

Clinical and Epidemiological Approach of the Acute Coronary Syndrome in A Hospital in the Center of Ecuador

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Abstract

Introduction: Acute coronary syndrome is the leading cause of mortality in Ecuador, despite efforts and modern diagnostic and laboratory processes continues to be a health problem worldwide and especially in developing countries. **Objective:** To determine the clinical characteristics and epidemiological profile of patients with acute coronary syndrome. **Material and methods:** A descriptive, retrospective study was carried out on patients treated at the Cardiology Department of the Carlos Andrade Marín Hospital in the city of Quito - Ecuador. The data were selected from a sample of 207 patients and analyzed using the SPSS V.25 software. **Results:** It was determined that the majority of patients resided in urban areas, the average age of presentation was 66 years (+/- 13.96). The main pathological antecedents linked to coronary syndrome were arterial hyper- tension, diabetes and ischemic heart disease; typical chest pain was predominant; mestizo patients presented a lower development of IAMCEST compared to other ethnic groups (OR: 0.930; 95% CI: 0.872-0.993), the his- tory of malignancies predisposes to a larger class on the Killip scale upon admission (OR: 1,593; 95% CI: 1,093-5,871). In patients with hypothyroidism and cancer, a greater predisposition of infarction was found. **Conclusion:** The timely identification and proper management of comorbidities such as cardiac arrhythmias, hypothyroidism and previous myocardial infarction are pathologies to be taken into account because they pre- dispose to increase the presentation of coronary events and their recurrence in the population over 50 years.

Keywords: Acute coronary syndrome, Risks Factors, Epidemiology

1. Introduction

According to the 2017 ESC Guideline on the treatment of ST-segment elevation coronary syndrome, acute myocardial infarction is defined as a clinical-pathological event, in which there is evidence of myocardial damage that is defined as the elevation of cardiac troponins above the 99th percentile of the upper limit of reference , with evidence of myocardial necrosis in a clinical setting compatible with ischemia (1) (11). In this context, the main objective of the present study was to determine demographic characteristics, harmful habits, clinical admission, comorbidities associated with infarction and its association with the type of coronary syndrome , Killip scale at discharge and recurrence of infarction of a group of patients with acute coronary syndrome hospitalized. two in a hospital belonging to Social Security located in the center-north of Quito - Ecuador; this approach will allow a greater knowledge of the factors associated with coronary syndrome typical of the Ecuadorian population and thus implement more appropriate measures for its prevention and management.

2. Objective

To determine the clinical characteristics and epidemiological profile of patients with acute coronary syndrome.

3. Material and Methods

A descriptive, retrospective study was conducted by reviewing the electronic medical records of 207 patients over 18 years of age with acute coronary syndrome diagnosed clinically, by means of electrocardiogram and laboratory tests (ultrasensitive troponins), in the service of Cardiology – Chorological Care Unit of the HCAM (Hospital Carlos Andrade Marín – Quito, Ecuador). Patients with incomplete medical histories and other types of an- gina other than unstable angina were excluded. The sampling method used was simple random probabilistic, selecting 207 patients admitted to the unit from May 2017 to May 2018. The required information was obtained from the AS 400 computer system of the hospital where the research was carried out.

4. Results

It should be noted that all data were collected directly from electronic medical records, no data, comorbidity or habit was collected or corroborated by the researcher which could predispose to bias. The analysis of the information was carried out using the statistical program SPSS V25. The required consent was requested in writing to the research directorate of the institution, mentioning the objectives and use of the results obtained.

207 patients were included, of which 168 were men,

the mean age of the sample studied was 66 years (+/- 13.9). The distribution of infarction types were: ST elevation (STEMI) (54.1%), no ST elevation (NSTEMI) (35.3%) and unstable angina (10.6%). Table 1 shows the main demographic characteristics of the population studied. The Typical chest pain, dyspnea and smoking were the most frequent characteristics of the population

studied as shown in Table 2.

