

HELEM DE SENA RIBEIRO

**ESTADO NUTRICIONAL, BALANÇO ENERGÉTICO E
EVOLUÇÃO CLÍNICA DE PACIENTES NO PERIOPERATÓRIO
DE TRANSPLANTE HEPÁTICO**

Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais

Programa de Pós-Graduação em Ciências Aplicadas à Cirurgia e Oftalmologia

Belo Horizonte – MG

2017

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Tese apresentada ao Programa de Pós-Graduação em Ciências Aplicadas à Cirurgia e à Oftalmologia da Faculdade de Medicina da Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais, como requisito parcial para obtenção do título de Doutora em Ciências Aplicadas à Cirurgia e à Oftalmologia.

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Estado nutricional, balanço energético e evolução clínica de pacientes no perioperatório de transplante hepático

HELEM DE SENA RIBEIRO

Tese submetida à Banca Examinadora designada pelo Colegiado do Programa de Pós-Graduação em CIÊNCIAS APLICADAS À CIRURGIA E À OFTALMOLOGIA, como requisito para obtenção do grau de Doutor em CIÊNCIAS APLICADAS À CIRURGIA E À OFTALMOLOGIA, área de concentração RESPOSTA INFLAMATÓRIA À AGRESSÃO TECIDUAL, linha de pesquisa Resposta Inflamatória nos Aloenxertos.

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Dedico esse trabalho a todos os pacientes em lista de
espera e submetidos ao transplante hepático.

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“Nada é suficientemente bom. Então vamos fazer o que é certo, dedicar o melhor de nossos esforços para atingir o inatingível, desenvolver ao máximo os nossos dons, e nunca parar de aprender.”

Ludwing van Beethoven

RESUMO

Pacientes com doenças graves de fígado que demandam transplante hepático (TH) comumente evoluem com alterações do estado nutricional e do balanço energético no período pré e pós-operação. Essas alterações podem impactar negativamente a morbimortalidade desses enfermos. O objetivo deste estudo foi avaliar diferentes parâmetros de avaliação nutricional para predizer desfechos clínicos no momento pré-transplante e avaliar a evolução nutricional e do balanço energético após o TH. Ainda, avaliar se essas alterações impactam no tempo de internação (no centro de terapia intensiva – CTI; e hospitalar) e na morbidade e mortalidade desses pacientes. No pré-operatório e pós-transplante precoce foram avaliados estado nutricional por meio da Avaliação Global Subjetiva (AGS), antropometria (circunferência do braço – CB; dobra cutânea tricipital – DCT e área muscular do braço – AMB), dinamometria manual (DM), Teste de 6 minutos de Caminhada (T6MC) e ângulo de fase padronizado (AFP). Gasto energético de repouso (GER) foi mensurado por calorimetria indireta, ingestão alimentar foi estimada por registro alimentar e, foi realizado cálculo do balanço energético (BE). Desfechos clínicos no pré-transplante compreenderam complicações da cirrose e mortalidade e, no pós-transplante o tempo de internação no CTI e hospitalar, a presença de complicações pós-operatórias e a mortalidade. Essas variáveis foram coletadas a partir de prontuário médico do paciente. Análise uni e multivariada e curva ROC foram realizadas, sendo $p < 0,05$ considerado estatisticamente significante. No momento pré-transplante foram avaliados 73 pacientes em lista de espera com idade média de $52,3 \pm 11,4$ anos, 63,0% eram homens. Valores baixos de área muscular do braço (AMB) ($p < 0,001$), desnutrição pela AGS + AMB inadequada ($p < 0,001$) e desnutrição por SGA + baixo AFP ($p < 0,001$) foram preditores independentes de complicações da cirrose, em que AGS + AFP resultaram em maior área sob a curva (AUC: 0.6431). Baixos valores de CB ($p = 0,037$) e velocidade de marcha mais lenta no T6MC ($p = 0,017$) foram preditores de mortalidade, avaliados isoladamente ou associados com AGS. AGS + velocidade de marcha tiveram maior poder preditivo de mortalidade (AUC: 0.6673). Vinte e nove pacientes dos 73 avaliados no pré-transplante foram acompanhados no pós-transplante precoce. Esses pacientes apresentaram idade média de $54,1 \pm 11,5$ anos e 79,3% eram homens. A mediana de tempo de avaliação antes do transplante foi de 79,5 (IQR: 15,6 - 160,3) dias; $2,4 \pm 1,2$ dias na primeira avaliação após o TH e $8,1 \pm 2,8$ dias na segunda avaliação após o TH. Os valores médios de CB, DCT, AMB, DM e AFP diminuíram significativamente após a operação ($p < 0,05$). A maioria dos pacientes (71,4% e 77,8%) apresentaram balanço energético negativo no pré e pós-transplante, respectivamente; sendo que ingestão alimentar, balanço energético, e consumo de macronutrientes foram significativamente diferentes entre os tempos

avaliados ($p<0,05$). Baixos valores de AMB, DM e AFP foram associados aos desfechos clínicos desses pacientes ($p<0,05$). Ingestão baixa de proteínas, baixos valores de GER e de BE também foram associados a desfechos negativos ($p<0,05$). Concluiu-se que diferentes parâmetros de avaliação nutricional (associados ou não à AGS) e BE negativo foram associados aos desfechos clínicos antes e depois do TH. Esses resultados ressaltam a importância da avaliação e monitoração nutricional antes e depois do TH, sugerindo a importância de se realizar intervenção nutricional precoce e individualizada, a fim de evitar piores desfechos clínicos nessa população.¹

Palavras-Chave: estado nutricional, balanço energético, gasto energético de repouso, consumo alimentar, transplante hepático.

