japan), which is accurate to the nearest 0.1 kg, while height was measured using a portable stadiometer (Alturaexata, Belo Horizonte, Brazil), which is accurate to the nearest mm. Body mass index (BMI) was calculated based on weight divided by squared height (kg/m²). Subjects with a BMI between 25 and 29.9 were considered overweight and subjects with a BMI equal to greater than 30 were classified as obese (World Health Organization criteria) ¹⁰.

Statistical analysis

Hypertensive and diabetic subjects were grouped into independent samples and analyzed separately. Continuous variables are expressed as mean \pm standard deviation (SD), while categorical variables are presented as percentages. Comparisons by municipality size and by category of blood pressure or glycemic control were performed using standard parametric tests (ANOVA for continuous variables and chi-square for categorical variables).

Since the sampling procedure gave equal weighting to municipalities regardless of size, crude means and percentages of the total sample were corrected to make them representative of the whole state. The distribution of hypertensive and diabetic subjects from the SERVIDIAH sample in small, medium-sized and large municipalities was 25.3%, 36.3% and 38.4%, respectively. The distribution of FHS registered hypertensive and diabetic subjects in small, medium-sized and large municipalities in the state of Pernambuco, reported on the website of the Brazilian Ministry of Health in December 2009, was 16.9%, 43.6% and 39.5%, respectively. The correction coefficients were calculated by dividing the municipality size percentage given for the entire State of Pernambuco by the relevant percentage given by the SERVIDIAH sample, resulting in the following values: $0.169/0.253 = 0.668$ for small municipalities, $0.436/0.363 = 1.201$ for medium-sized municipalities, and $0.395/0.384 = 1.029$ for large municipalities. These coefficients were used to calculate the means and percentages of the entire state using the "weight" command of the SPSS statistics module (SPSS Inc., Chicago, USA).

All statistical analyses were performed using SPSS version 19.

Results

A total of 785 hypertensive and 823 diabetic subjects were interviewed throughout the 35 municipalities included in the SERVIDIAH study. Mean age was around 60 years in the two samples, and women represented more than two-thirds of the sample. Almost 40% of the sample had no formal schooling and received an income below the minimum wage (R\$ 545 at the time of the study, equivalent to approximately US\$ 310) (Table 1). Most subjects had no formal employment, 942 were retired or had a pension, and 294 were housewives or students. The following statistical differences between the municipalities of different sizes were found: the education level of both hypertensive and diabetic subjects was highest in large municipalities and lowest in small municipalities; the proportion of diabetic subjects that reported receiving an income below minimum wage was greater in large municipalities; the proportion of hypertensive subjects with no formal employment was lowest in large municipalities.

The clinical characteristics of the diseases are shown in Table 2. For both hypertensive and diabetic subjects, the known duration of disease was around nine years. Over 90% of subjects were using some form of pharmacological treatment for the disease; the proportion of hypertensive subjects using some form of pharmacological treatment was significantly greater in large municipalities, and significantly smaller in small municipalities. Insulin treatment, alone or in combination, was used by 15.6% of the diabetic subjects. Adherence to a low-salt diet among hypertensive subjects and diabetic subjects with hypertension was high (88.1%) and adherence rates increased with decreasing municipality size. Adherence to a low-sugar diet in diabetic subjects was also high (87.3%), and adherence rates also increased with decreasing municipality size. On the other hand, the adherence rate for weight-loss diets was low (16.1% in hypertensive subjects and 13.6% among diabetic subjects). Adherence to weight-loss diets among diabetic subjects appeared to be greater in large municipalities.

With regard to the control of cardiometabolic risk factors, Table 3 shows that blood pressure was below 140/90mmHg in 43.7% of the hypertensive subjects, and over the recommended threshold of 130/80mmHg in 74.2% of the diabetic subjects. Control of blood pressure appeared to improve with increasing municipality size among both hypertensive and diabetic subjects. HbA1c levels were below the recommended threshold in 30.5% of diabetic subjects indicating good glycemic control; no relation was found between glycemic control and municipality size.

Table 1

Socio-demographic characteristics of hypertensive and diabetic subjects in the SERVIDIAH study, State of Pernambuco, Brazil, 2009 to 2010.

