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The Changes of Blood Glucose Levels and Methods of Treatment in Pregnant Women with Gestational Diabetes Mellitus after using Antenatal Corticosteroid Therapy

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Objectives

To investigate changes of glucose levels in gestational diabetic patients treated with antenatal corticoid and methods of treatment for these patients.

Methods

Observational prospective study in 50 gestational diabetic patients treated with antenatal corticoid therapy. Results

Blood glucose (BG) changes in the follow up of 7 days after antenatal corticoid injection: prepandial capillary BG was greater than 5.3mmol/l in over 80% of patients on days 2 and 3 and remained elevated in over 45% on day 7, two-hour post-prandial capillary BG was greater than 6.7mmol/l in 77.4% - 82.2% on day 1-3 and over 51% patients on day 4-7; mean glucose variability were 0.75-1.79 mmol/l; the incidence of hypoglycemic episode was 0.74%. After corticoid injection, the number of patients treated with insulin increased. In patients treated with insulin, 52% of them was doubled in the insulin dose, the highest increase of insulin was seen in the third day after injection; there was a positive correlation between total insulin dose and HbA1c level on admission.

Conclusions

Women with gestational diabetes mellitus after using antenatal corticoid would increase their blood glucose levels, especially on day 2, 3 and decrease gradually until day 7. Most of them needed insulin or doubled the dose to control BG level, there was a positive correlation between the total insulin dose and HbA1c level on admission.