Patients over 50 years of age were the ones with the highest recurrence of infarction with statistical significance, among other facts.

demographic factors (Table 3). The presence of ischemic cardiopathy, arrhythmias and neoplasia prior to the diagnosis of infarction were statistically important factors within the research (Table 4).

Table 1. General demographic characteristics in patients with coronary syndrome

| Variable | Overviewn | % |
|-------------------------|-----------|-------|
| Age | | |
| From 18 to 50 years old | 26 | 12,6% |
| Over 50 years old | 181 | 87,4% |
| Sex | | |
| Male | 168 | 81,2% |
| Female | 39 | 18,8% |
| Ethnic group | | |
| Mestizo | 195 | 94,2% |
| Indigenous | 4 | 1,9% |
| Afroecuatoriano | 8 | 3,9% |
| Occupational Category | | |
| Public Employee | 61 | 29,5% |
| Private Employee | 89 | 43,0% |
| Retirement | 57 | 27,5% |
| Level of Education | | |
| Illiteracy | 1 | ,5% |
| Primary | 79 | 38,2% |
| High school | 65 | 31,4% |
| Superior | 62 | 30,0% |
| Region of Origin | | |
| Costa | 30 | 14,5% |
| Sierra | 174 | 84,1% |
| Orient | 3 | 1,4% |
| Area of Residence | | |
| Urban | 165 | 79,7% |
| Rural | 42 | 20,3% |

Source: Study database Prepared by: Miranda E. (2019).

Table 2. Distribution of the population according to the clinic of admission, habits and BMI.

| Variable | Feature | N | % |
|----------|------------------------|-----|--------------|
| Clinic | | | |
| | Chest Pain | 185 | 89,37% |
| | Dyspnea | 23 | 11,11% |
| | Headache | 5 | 2,41% |
| | Diaforesis | 62 | 29,95% |
| | Epigastric Pain Nausea | 739 | 3,38% 18,84% |
| | Vomit | 9 | 4,34% |
| | Other | 26 | 12,56% |
| Habits | | | |
| | Tobacco | 121 | 58,45% |
| | Alcohol | 95 | 45,89% |
| | Drugs | 5 | 2,41% |
| | Sedentariness | 20 | 9,66% |
| | Other | 12 | 5,79% |
| | None | 55 | 26,57% |
| Imc | | | |
| | Less Than 18.5 Kg/M2 | 156 | 0,50% |
| | 18,5 A 24,9 Kg/M2 | | 27,05% |
| | 25 A 29,9 Kg/M2 | 106 | 51,20% |
| | 30 A 34,9 Kg/M2 | 36 | 17,39% |
| | 35 A 39,9 Kg/M2 | 6 | 2,89% |
| | 40 Kg/M2 Or Greater | 2 | 0,96% |

Source: Study database Prepared by: Miranda E. (2019)

Table 3. Relationship between demographic characteristics and recurrence of infarction