¹ Esta tese foi organizada em: introdução, objetivos e revisão da literatura, seguida por dois capítulos. Os capítulos estão apresentados no formato de artigo científico e são compostos por resumo, introdução, métodos, análise estatística, resultados, discussão e conclusão. Cada capítulo corresponde a cada um dos dois objetivos previamente definidos nos quais estão descritos todos os procedimentos metodológicos adotados em cada. A numeração e estrutura de figuras, tabelas e referências bibliográficas foram modificadas do formato original do artigo para seguir a ordem sequencial e estrutural da tese.

ABSTRACT

Patients with advanced liver disease waiting for liver transplantation (LT) commonly present with nutritional status and energy balance (EB) disorders before and after the operation. Poor nutritional status may negatively impact morbidity and mortality of these patients. The objective of this study was to evaluate different nutritional assessment parameters to predict clinical outcomes in the pre-transplant period; and to evaluate the evolution of the nutritional status and EB after LT. Also, it was our goal to evaluate if these changes impact time of hospitalization (in the intensive unit care – ICU; and in the hospital) and the morbi-mortality of these patients. In the preoperative and early post-transplantation, nutritional status was evaluated by Subjective Global Assessment (SGA), anthropometry (mid-arm circumference - MAC, tricipital skin fold - TSF and mid-arm muscle area - MAMA), handgrip strength (HGS), 6-minute walk test (6MWT) and standardized phase angle (SPA). Resting energy expenditure (REE) was measured by indirect calorimetry, dietary intake was estimated by food record, and EB was calculated. Pre-transplant clinical outcomes comprised complications of cirrhosis and mortality, and after the operation, length of ICU and hospital stay, presence of postoperative complications and mortality. These variables were drawn from the patient's medical records. Univariate and multivariate analysis as well as the ROC curve were carried out, and a $p < 0.05$ was considered statistically significant. In the pre-transplant period, 73 patients on the waiting list for LT were evaluated, mean age of 52.3 ± 11.4 years, 63.0% were men. Low values of MAMA, malnutrition by SGA + inadequate MAMA ($p < 0.001$), and malnutrition by SGA + low SPA ($p < 0.001$) were independent predictors of complications of cirrhosis. SGA + SPA resulted in greater area under the curve (AUC: 0.6431). Low MAC values ($p = 0.037$) and slower gait speed in the 6MWT (GS-6MWT) ($p = 0.017$) were predictors of mortality, evaluated either alone or associated with SGA. SGA + GS-6MWT had higher mortality predictive power (AUC: 0.6673). Twenty-nine patients of the 73 assessed pre-transplant were followed up in the early post-transplantation period. These patients had a mean age of 54.1 ± 11.5 years and 79.3% were men. The median pre-transplant evaluation time was 79.5 (IQR: 15.6 - 160.3) days before LT; the first evaluation after the operation occurred 2.4 ± 1.2 days and, the second 8.1 ± 2.8 days after LT. The mean values of MAC, TSF, MAMA, HGS, and SPA significantly decreased after the operation ($p < 0.05$). Most of the patients (71.4% and 77.8%) presented negative energy balance both pre- and post-transplantation, respectively ($p < 0.05$). Dietary intake, energy balance, and macronutrient intake were significantly different between the assessed times. Low values of MAMA, HGS and SPA were associated with clinical outcomes after LT ($p < 0.05$). Low protein intake, low REE and EB values were also associated with negative outcomes ($p < 0.05$). In

conclusion, different nutritional assessment parameters (associated or not to SGA) and negative EB were associated with clinical outcomes before and after LT. These results highlight the importance of nutritional evaluation and monitoring, before and after liver transplantation, suggesting the importance of performing an early and individualized nutritional intervention in order to avoid poor clinical outcomes in this population.

Keywords: nutritional status, energy balance, resting energy expenditure, dietary intake, liver transplantation.

