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## Original Research Article

# A comparative study of serum lipid profile in preeclampsia and normotensive pregnancy in third trimester and their fetomaternal outcome

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## ABSTRACT

**Background:** Preeclampsia is a common medical complication in pregnancy in developing countries. It is one of the most common causes that lead to maternal and fetal morbidity and mortality. Incidence of preeclampsia in world is 3-5%.<sup>1</sup> In India preeclampsia complicates 5-15% of pregnancies. As a result of these changes serial alteration in lipid profile, mainly increase in serum triglycerides, cholesterol occurs in pregnant women.

**Methods:** After IEC clearance and taking informed written consent from the patients, present study was conducted at the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology in PDZH, RNT Medical College, Udaipur from December 2020 to June 2022.

**Results:** Study result based on 100 pregnant women with pre-eclampsia (BP >140/90 mm of Hg) as cases and 100 normotensive pregnant women (BP <140/90 mm of Hg) as controls. Cases had significantly higher total cholesterol (219.21±63.13 vs. 176.24±31.33, P<.0001), significantly higher triglycerides (mg/dL) (208.35±79.32 vs. 166.41±29.6, P<.0001), significantly higher LDL (mg/dL) (133.7±39.81 vs. 103.96±18.38, P<.0001), and significantly lower HDL (mg/dL) (43.29±7.09 vs. 50.18±8.15, P<.0001) in comparison to control.

**Conclusions:** Women with pre-eclampsia had significantly higher serum Cholesterol, LDL, TG and significantly lower HDL in comparison to healthy pregnant women. There was a significant increase in the serum Cholesterol, LDL, TG in patients from mild to severe pre-eclampsia.

**Keywords:** HDL, LDL, Total cholesterol

## INTRODUCTION

Pregnancy is a state associated with changes in anatomy, physiology, biochemistry<sup>1</sup>. The characteristic of normal pregnancy is developing well tolerated allograft i.e. fetus, developed placenta and increase in circulating steroids.<sup>2</sup> As a result of these changes serial alteration in lipid profile, mainly increase in serum triglycerides, cholesterol occurs in pregnant women. Preeclampsia is specific to pregnancy, multi system involvement. It is hypertensive disorder includes new onset hypertension (BP>140/90) and proteinuria after 20 weeks of gestation and resolves after delivery.<sup>3</sup>

Preeclampsia is a common medical complication in pregnancy in developing countries. It is one of the most common cause that lead to maternal and fetal morbidity and mortality. Incidence of preeclampsia in world is 3-5%.<sup>3</sup> In India preeclampsia complicates 5-15% of pregnancies.<sup>4</sup> Even though etiopathogenesis of preeclampsia remain obscure and poorly understood, genetic component may play a major role.<sup>5</sup> It includes complex pathophysiological state in which regulatory systems of inflammation and endothelial function are altered beyond the normal physiological limits of pregnancy

Endothelial dysfunction may be due to the changes in metabolism of lipoproteins. The mechanism that lead to endothelial dysfunction is not well defined. The spectrum of endothelial changes are provoked by multiple circulating factors including altered lipoproteins. Endothelial dysfunction explains many of symptoms of preeclampsia including proteinuria.<sup>6</sup>

Even in normal pregnancy there is increase in plasma lipid seen, but in normal pregnancy it is not atherogenic, may be physiological, due to hormonal control.<sup>8</sup> Whenever this mechanism of adjusting physiologic hyperlipidemia is altered that lead to complications in pregnancy.<sup>10</sup> So, in pregnancy if serum lipid profiles are estimated it helps to identify high risk cases prone for preeclampsia.<sup>11</sup>

Pregnancies complicated by hypertension are associated with increased risk of adverse fetal, neonatal and maternal outcomes, including preterm birth, intrauterine growth restriction (IUGR), perinatal death, acute renal and hepatic failure, antepartum haemorrhage, postpartum haemorrhage and maternal death.<sup>13</sup> The aim of the study was to compare serum lipids in pre-eclamptic women and healthy pregnant women and to know their fetomaternal outcome.