| Variable Recidivas | | | IC***95% | | p*** | | | |
|--|----------|--------|----------|--------|--------|-------------|-------|----------|
| | Yes n | % | No n | % | OR | Lower Limit | Limit | Superior |
| Age | | | | | | | | |
| From 18 to 50 | 5 | 9,60% | 23 | 14,80% | 0,248 | 0,061 | 1,015 | 0,028*** |
| years Over 50 | 47 | 90,40% | 132 | 85,20% | 1,138* | 1,043 | 1,241 | |
| years | | | | | | | | |
| Sex | | | | | | | | |
| Male | 42 | 80,80% | 126 | 81,30% | 1,025 | 0,886 | 1,187 | 0,744 |
| Female | 10 | 19,20% | 29 | 18,70% | 0,894 | 0,455 | 1,757 | |
| Ethnic group | | | | | | | | |
| Mestizo | 50 | 96,20% | 145 | 93,50% | ** | ** | ** | 0,487 |
| Indigenous | 0 | 0,00% | 4 | 2,60% | ** | ** | ** | |
| Afro-Ecuadorian | 2 | 3,80% | 6 | 3,90% | ** | ** | ** | |
| Occupation Category | | | | | | | | |
| Employee | 13 | 25,00% | 47 | 30,30% | ** | ** | ** | 0,695 |
| Public Employee | 25 | 48,10% | 65 | 41,90% | ** | ** | ** | |
| Private Retirement | 14 | 26,90% | 43 | 27,70% | ** | ** | ** | |
| Level of Education | | | | | | | | |
| Primary illiteracy | 1 | 1,90% | 0 | 0,00% | ** | ** | ** | 0,793 |
| | 18 | 34,60% | 61 | 39,40% | ** | ** | ** | |
| High school | 16 | 30,80% | 49 | 31,60% | ** | ** | ** | |
| Superior | 17 | 32,70% | 45 | 29,00% | ** | ** | ** | |
| Region of Proceden- cia | | | | | | | | |
| Costa | 9 | 17,30% | 21 | 13,50% | ** | ** | ** | 0,187 |
| Sierra | 41 | 78,80% | 133 | 85,80% | ** | ** | ** | |
| Orient | 2 | 3,80% | 1 | 0,60% | ** | ** | ** | |
| Area of Residence | | | | | | | | |
| Urban | 36 | 69,20% | 129 | 83,20% | 0,892 | 0,744 | 1,069 | 0,169 |
| Rural | 16 | 30,80% | 26 | 16,80% | 1,49 | 0,852 | 2,608 | |
| Pearson's Chi Square | | | | | | | | |
| Source: Study database Prepared by: Miranda E. (2019). | | | | | | | | |

| Table 4. Relationship between associated pathological history and recurrence of infarction | | | | | | | | |
|--|----|---------|-----|--------|----------------|-------------|--------|----------|
| Comorbili- dad Relapses p*** | | | | | | | | |
| Si No IC***95% | | | | | | | | |
| n | % | No | % | OR | Limit Inferior | Upper limit | | |
| High blood pressure | | | | | | | | |
| Yes | 16 | 30,80% | 57 | 36,80% | 1,309 | 0,677 | 2,566 | 0,433 |
| No | 36 | 69,20% | 98 | 63,20% | | | | |
| Diabetes Mellitus 2 | | | | | | | | |
| Yes | 4 | 7,70% | 15 | 9,70% | 1,286 | 0,407 | 4,063 | 0,668 |
| No | 48 | 92,30% | 140 | 90,30% | | | | |
| Ischemic Heart Disease | | | | | | | | |
| Yes | 19 | 36,50% | 1 | 0,60% | 4,618 | 1,463 | 5,816 | 0,001*** |
| No | 33 | 63,50% | 154 | 99,40% | | | | |
| Arrhythmias | | | | | | | | |
| Yes | 0 | 0,00% | 8 | 5,20% | 3,092 | 1,981 | 6,817 | 0,031*** |
| No | 52 | 100,00% | 147 | 94,80% | | | | |
| Thyroid Pathology | | | | | | | | |
| Yes | 0 | 0,00% | 5 | 3,20% | 1,291 | 0,988 | 2,983 | 0,198 |
| No | 52 | 100,00% | 150 | 96,80% | | | | |
| Chronic kidney disease | | | | | | | | |
| Yes | 1 | 1,90% | 4 | 2,60% | 1,351 | 0,148 | 12,367 | 0,789 |
| No | 51 | 98,10% | 151 | 97,40% | | | | |
| Dyslipidemias | | | | | | | | |
| Yes | 1 | 1,90% | 11 | 7,10% | 3,896 | 0,491 | 30,932 | 0,167 |
| No | 51 | 98,10% | 144 | 92,90% | | | | |
| Neoplasias | | | | | | | | |
| Yes | 6 | 11,50% | 6 | 3,90% | 0,309 | 0,095 | 1,004 | 0,041*** |
| No | 46 | 88,50% | 149 | 96,10% | | | | |
| * Pearson's Chi Square Source: Study database Prepared by: Miranda E. (2019). | | | | | | | | |

In addition, although mortality was not investigated in the present work, it is interesting to show that

mortality is- Killip's score remains an adequate indicator of the severity of infarction as shown in Table 5.