	Hypertensive subjects				Diabetic subjects			
	Large municipalities (n = 299)	Medium-sized municipalities (n = 281)	Small municipalities (n = 205)	All * (n = 785)	Large municipalities (n = 319)	Medium-sized municipalities (n = 303)	Small municipalities (n = 201)	All * (n = 823)
Age (years)	59.6 ± 14.0	60.5 ± 13.7	62.3 ± 13.7	60.5 ± 13.9	61.1 ± 13.0	61.0 ± 13.4	61.0 ± 13.0	61.1 ± 13.2
Male (%)	27.4	31.0	26.8	28.9	29.5	29.7	36.8	30.8
No formal schooling (%)	24.1	44.4	52.2	37.4 **	27.4	41.9	51.2	37.8 **
< minimum wage (%)	39.7	34.8	34.5	36.6	37.6	28.8	29.4	32.2 ***
No formal employment (%)	75.8	82.2	82.7	79.8 ***	83.6	84.1	83.5	83.8

* Weighted estimates to ensure representativeness for the whole state;

** p < 0.001 between municipality size;

*** p < 0.05 between municipality size.

Note: quantitative variables shown as mean ± standard deviation.

Table 2

Clinical characteristics of hypertension and diabetes in subjects in the SERVIDIAH study, State of Pernambuco, Brazil, 2009 to 2010.

	Hypertensive subjects				Diabetic subjects			
	Large municipalities (n = 299)	Medium-sized municipalities (n = 281)	Small municipalities (n = 205)	All * (n = 785)	Large municipalities (n = 319)	Medium-sized municipalities (n = 303)	Small municipalities (n = 201)	All * (n = 823)
Duration (years)	10.1 ± 9.2	9.8 ± 9.0	9.8 ± 8.8	9.9 ± 9.0	9.4 ± 8.2	8.5 ± 7.2	7.8 ± 7.3	8.7 ± 7.6
With hypertension (%)	-	-	-	-	81.0	73.0	75.9	77.0
Using anti-hypertensive drugs (%)	94.6	90.6	86.3	91.4 **	94.9	91.0	94.7	93.2 ***
Using only oral antidiabetic agents (%)	-	-	-	-	74.4	79.8	76.7	77.2
Using only insulin (%)	-	-	-	-	7.9	5.8	5.3	6.6
Using insulin and oral antidiabetic agents (%)	-	-	-	-	10.1	7.5	10.1	9.0
On weight-loss diet (%)	19.1	13.5	15.6	16.1	22.1	7.0	11.6	13.6 #
Adhering to low-salt diet (%)	86.2	87.9	93.2	88.1 ##	83.9	88.7	96.7	88.1 ***#
Adhering to sugar-free diet (%)	-	-	-	-	81.8	90.1	93.0	87.3 #

* Weighted estimates to ensure representativeness for the whole state;

** p < 0.01 between municipality size;

*** Only for diabetic subjects who declared hypertension;

p < 0.001 between municipality size;

p < 0.05 between municipality size.

Note: quantitative variables shown as mean ± standard deviation.

The prevalence of overweight and obesity was extremely high in both samples (74.7% in hypertensive subjects and 73.5% among diabetic subjects). BMI in hypertensive and diabetic subjects

was 28.8 ± 5.6 and 28.4 ± 5.3 kg/m² respectively. Approximately 70% of the total sample did not do any physical activity; the proportion of individuals not doing any physical activity appeared

Table 3

Clinical and metabolic control of blood pressure, blood glucose and of other cardiovascular risk factors in hypertensive and diabetic subjects in the SERVIDIAH study, State of Pernambuco, Brazil, 2009 to 2010.

	Hypertensive subjects				Diabetic subjects			
	Large municipi- palities (n = 299)	Medium-sized municipalities (n = 281)	Small municipi- palities (n = 205)	All * (n = 785)	Large municipi- palities (n = 319)	Medium-sized municipalities (n = 303)	Small municipi- palities (n = 201)	All * (n = 823)
Systolic blood pressure (mmHg)	139 ± 21	145 ± 23	147 ± 20	143 ± 22 **	138 ± 23	141 ± 21	144 ± 22	141 ± 22 ***
Diastolic blood pressure (mmHg)	83 ± 14	86 ± 14	88 ± 15	85 ± 14 **	82 ± 13	84 ± 13	86 ± 13	83 ± 13 **
With well-controlled blood pressure (%)	50.2	41.4	35.1	43.7% ***	31.8	22.6	20.9	25.8 ***
HbA1c levels (%)	-	-	-	-	8.6 ± 2.3	8.8 ± 2.4	8.8 ± 2.5	8.7 ± 2.4
With well-controlled HbA1c (%)	-	-	-	-	31.4	28.8	32.8	30.5
BMI (kg/m ²)	29.2 ± 5.7	28.8 ± 5.9	28.2 ± 5.0	28.8 ± 5.6	29.0 ± 5.5	28.0 ± 5.4	28.2 ± 4.7	28.4 ± 5.3
Overweight [25 ≤ BMI < 30] (%)	35.8	35.6	36.2	35.8	37.5	40.0	44.6	39.4
Obese [BMI ≥ 30] (%)	42.7	37.0	34.0	38.9	39.3	30.0	31.5	34.1
With no physical activ- ity (%)	63.8	73.0	71.2	69.1 #	63.9	76.0	71.9	70.6 #
Smokers (%)	13.0	12.2	15.1	13.0	14.4	12.5	10.9	13.0

BMI: body mass index; Well-controlled blood glucose: HbA1c < 7%; Well-controlled blood pressure: < 140/90mmHg in hypertensive subjects; < 130/80mmHg in diabetic subjects.