## METHODS

This was a case-control, study. After taking institutional ethical committee clearance and taking informed written consent from the patients for participation, present study was conducted at the Department of Obstetrics & Gynaecology in Pannadhay Zanana Hospital, RNT Medical College, Udaipur (Rajasthan).

### *Inclusion criteria*

Inclusion criteria were the pregnant women in third trimester, blood pressure <140/90 mm of Hg, no medical disorder, singleton pregnancy for control group. Pregnant women in third trimester, BP >140/90 mm of Hg, noted first time after 20 weeks of pregnancy on 2 occasions at least 4 hours apart with proteinuria was considered as having preeclampsia, singleton pregnancy for study group.

### *Exclusion criteria*

Exclusion criteria were history of chronic hypertension that was present before pregnancy, history of diabetes mellitus and/or who were on insulin therapy or hypoglycaemic drugs, obese women with pre pregnancy BMI >25, those who were taking antihypertensive or hypolipidemic drug, those with diagnosed liver, cardiac or renal diseases or any other major illness and twin pregnancy.

The study was conducted in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology in Pannadhay Zanana Hospital, RNT Medical College, Udaipur (Rajasthan) from December 2020 to June 2022, after due approval from the

institutional ethics committee and review board. After taking written informed consent from the patients, they were enrolled in the study. Total 200 patients were enrolled in the study. 100 pregnant women with pre-eclampsia (BP >140/90 mm of Hg) were included as cases and 100 pregnant women with normal blood pressure (BP <140/90 mm of Hg) were included as controls.

Detailed history was taken and physical examination was done. The detailed procedure was explained to the patient via patient information sheet. The information such as age, parity, booking status, and history of pregnancy-induced hypertension was recorded. The patients' details were recorded as per study proforma.

All pregnant women included in the study were subjected to detailed history taking, urine albumin and blood pressure measurement. 5 ml of venous blood was drawn for analysis. Detailed history about present pregnancy and previous pregnancy in case of multi and past history and family history of diabetes, hypertension, renal disease, thyroid disorder and any chronic drug intake was obtained. Height and weight during first trimester were noted from antenatal card, weight gain also made from antenatal records.

### *Estimation of urine albumin by Dipstick method*

Bottle with a tightly fitting cap contains reagent urine strips. It has several separate reagent areas affixed on plastic strip. Within 1 to 2 minutes, it produces colour change of standardized range, when analytes react with specific reagent area on the test strip. Fasting blood samples was taken in a plain red topped vacutainer without any anticoagulant from 100 pregnant patients with pre-eclampsia and 100 normal pregnant women, admitted in PDZH, RNT Medical College Udaipur and was sent to lab for lipid profile testing.

### *Sample size*

The study of Kumar et al observed that compared to normotensive women, hypertensive women had significantly higher serum cholesterol ( $230.58 \pm 47.82$  vs.  $198.34 \pm 46.99$ ), higher triglyceride ( $336.03 \pm 123.52$  vs.  $188.18 \pm 36.70$ ), higher LDL ( $62.87 \pm 18.38$  vs.  $53.71 \pm 15.23$ ) and lower HDL ( $45.12 \pm 15.06$  vs.  $52.64 \pm 14.09$ ). Taking these values as reference, the minimum required sample size with 95% power of study and 5% level of significance is 98 patients in each study group. To reduce margin of error, total sample size taken is 200 (100 patients per group).

## RESULTS

In our study 100 pregnant women with pre-eclampsia (BP >140/90 mm of Hg) were included as cases and 100 normotensive pregnant women (BP <140/90 mm of Hg) were included as controls. Detailed history about present

pregnancy and previous pregnancy was recorded, fetal and maternal outcome was noted and results are as follows.