Table 5. Relationship between related pathological history and the Killip and Kimball scale

| Comorbidity Classification Killip-Kimball p*** | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|--------------|--------|------------|----------|-------------|--------|------------|----------|----------|----------------|-------------|----------|--|
| Classes I | | | Classes II | | Classes III | | Classes IV | | IC***95% | | | | |
| n | | % | n | % | N | % | n | % | OR | Limit Inferior | Upper limit | | |
| High blood pressure | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Yes | 54 | 32,30% | 15 | 53,60% | 1 | 14,30% | 3 | 60,00 % | 3 | 0,439 | 27,77 | 0,024*** | |
| No | 113 | 67,70% | 13 | 46,40% | 6 | 85,70% | 2 | 40,00 % | | | | | |
| Diabetes Mellitus 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Yes | 16 | 9,60% | 3 | 10,70% | 0 | 0,00% | 0 | 0,00% | 2 | 1,166 | 5,984 | 0,048** | |
| No | 151 | 90,40% | 25 | 89,30% | 7 | ##### | 5 | 100,00 % | | | | | |
| Isq heart disease | uémica | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Yes | 18 | 10,80% | 1 | 3,60% | 1 | 14,30% | 0 | 0,00% | 1 | 0,145 | 9,708 | 0,007*** | |
| No | 149 | 89,20% | 27 | 96,40% | 6 | 85,70% | 5 | 100,00 % | | | | | |
| Arrhythmias | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Yes | 7 | 4,20% | 1 | 3,60% | 0 | 0,00% | 0 | 0,00% | 2 | 0,469 | 7,167 | 0,911 | |
| No | 160 | 95,80% | 27 | 96,40% | 7 | ##### | 5 | 100,00 % | | | | | |
| Thyroid Pathology | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Yes | 3 | 1,80% | 1 | 3,60% | 1 | 14,30% | 0 | 0,00% | 4,341* | 1,447 | 7,187 | 0,192 | |
| No | 164 | 98,20% | 27 | 96,40% | 6 | 85,70% | 5 | 100,00 % | | | | | |
| Disease Re | Nal Aperture | Nica | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Yes | 5 | 3,00% | 0 | 0,00% | 0 | 0,00% | 0 | 0,00% | 1 | 0,983 | 6,981 | 0,746 | |
| No | 162 | 97,00% | 28 | 100,00 % | 7 | ##### | 5 | 100,00 % | | | | | |
| Dyslipidemias | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Yes | 7 | 4,20% | 1 | 3,60% | 2 | 28,60% | 2 | 40,00 % | 6 | 1,797 | 19,89 | 0,001*** | |
| No | 160 | 95,80% | 27 | 96,40% | 5 | 71,40% | 3 | 60,00% | | | | | |
| Neoplasias | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Yes | 11 | 6,60% | 1 | 3,60% | 0 | 0,00% | 0 | 0,00% | 2 | 1,093 | 5,871 | 0,004*** | |
| No | 156 | 93,40% | 27 | 96,40% | 7 | ##### | 5 | 100,00 % | | | | | |
| * Pearson's Chi Square | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Source: Study database Prepared by: Miranda E. (2019). | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

* Pearson's Chi Square

Source: Study database Prepared by: Miranda E. (2019).

The most prevalent risk factors were age [over 50 years ($p < 0.765$)], sex [masculine ($p < 0.555$)], hypertension [STEMA-STEMI, STEAMI, unstable angina ($p < 0.643$)], type 2 diabetes mellitus [STEMI, NSTEMI, unstable angina ($p < 0.091$)], tobacco [STEMI, STEMI, unstable angina ($p < 0.089$)]. Ischemic cardiopathy [STEMI, NSTEMI, unstable angina ($p < 0.025$)], cardiac arrhythmias [STEMI, STEMI, NSTEMI, unstable angina ($p < 0.036$)] and alcohol [STEMI, NSTEMI, unstable angina ($p < 0.0096$)] had statistically significant associations ($p < 0.05$).