* Weighted estimates to ensure representativeness for the whole state;

** p < 0.001 between municipality size;

*** p < 0.01 between municipality size;

p < 0.05; between municipality size.

Note: quantitative variables shown as mean ± standard deviation.

to be slightly lower in large municipalities (64%). Smoking was reported by 13% of hypertensive and diabetic subjects.

Discussion

There is little research on the extent of risk factor control among hypertensive and diabetic patients in Brazil, whether at the primary care level or at more specialized levels. The SERVIDIAH study gives a picture of risk factor control at the primary care level in a representative sample of hypertensive and diabetic subjects registered with the FHS in the State of Pernambuco. As found by similar studies^{11,12,13}, the participants' income and education levels were generally low. The low rates of formal employment can be partly accounted for by the high mean age of the sample due to a high proportion of retirees and over-representation of women in the sample,

many of which declared themselves housewives. Although common in studies at the primary care level^{11,12,13,15,16,17,18,19}, the over-representation of women in this sample is contrary to expectations, since the prevalence of hypertension and diabetes does not differ greatly between men and women¹⁴. The greater number of women can be explained by the fact that overweight and obesity, prominent risk factors for both conditions, are generally more prevalent in women, especially those with low socio-economic status²⁰. Another possible explanation is that women are known to use medical services more frequently than men²¹ and therefore the under-representation of men may suggest the lack of an active search for male cases of hypertension and diabetes in the community.

The proportion of hypertensive subjects with blood pressure below 140/90mmHg found by our study (43.7%) is somewhat higher than most other studies of samples in a primary care set-

ting which observed rates of around 30%^{11,18,22}. Only Sousa et al.¹³ found a similar rate (40.9%) in a study carried out in a small municipality in the South of Brazil. Nobre et al.²³ found a slightly higher proportion of patients with well-controlled hypertension (46.5%); however, this study was conducted in specialized cardiological centers. The proportion of diabetics with blood pressure below the recommended threshold for type 2 diabetes was 25.8%, showing that blood pressure control was much less satisfactory in diabetic subjects. We could not find other studies which investigated the extent of blood pressure control in diabetic subjects at primary care level. In a study of elderly subjects attending specialized centers, Silva et al.²⁴ found that 46% of type 2 diabetics had blood pressure below 130/85mmHg. The findings of Gomes et al.²⁵ were similar to ours (28.5% of subjects with systolic blood pressure below 130mmHg and 19.3% with diastolic blood pressure below 90mmHg). Outside Brazil, the few studies that have assessed blood pressure control by type 2 diabetic subjects show diverging results. In a sample of subjects attending general practices in Belgium, only 13% of the diabetic patients were found to have well-controlled blood pressure (< 130/80mmHg)²⁶, whereas in the 1999-2000 US NHANES Study 35.8% of subjects achieved adequate blood pressure control²⁷.

Blood glucose control in diabetic subjects from the SERVIDIAH study was unsatisfactory, since only 30.5% of subjects were found to have HbA1c levels below the 7% threshold. The proportion of diabetic patients with well-controlled glucose varies greatly from study to study. In a study of subjects attending a primary care health unit in São Paulo, Brazil, Silva¹⁸ found that 42% of diabetic patients had HbA1c levels below the 6.5% threshold, which is similar to the rate found by a national survey of specialized centers (46% of patients with HbA1c levels below the 7% threshold)²⁵. On the other hand, another national survey of specialized centers found that only 27% of patients were below the 7% threshold²⁸, and in a study of a sample attending a rehabilitation center, 24% of diabetic patients had HbA1c levels below 8%²⁴. The results of studies outside Brazil vary greatly, ranging from a minimum of 16.7% of patients below the 7% threshold in a study of primary care units in Tunisia²⁹, to a maximum of 55.7% in the 2003-2004 US NHANES Study³⁰, with intermediate values observed by British³¹ and French³² studies and the above-mentioned Belgian study²⁶ of 24%, 40% and 49%, respectively.