Distribution of age (years) was comparable between cases and controls. ( $\leq 20$  years:- 10% vs 8% respectively, 21-30 years:- 73% vs 82% respectively, 31-40 years:- 17% vs 10% respectively) (p value=0.278).

Median (25<sup>th</sup>-75<sup>th</sup> percentile) of age (years) in cases was 25 (22-29) and in controls was 26 (23.75-28.25) with no significant difference between them (p value=0.72) (Table 1).

**Table 1: Comparison of age (years) between cases and controls.**

Age (years)	Cases (n=100) (%)	Controls (n=100) (%)	P value
$\leq 20$	10 (10)	8 (8)	0.278
21-30	73 (73)	82 (82)	
31-40	17 (17)	10 (10)	
Mean $\pm$ SD	25.93 $\pm$ 4.73	25.95 $\pm$ 3.98	0.72
Median (25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> %)	25 (22-29)	26 (23.75-28.25)	
Range	17-36	18-38	

**Table 2: Comparison of gravida between cases and controls.**

Gravida	Cases (n=100) (%)	Controls (n=100) (%)	P value
Primi	43 (43)	48 (48)	0.478
Multi	57 (57)	52 (52)	
Total	100 (100)	100 (100)	

As shown in Table 3, distribution of gravida was comparable between cases and controls. (Primi:- 43% vs

48% respectively, multi:- 57% vs 52% respectively) (p value=0.478).

**Table 3: Comparison of history of pregnancy induced hypertension between cases and controls.**

History of pregnancy induced hypertension	Cases (n=100) (%)	Controls (n=100) (%)	P value
No	82 (82)	87 (87)	0.329
Yes	18 (18)	13 (13)	
Total	100 (100)	100 (100)	

Significant positive correlation was seen between severity of preeclampsia with total cholesterol (mg/dL), Triglyceride (mg/dL), LDL (mg/dL) with correlation coefficient of 0.446, 0.455, 0.407 respectively. Significant negative correlation was seen between severity of preeclampsia with HDL (mg/dL) with correlation coefficient of -0.268 (Table 4).

According to Table 5, proportion of patients with maternal outcome:- normal was significantly lower in cases as compared to controls. (normal:- 50.00% vs 73.00% respectively (p value=0.0008)).

Proportion of patients with fetal outcome:- normal was significantly lower in cases as compared to controls. (Normal:- 61.00% vs 84.00% respectively (p value=0.0003)) (Table 6).

Distribution of asphyxia, IUGR, oligo, still birth was higher but comparable between cases and controls. (Asphyxia:- 5.00% vs 1.00% respectively (p value=0.212), IUGR:- 18.00% vs 9.00% respectively (p value=0.063), Oligo:- 10.00% vs 5.00% respectively (p value=0.179), Still birth:- 6.00% vs 1.00% respectively (p value=0.118)) prematurity :- 11% vs 6% respectively (p value = 0.205).

**Table 4: Correlation of total cholesterol, triglyceride, LDL and HDL with severity of preeclampsia.**

Variables	Total cholesterol(mg/dL)	Triglyceride(mg/dL)	LDL (mg/dL)	HDL (mg/dL)
<b>Severity of preeclampsia</b>				
Correlation coefficient	0.446	0.455	0.407	-0.268
value	<0.0001	<0.0001	<0.0001	0.007

**Table 5: Comparison of maternal outcome between cases and controls.**

Maternal outcome	Cases (n=100) (%)	Control (n=100) (%)	Total (%)	P value
Normal	50 (50)	73 (73)	123 (61.50)	0.0008 <sup>†</sup>
C section	31 (31)	20 (20)	51 (25.50)	0.074 <sup>†</sup>
Abruptio	4 (4)	0 (0)	4 (2)	0.121 <sup>*</sup>
Acute renal failure	2 (2)	0 (0)	2 (1)	0.497 <sup>*</sup>
HELLP syndrome	4 (4)	0 (0)	4 (2)	0.121 <sup>*</sup>
ARDS	2 (2)	0 (0)	2 (1)	0.497
Death (Pulmonary edema)	1 (1)	0 (0)	1 (0.50)	1
Chronic hypertension	4 (4)	0 (0)	4 (2)	0.121

Continued.