Age over 50 years was also associated with recurrence of infarction [$p < 0.028$, OR: 1,138; CI 95%: 1.043 – 1.241], as well as ischemic cardiopathy [$p < 0.001$, OR: 4.618; 95% CI: 1.463 – 5.816] and cardiac arrhythmias [$p < 0.031$, OR: 3,092; 95% CI: 1.981 – 6.817]. If -

Patients with a history of hypertensive-arterial sion, diabetes mellitus, ischemic heart disease and dyslipidemia were associated with a higher class on the Killip scale at hospital admission [$(p < 0.024)$, ($p < 0.048$), ($p < 0.007$), ($p < 0.001$) respectively].

5. Discussion

As has been widely shown in the medical literature, acute coronary syndrome is an entity of higher prevalence in men although there are recent studies that report an increase in the prevalence of female sex (12)(16), in the present study, of a total of 207 patients in the study. Didia, 19% are female.

The distribution in relation to sex was associated with the type of infarction, data were correlated with a similar study conducted by Alberty (3), in which

certain conventional risk factors were determined in men and women in a hospital in Slovakia; Significant differences were found in

regarding sex and type of infarction when compared with this study, finding a higher proportion of variables (STEMI: men: 84.2%; women 15.8%) in relation to what was found by Alberty (men 74%, women: 26%). In both studies, males were predominant in all infarction categories.

The data about the pathological history of importance and the type of infarction were correlated with the work carried out by Galappathy et al (4), who determined the characteristics of infarction in a population of southern India, data were obtained that contrast with what was found in this study in relation to ischemic heart disease, which was one of the variables with statistical relevance (this study - Galappathy: STEMI: 5% - 14.5%; NSTI: 11.9% - 23.2%; Unstable angina:

22.7% - 15.5% respectively), evidencing a higher percentage of distribution in infarction without ST elevation unlike this study in which the highest proportion of CIC had inestable angina, differences probably explained by the greater volume of patients that make up the comparative study.

No studies were found that accurately specify the association between the history of cardiac arrhythmia and the type of infarction, however it is necessary to mention the work carried out by AlFaleh et al (5), which included 2609 patients with coronary syndrome and heart failure, 5.1% had atrial fibrillation and coronary syndrome with concomitant ST elevation, unlike 2.0% in this study. Similarly, 19.8% of patients with atrial fibrillation associated with NSTEMI and unstable angina were obtained in relation to our data (17.2%), that is, there was a correlation between the studies determining that the infarction without ST elevation / unstable angina is more Prevalent in patients with a history of cardiac arrhythmias.

The data obtained in relation to the clinic of admission were compared with that described by DeVon (6), in his study conducted in 5 emergency services in Chicago, a similar predominance is observed regarding chest pain as the main symptom reported by the patients studied (89% in this study, DeVon 74%), diaphoresis had a lower incidence in this research (this study 30%, DeVon reports 38%).

The data from this research are contrasted with those evidenced by Bedoya-Ríos (7) who investigated the prevalence of myocardial infarction in a health institution in Colombia. A prevalence of smoking of 39.2% was found in this study in contrast to the 12.97% found by Bedoya-Ríos, in addition a lower figure of sedentarism was found (in this study 6.49%, Bedoya-Ríos 63.48%) and higher figures of alcoholism (this study 30.85 %, Bedoya-Ríos 5.46 %). Other toxic habits with lower prevalence were not mentioned in the comparative study.

Regarding recurrence, data were compared with the retrospective study conducted by Abu-Assi et al (8)

that determined recurrence and other prognostic factors in a cohort of 4345 patients who survived infarction myocardium; We found similar data regarding the accumulated percentage (this study 25.1%; Abu-Assi 23.1%) determining that 1 in 4 patients who survived acute coronary syndrome are at risk of presenting a new coronary ischemic event. Regarding the recurrence of infarction in subjects with ischemic heart disease, it is pertinent to include what was described by Abu-Assi et al (8) in their study of infarction recovery with follow-up of patients at the first and third year of the coronary event. In this study it was determined that previous ischemic heart disease, diabetes mellitus and atrial fibrillation increased the recurrence of infarction especially in the first year of follow-up, in addition the risk increased significantly in patients over 70 years of age, a correlation similar to that in contrada in this study.