Since hypertensive and diabetic subjects are at very high risk of cardiovascular complica-

tions, control of other cardiovascular risk factors should be an important part of healthcare. However, the SERVIDIAH study shows that control of other cardiovascular risk factors is less than satisfactory. The high prevalence of overweight and obesity is a general finding in most studies of hypertensive and/or type 2 diabetic patients^{15,16,18,28,33}. It is also striking to note the low proportion of subjects that adhere to weight-loss diets (16.1% of hypertensive subjects and 13.6% of diabetic subjects). In a study of a sample of hypertensive and diabetic subjects from five municipalities located in the Baixada Santista in the South-east Region of Brazil, Bersusa et al.³⁴ found that more than 80% of subjects made no efforts to maintain or lose weight and that around 70% of subjects engaged in no leisure-time physical activity. This common finding in studies of this age group^{11,34,35,36} highlights the need for protective measures against cardiovascular disease such as incentives to participate in community programs, such as the well-known *Academia da Cidade* program in Brazil³⁷, and the inclusion of physical educators and physiotherapists in primary care settings.

Diabetes control did not seem to be related to municipality size. However, control of blood pressure by both hypertensive and diabetic subjects improved with increasing municipality size. This may be related to other significant differences between large, medium-sized and small municipalities, such as education level, which is a factor known to influence health outcomes³⁸. Also management of hypertension itself differed slightly between municipality size with greater use of antihypertensive medications by hypertensive subjects with increasing municipality size. Also, the proportion of subjects that adhered to weight-loss diets and were physically active was higher in large municipalities. On the other hand adherence to salt-free diets increased with decreasing municipality size. This may reflect a real difference in quality of care depending on municipality size, indicating a possible problem related to the decentralization of the health service where small municipalities find it more difficult to organize an adequate response to the health challenges facing their population^{39,40}.

One of the main limitations of the SERVIDIAH study is the fact that much of data collection depended on declarations made by the subjects. Although the questionnaire was tested to ensure correct understanding of the questions and reliability of answers, the existence of biases or uncertainties cannot be discarded. The main strength of the study is that every effort was made to make the sample representative of hypertensive and diabetic users of the FHS in the state

of Pernambuco, and the high response rate and absence of substitution of dropouts suggests that this was truly achieved.

In conclusion, this analysis of the SERVIDIAH database highlights a number of important aspects of the control of hypertension, diabetes and other cardiovascular risk factors in subjects attending the FHS in the State of Pernambuco. These include the following: the low proportion of men in the sample may reflect the fact that efforts to find male cases of hypertension and diabetes in the community were insufficient; on

the whole, the results regarding control are comparable or similar to findings of other studies inside and outside Brazil in primary care or more specialized care settings, showing that control is unsatisfactory; extent of control may be influenced by municipality size. Further research is required to identify which elements of care have most impact on the control of risk factors and health status of hypertensive and diabetic patients attended by the FHS to help guide actions to improve patient care and prevent complications.

Resumen

El estudio SERVIDIAH (Evaluación de Servicios de Atención Básica a la Salud para Diabéticos e Hipertensos) fue realizado en 2010 en el estado de Pernambuco, Brasil. Se constituyó una muestra aleatoria de 785 hipertensos y 823 diabéticos, proveniente de los registros de 208 equipos de la Estrategia Salud de la Familia (ESF) en 35 municipios del estado. Los usuarios fueron entrevistados mediante un formulario padronizado, y se les verificó el peso, altura y presión arterial y, a los diabéticos, la hemoglobina glicosilada (HbA1c). La edad media fue en torno a 60 años, con representación mayoritaria de mujeres (70%). La presión arterial fue controlada en un 43,7% de los hipertensos y un 25,8% de los diabéticos; un 30,5% de los diabéticos presentaron HbA1c por debajo de un 7%. A pesar de que un 70% presentaron sobrepeso u obesidad, pocos informaron estar siguiendo una dieta para perder peso. El estudio, en esta muestra representativa de hipertensos y diabéticos registrados en la ESF de Pernambuco, muestra que mejoras se deben buscar a fin de perfeccionar la prevención de las complicaciones de esos problemas, cuya incidencia está creciendo.

Hipertensión; Diabetes Mellitus; Programa de Salud Familiar; Factores de Riesgo

Contributors

A. Fontbonne, E. A. P. Cesse and E. F. Carvalho were responsible for study design, organized and supervised data collection, analysis and interpretation, and drafted this article. I. M. C. Sousa, A. F. B. Bezerra and V. L. V. Chaves contributed substantially to study conception, data collection, and interpretation of the results presented in this article, critically revised the paper for important intellectual content, and approved the final version of this article. W. V. Souza contributed substantially to study conception and statistical analysis, critically revised the paper for important intellectual content, and approved the final version of this article.

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