Maternal outcome	Cases (n=100) (%)	Control (n=100) (%)	Total (%)	P value
Post partumeclampsia	3 (3)	0 (0)	3 (1.50)	0.246
PPH	4 (4)	3 (3)	7 (3.5)	1
Preterm delivery	11 (11)	6 (6)	17 (8.50)	0.205
Sepsis	1 (1)	0 (0)	1 (0.50)	1

Table 6: Comparison of fetal outcome between cases and controls.

Fetal outcome	Cases (n=100) (%)	Control (n=100) (%)	Total (%)	P value
Normal	61 (61)	84 (84)	145 (72.50)	0.0003
Asphyxia	5 (5)	1 (1)	6 (3)	0.212
IUGR	18 (18)	9 (9)	27 (13.50)	0.063
Oligo	10 (10)	5 (5)	15 (7.50)	0.179
Still birth	6 (6)	1 (1)	7 (3.50)	0.118
Prematurity	11 (11)	6 (6)	17 (8.50)	0.205

## DISCUSSION

A case-control study was done among 100 cases of pre-eclampsia and 100 normal pregnant women, wherein we tried to determine the association of lipid profile parameters with pre-eclampsia and fetomaternal outcome.

The mean age of the cases of pre-eclampsia was  $25.93 \pm 4.73$  years. In comparison to controls, cases had comparable age ( $25.95 \pm 3.98$  years) ( $P=0.72$ ). Among the previous studies, similar age distribution was seen in

women with pre-eclampsia and controls. In the study by Nidhi et al, most of the patients with preeclampsia and that of controls were in the age group of 26 to 30 years. Anuradha et al reported that preeclampsia and controls had similar age ( $26.85 \pm 2.32$  vs.  $25.7 \pm 3.54$ ,  $p=0.0897$ ). Adewara et al found that compared to normotensives, pre-eclapmtic patients had similar mean age as controls ( $32.2 \pm 5.9$  vs.  $31.0 \pm 4.2$ ,  $P=0.190$ ).<sup>21</sup> Attah et al reported that women with pre-eclampsia and controls had comparable mean age (years) ( $24.19 \pm 6.35$  vs.  $24.83 \pm 6.18$ ,  $p=0.541$ ).<sup>18</sup>

Table 7: Age distribution of patients in previous studies v/s our study.

Studies	Cases	Controls	P value
Our study age	$25.93 \pm 4.73$ years	$25.95 \pm 3.98$ years	$P=0.72$
Adewara et al <sup>21</sup> (2021) age	$32.2 \pm 5.9$	$31.0 \pm 4.2$	$P=0.190$
Nidhi et al <sup>19</sup> (2019) age (26-30 years)	16.66%	46.23%	$P<0.05$
Attah et al <sup>18</sup> (2018) age	$24.19 \pm 6.35$	$24.83 \pm 6.18$	$P=0.541$
Anuradha et al <sup>16</sup> (2016) age	$26.85 \pm 2.32$	$25.7 \pm 3.54$	$P=0.0897$

### Gravida/parity distribution of patients

Pre-eclampsia has been connected to a number of factors, including diabetes, renal disease, obesity, primiparity, multiple pregnancies, age over 30, and a personal or familial history of pre-eclampsia, and chronic hypertension. An Indian study reported that multiple pregnancy increases the risk of pre-eclampsia by 5.7 times.<sup>15</sup> In another study, multiple pregnancy showed association with pre-eclampsia.<sup>17</sup> This is explained by the fact that large sized placentas in pregnant women with multiple obstetric conditions lead to reduced placental perfusion. "The excess of placenta tissues could not be perfused adequately".