To correlate demographic variables and Killip class, data were taken from a validation study conducted at a cardiology institute in Sao Paulo – Brazil by de Mello et al (9), which included 1906 patients with infarction, but was not found. other studies that resemble characteristics in terms of ethnicity; however, a similar distribution of mestizo population was obtained in this study compared to the Caucasian population found in the comparative study (this study: Killip: I: 95.8%; II: 85.7%; III: 85.7%; IV: 100%; de Mello: Killip: I: 80.9%; II: 84,2%; III: 84,8%; IV: 79,1%).

Patients with ejection fraction less than 40% had the following distributions in this study: class I: 2.4%; II: 35.7%; III: 28.6%;

IV: 40%, in relation to that obtained by El-Men- yar (10): class I: 17%; II: 38%; III: 62%; III: 67%.

As can be seen there are differences in the data obtained in both studies, however the hypothesis of worse prognosis is ratified in relation to the fraction of ejection after coronary event the higher the Killip scale at admission (20). In relation to the associated admission clinic, no significant differences were determined to what was found in this study, with chest pain being prevalent in all classes of the scale.

6. Conclusions

It was determined that the highest percentage of patients with coronary syndrome were male, over 50 years of age. More than 75% of heart attack patients reside in urban areas, and a similar percentage of patients with secondary and higher university education was found. 60% of patients had more than one pathological history associated with coronary syndrome, of these, the most representative were hypertension, followed by diabetes, previous ischemic heart disease, dyslipidemia and hypothyroidism.

In relation to the clinical admission, chest pain was more prevalent, other representative symptoms were diaphoresis, dyspnea, epigastric pain, headache, nausea and vomiting. The majority of the population studied were frequent tobacco users, as

well as sedentary. The recurrence of acute coronary syndrome was 25%.

It is interesting to mention that the group of patients older than 50 years presented an increased risk of developing coronary syndrome recurrence compared to younger patients. There was also a statistically significant relationship between the history of ischemic heart disease and arrhythmia with the type of infarction, in both pathologies unstable angina was the most prevalent type. Antecedents of ischemic heart disease, cardiac arrhythmias and neoplasms were associated with a greater likelihood of having a recurrence of infarction.

Patients with a history of hypertension, ischemic heart disease, dyslipidemia, carentary arrhythmias, thyroid pathology and neoplasms were placed in higher risk classes of the Killip and Kimball scale (classes III and IV) (Table 5).

The research conducted by Rolando Manuel Benites, Grimaneza Miguelina Fonseca Díaz, Yrma Santana, and David André Benites Fonseca on the prevalence and relationship between periodontitis and cardiovascular diseases. The study used the neutrosophic method to determine these connections and was published in the Neutrosophic Computing and Machine Learning journal in 2022 (21).

Additionally, we will examine the optimization model for inventories based on Monte Carlo simulation and genetic metaheuristic algorithm proposed by Torres, Gaibor, and Vazquez in the Universidad y Sociedad journal (22). We will also delve into the scientific research perspective from the neutrosophy and productivity point of view proposed by Vazquez, Ricardo, and Hernandez in the same journal (23). Moreover, the use of compensatory fuzzy logic with single valued neutrosophic numbers in university strategic management analysis as proposed by Ricardo, Fernández, and Vázquez in the International Journal of Neutrosophic Science (24) will be explored.

Lastly, we will examine the evaluation of the level of knowledge about advanced life support in cardiac arrest rhythms among resident physicians at the Ambato General Teaching Hospital conducted by Vega Falcón, Sánchez Llerena, Sánchez Martínez, and Morillo Cano, published in the Revista Universidad y Sociedad in 2020 (25).

7. Conclusions

The timely identification and adequate management of comorbidities such as cardiac arrhythmias, hypothyroidism and previous myocardial infarction are pathologies to take into account since they predispose to a greater extent to the development of coronary events and their recurrence, especially in the population over 50 years of age.

Conflict of interest

The author declares that he has no conflict of interest

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