### Booking status

In comparison to controls, cases had lower but comparable number of booked (71% vs. 81%) and higher but comparable unbooked (29% vs. 19%) ( $P=0.098$ ) participants. However, Adewara et al found that compared to normotensives, pre-eclapmtics had significantly lesser number of booked (31.7% vs. 90%) and significantly more unbooked (68.3% vs. 10%) ( $P<0.001$ ) women.<sup>21</sup> The advantages of antenatal care are well known, and numerous studies have found that it may help and protect mothers from pregnancy-related complications like pre-eclampsia.

**History of pregnancy-induced hypertension**

In comparison to controls, cases had higher but comparable history of pregnancy-induced hypertension (18% vs. 13%,  $P=0.329$ ). The history of placental abruption or preeclampsia in a previous pregnancy is

reported to be risk factor and predeterminant of preeclampsia, and that's why it was important to record it and the comparable characteristics with this respect helped in avoiding any confounding effect.<sup>17</sup>

**Table 8: Studies showing correlation with severity of pre-eclampsia with lipid profile.**

Studies	TC	TG	LDL	HDL
<b>Present study</b>	$r=0.446, P<0.0001$	$r=0.455, P<0.0001$	$r=0.407, P<0.0001$	$r=-0.268, P=0.007$
<b>Mild PE severe PE</b>	$200.86\pm56.26$ $262.03\pm58$ ( $P<0.0001$ )	$184.86\pm70.45$ $263.17\pm72.32$ ( $P<0.0001$ )	$123.14\pm31.65$ $158.33\pm46.16$ ( $P=0.0003$ )	$40.4\pm5.79$ $44.53\pm7.27$ ( $P=0.002$ )
<b>Adewara et al<sup>21</sup> (2021)</b>	( $r=4.369, p<0.001$ )	( $r=1.397, p=0.362$ )	( $r=2.591, P=0.011$ )	( $r=2.413, P=0.019$ )
<b>Mild PE (mmol/L) Severe PE (mmol/L)</b>	$6.4\pm3.5$ $6.8\pm2.2$ ( $P=0.534$ )	$1.8\pm0.5$ $2.3\pm1.4$ ( $P=0.106$ )	$3.4\pm3.0$ $3.8\pm2.1$ ( $P=0.549$ )	$2.2\pm1.0$ $1.8\pm0.4$ ( $P=0.047$ )
<b>Attah et al<sup>18</sup> (2018)</b>	$r=0.235, P=0.050$	$r=0.278, P=0.019$	$r=0.057, p=0.637$	$r=-0.013, P=0.912$
<b>Mild PE (mmol/L) Severe PE (mmol/L)</b>	$5.68\pm1.63$ $6.83\pm1.52$ ( $P=0.012$ )	$2.11\pm1.33$ $2.99\pm1.14$ ( $P=0.016$ )	$3.52\pm0.98$ $3.79\pm1.08$ ( $P=0.313$ )	$1.54\pm0.44$ $1.18\pm0.45$ ( $P=0.005$ )
<b>Ahmed et al<sup>12</sup> (2018)</b>	$229.47\pm12.61$	$195.33\pm14.38$	$138.93\pm12.23$	$40.10\pm5.39$
<b>Mild PE</b>	$217.00\pm10.49$	$210.57\pm14.09$	$152.13\pm11.03$	$36.33\pm6.21$
<b>Severe PE</b>	( $P<0.001$ )	( $P<0.001$ )	( $P<0.001$ )	( $P<0.001$ )
<b>Anuradha et al<sup>16</sup> (2016)</b>	$137.3\pm2.43$	$193.4\pm6.8$	$74.7\pm4.5$	$38.43\pm7.2$
<b>Mild PE</b>	$162.8\pm3.4$	$223.6\pm9.42$	$106.3\pm8.6$	$39.12\pm5.6$
<b>Severe PE</b>	( $P=0.0001$ )	( $P=0.0001$ )	( $P=0.0001$ )	( $P=0.6337$ )
<b>Deshpande et al<sup>15</sup> (2016)</b>	$203.0\pm7.46$	$200.9\pm10.23$	$139.7\pm11.64$	$38.53\pm3.09$
<b>Mild PE</b>	$215.8\pm13.47$	$204.57\pm12.0$	$141.4\pm6.45$	$36.4\pm2.57$
<b>Severe PE</b>	( $P>0.05$ )	( $P>0.05$ )	( $P>0.05$ )	( $P>0.05$ )

We also tried to determine the severity of pre-eclampsia and the association of lipid profile with severity of pre-eclampsia. In present study, there were 30 cases of severe and 70 cases of mild pre-eclampsia. In comparison to mild pre-eclampsia, severe pre-eclampsia cases had significantly higher total cholesterol ( $262.03\pm58$  vs.  $200.86\pm56.26$ ,  $P<0.0001$ ), significantly higher triglycerides ( $263.17\pm72.32$  vs.  $184.8\pm70.45$ ,  $P<0.0001$ ), significantly higher LDL ( $158.33\pm46.16$  vs.  $123.14\pm31.65$ ,  $P=0.0003$ ), and significantly lower HDL ( $40.4\pm5.79$  vs.  $44.53\pm7.27$ ,  $P=0.002$ ). Overall, total cholesterol showed a significant positive correlation with severity of pre-eclampsia ( $r=0.446$ ,  $P<0.0001$ ), with TG ( $r=0.455$ ,  $P<0.0001$ ), with LDL ( $r=0.407$ ,  $P<0.0001$ ), and with HDL a significant negative correlation was seen ( $r=-0.268$ ,  $P=0.007$ ), indicating that when the severity of pre-eclampsia increased, there was significant increase in total cholesterol, TG, and LDL and a significant fall in HDL – overall leading to a higher derangement in the lipid profile. The findings are in line with other previous studies.

In line with our study, Ahmed et al reported that compared to normotensive and mild pre eclamptics, severe pre eclamptics had significantly higher triglycerides ( $210.57\pm14.09$  vs.  $195.33\pm14.38$ ), higher cholesterol ( $229.47\pm12.61$  vs.  $217.00\pm10.49$ ), higher LDL ( $152.13\pm11.03$  vs.  $138.93\pm12.23$ ), and significantly lower HDL ( $36.33\pm6.21$  vs.  $40.10\pm5.39$ ) ( $P<0.001$ ).<sup>12</sup> Anuradha et al also reported that compared to mild pre-eclampsia cases, severe pre-eclampsia cases had significantly higher total cholesterol ( $162.8\pm3.4$  vs.  $137.3\pm2.43$ ,  $P=0.0001$ ), low density lipoprotein ( $106.3\pm8.6$  vs.  $74.7\pm4.5$ ,  $P=0.0001$ ), and triglycerides ( $223.6\pm9.42$  vs.  $193.4\pm6.8$ ,  $P=0.0001$ ), and similar high-density lipoprotein ( $39.12\pm5.6$  vs.  $38.43\pm7.2$ ,  $p=0.6337$ ). The difference in the findings may be because of differences in races and nutrition. Deshpande et al also found that cholesterol level ( $203.0\pm7.46$  vs.  $215.8\pm13.47$  vs.  $224.0\pm14.69$ ), LDL levels ( $139.7\pm11.64$  vs.  $141.4\pm6.45$  vs.  $148.5\pm11.0$ ), and triglyceride level ( $200.9\pm10.23$  vs.  $204.57\pm12.0$  vs.  $209.5\pm6.19$ ) increased from mild PIH to severe PIH to eclampsia, whereas HDL levels



(38.53±3.09 vs. 36.4±2.57 vs. 34.75±2.98) reduced from mild PIH to severe PIH to eclampsia.<sup>15</sup> The cholesterol, LDL, and triglyceride showed positive correlation while HDL was negatively correlated.

Adewara et al conducted a study including 30 women with mild preeclampsia and 30 women with severe preeclampsia and found that compared to mild preeclampsia, severe preeclampsia cases had significantly lower HDL (1.8±0.4 vs. 2.2±1.0, P=0.047), and higher TC (mmol/L) (6.8±2.2 vs. 6.4±3.5, P=0.534), LDL (mmol/L) (3.8±2.1 vs. 3.4±3.0, P=0.549), and TG (mmol/L) (2.3±1.4 vs. 1.8±0.5, P=0.106), however difference was not significant.<sup>21</sup> Multivariate regression analysis showed that serum total cholesterol (r=4.369, p<0.001) and HDL (r=2.413, P=0.019) were independently associated with preeclampsia.

**Table 9: Comparison of caesarean rates in studies done on patients with pre-eclampsia.**

Study	Caesarean deliveries (%)
<b>Present study</b>	31
<b>Gavali et al<sup>23</sup> (2021)</b>	27.8
<b>Ajah et al<sup>25</sup> (2016)</b>	51.7
<b>Sierra-Laguado et al<sup>22</sup> (2007)</b>	64.1

Attah et al also reported that compared to women with mild pre-eclampsia, those with severe pre-eclampsia had significantly higher total cholesterol (mmol/L) (6.83±1.52 vs. 5.68±1.63, P=0.012), significantly higher triglyceride (mmol/L) (2.99±1.14 vs. 2.11±1.33, P=0.016), significantly lower HDL (mmol/L) (1.18±0.45 vs. 1.54±0.44, P=0.005), and similar LDL (mmol/L) (3.79±1.08 vs. 3.52±0.98, P=0.313).<sup>25</sup> Triglycerides had significant positive correlation with pre-eclampsia (r=0.278, P=0.019) respectively. There was a negative correlation between HDL and pre-eclampsia, although this was not statistically significant (r= - 0.013, P = 0.912). There was no significant correlation with LDL (r=0.057, p=0.637) and total cholesterol (r=0.235, P=0.050). The findings of present study and previous studies indicate that deranged lipid profile increases with increasing severity of pre-eclampsia.

**Table 10: Comparison of fetal outcomes in studies done on patients with pre-eclampsia.**

Studies	Fetal outcomes
<b>Present study</b>	Asphyxia (5%), IUGR (18%), oligohydramnios (10%), and still birth (6%), prematurity (11%)
<b>Gavali et al<sup>23</sup> (2021)</b>	IUGR, prematurity, low birth weight babies, respiratory distress syndrome, meconium aspiration in 7.41%, 14.81%, 17.13%, 9.72%, and 6.02% patients, respectively. NICU admission: 20.83% neonates. intrauterine death: 1.85% neonates, still births: 3.24%, and neonatal death in 3.24% neonates.
<b>Sultana et al (2018)<sup>24</sup></b>	Low-birth weight babies (<2.5 kg) (52.5%), APGAR score 4-6 at 1 minute (56%) and at 5 minutes (30%), neonatal care unit admission (80%), early neonatal death (10%), still births (20%)
<b>Ajah et al (2016)<sup>25</sup></b>	Low birth weight babies (44.9%) perinatal mortality (22.7%)

## Maternal outcomes

In our study, in comparison to controls, cases had significantly lesser normal vaginal deliveries (50% vs. 73%, P=0.0008), higher but statistically comparable caesarean section (31% vs. 20%, P=0.074), abruptio placentae (4% vs. 0%, P=0.121), acute renal failure (2% vs. 0%, P=0.497), HELLP syndrome (4% vs. 0%, P=0.121), ARDS (2% vs. 0%, P=0.497), deaths (due to pulmonary edema) (1% vs. 0%, P=1), chronic hypertension (4% vs. 0%, P=0.121), post-partum eclampsia (3% vs. 0%, P=0.246), PPH (4% vs. 3%, P=1), sepsis (1% vs. 0%, P=1).

Among other studies, Sierra-Laguado et al observed that the cases had significantly higher rate of cesarean delivery (%) (64.1% vs. 39.7%, p=0.013).<sup>22</sup> Ajah et al found that women with pre-eclampsia had significantly more caesarean section (51.7% vs. 10.6%, P<0.0001), and maternal mortality (12.1% vs. 1%, P<0.0001).<sup>25</sup> In the study by Gavali et al, emergency LSCS and elective LSCS were done in 19.91% and 7.87% patients respectively, vacuum delivery in 4.17% patients, and forceps delivery in 1.85% patients.<sup>23</sup> Other complications were eclampsia, postpartum haemorrhage, abruptio placentae, partial HELLP in 9.72%, 8.80%, 7.87%, and 6.94% patients, respectively. Severe eclampsia and DIC were present in 5 patients. Sultana et al also found that pre-eclamptic women had more complications than normotensives (440% vs. 12%, p<0.05), including eclampsia (4% vs. 0%), abruptio placenta (6% vs. 0%), PPH (14% vs. 10%), pulmonary oedema (6% vs. 2%), HELLP syndrome (4% vs. 0%), and oliguria (2% vs. 0%) (p<0.05).<sup>24</sup>

## Fetal outcomes

In comparison to controls, cases had significantly lesser normal neonates (61% vs. 84%, P=0.0003), and higher but statistically comparable asphyxia (5% vs. 1%, P=0.212), IUGR (18% vs. 9%, P=0.063), oligohydramnios (10% vs. 5%, P=0.179), still birth (6% vs. 1%, P=0.118), premature babies (11% vs. 6%, P=0.205). Overall, it was observed that adverse fetal outcomes such as IUGR, asphyxia, IUGR, oligohydramnios, prematurity and still birth were more in pre-eclampsia than controls. This finding was supported by previous studies.

Among other studies, Sierra-Laguado et al observed that the cases had significantly lower birth weight (3024 vs. 3342,  $p=0.006$ ).<sup>22</sup> Ajah et al found that women with pre-eclampsia had significantly more low birth weight babies (44.9% vs. 1%,  $P<0.0001$ ) and perinatal mortality (22.7% vs. 3.9%,  $P<0.0001$ ).<sup>25</sup> In the study by Gavali et al, neonatal outcomes included IUGR, prematurity, low birth weight babies, respiratory distress syndrome, meconium aspiration in 7.41%, 14.81%, 17.13%, 9.72%, and 6.02% patients, respectively.<sup>23</sup> NICU admission was needed in 20.83% neonates. Intrauterine death was seen in 1.85% neonates, still birth in 3.24%, and neonatal death in 3.24% neonates.

Sultana et al observed that women with pre-eclampsia had significantly more neonates with low birth weight ( $<2.5$  kg) (52.5% vs. 8%,  $p<0.05$ ); significantly more neonates with APGAR score 4-6 at 1 minute (56% vs. 24%) and at 5 minutes (30% vs. 6%) ( $p<0.05$ ); more neonatal care unit admission (80% vs. 20%,  $p<0.05$ ); more early neonatal death (10% vs. 0%,  $p<0.05$ ) and still birth (20% vs. 0%,  $p<0.05$ ).<sup>24</sup>

This study has some limitations. Our study was conducted in a setting which caters to patients belonging primarily to the lower or middle socio-economic strata and the data primarily reflects the situation in this cohort. The present study did not include parameters that may affect the lipid profile parameters in pre-eclampsia such as body mass index, smoking, and socioeconomic status.

## CONCLUSION

Women with pre-eclampsia had significantly higher serum cholesterol, LDL, TG and significantly lower HDL in comparison to healthy pregnant women. There was a significant increase in the serum cholesterol, LDL, TG in patients from mild to severe pre-eclampsia. In conclusion, there is an elevation of serum lipids in women with preeclampsia as compared to normal healthy women during pregnancy. Moreover, the derangement in lipid profile parameters holds a direct correlation with increasing severity of preeclampsia. The fetomaternal outcomes also worsen with increasing derangement of lipid profile parameters.

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