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LISTA DE ABREVIATURAS E SIGLAS

AF: Ângulo de Fase

PA: Phase Angle

AFP: Ângulo de Fase Padronizado

SPA: Standard Phase angle

AGS: Avaliação Global Subjetiva

SGA: Subjective Global Assessment

AMB: Área Muscular do Braço

MAMA: Mid-Arm Muscular Area

BE: Balanço Energético

EB: Energy Balance

BIA*: Análise de Bioimpedância Elétrica

BIA: Bioelectrical Impedance Analysis

CB: Circunferência do Braço

MAC: Mid-Arm Circumference

CMB: Circunferência Muscular do Braço

MACA: Mid-Arm Muscle Circumference

CTI: Centro de Terapia Intensiva

ICU: Intensive Care Unit

DCT: Dobra Cutânea Tricipital

TSF: Triceps Skinfold

DM: Dinamometria Manual

HGS: Handgrip Strength

GEB: Gasto Energético Basal

BEE: Basal Energy Expenditure

GER: Gasto Energético de Repouso

REE: Resting Energy Expenditure

GET: Gasto Energético Total

TEE: Total Energy Expenditure

IA: Ingestão Alimentar

DI: Dietary Intake

MELD*: Model for End-Stage Liver Disease

MELD: Model for End-Stage Liver Disease

METs*: Equivalentes Metabólicos

MET: Metabolic Equivalents

PO: Pós-Operatório

PO: Postoperative

T6MC: Teste de 6 minutos de Caminhada

6MWT: 6-Minute Walk Test

TH: Transplante Hepático

LT: Liver Transplantation

*A abreviatura na língua inglesa foi mantida devido ao uso na língua portuguesa

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1. INTRODUÇÃO

A doença hepática crônica avançada resulta em grande impacto nutricional, na maioria dos pacientes, independente da etiologia da doença (1). Portanto, o diagnóstico nutricional é imprescindível, já que a condição nutricional está relacionada com morbidade e mortalidade, em especial entre aqueles que se submeterão ao TH, tanto antes quanto depois da operação (2, 3). No entanto, a realização do diagnóstico nutricional destes indivíduos é complexa e, apesar de existirem diversos métodos disponíveis, os parâmetros geralmente empregados na abordagem clínica de outros doentes, têm uso limitado entre hepatopatas crônicos, não havendo método padrão para tal avaliação (4).

A origem da desnutrição é multifatorial, sendo a diminuição do consumo de nutrientes, bem como a alteração da digestão, da absorção e do metabolismo, características geralmente presentes nesses pacientes (5, 6). Considerando-se a causa multifatorial da desnutrição e a necessidade de detecção precoce da mesma, assim como as referidas limitações dos métodos, a avaliação nutricional dos pacientes com doença hepática avançada deveria ser realizada, idealmente, por diferentes parâmetros. Nesse sentido, a identificação das alterações antropométricas, funcionais, de integridade celular e do balanço energético podem contribuir para o melhor diagnóstico nutricional destes enfermos. Poucos trabalhos avaliaram a ocorrência dessas alterações em um mesmo momento, objetivando obter maior acurácia e capacidade preditiva para desfechos clínicos, especialmente utilizando diferentes ferramentas concomitantemente.

A utilização de diversos instrumentos para o diagnóstico nutricional tem sido usada de forma isolada. Um método subjetivo, a partir da aplicação de questionário que envolve a história clínica e física do paciente, a Avaliação Global Subjetiva (AGS) tem sido defendida (7) e utilizada muitas vezes como padrão para comparação com outras ferramentas (8, 9). A antropometria foi usada como marcador sensível de depleção de massa celular em pacientes com doença hepática (10). A identificação da capacidade funcional também vem sendo recomendada como parte de avaliação nutricional completa (11). Assim, métodos como dinamometria manual (DM) e Teste de 6 Minutos de Caminhada (T6MC) têm sido explorados nessa população (12). Outro parâmetro que tem recebido atenção como marcador nutricional é o ângulo de fase (AF), que reflete a integridade da membrana celular do indivíduo e, foi usado também na população com doença hepática (13, 14). De sorte que, complicações e mortalidade foram associadas com o grau de desnutrição

classificado pela AGS (15, 16), índices antropométricos menores que o percentil 5 (17-19), valores baixos de força medidos pela DM (20, 21), menor distância percorrida e velocidade de marcha no T6MC (22, 23), e ainda, baixos valores de AF (24, 25) em pacientes com doença hepática.

Além do impacto negativo da desnutrição na evolução clínica dos pacientes no pré-transplante, após o procedimento, essa associação parece continuar a determinar a evolução desses enfermos. Alguns autores mostraram a relação entre pior estado nutricional com aumento da perda de sangue na operação, tempo de permanência no Centro de Terapia Intensiva (CTI), custos hospitalares totais e mortalidade (3, 26). Contudo, a evolução dos parâmetros nutricionais, principalmente relacionada à ingestão alimentar (IA) e ao balanço energético (BE) após o transplante recente é precariamente descrita (27, 28). Nesse sentido, existe lacuna no que tange às alterações no período pós-operatório precoce. De tal sorte, a avaliação nutricional no perioperatório é necessária não só para diagnóstico nutricional adequado, mas para monitoração do estado metabólico e nutricional, assim como para avaliar a eficácia da intervenção nutricional, se esta foi instituída. Neste contexto, a avaliação da ingestão alimentar e consequentemente o balanço energético são imprescindíveis.

2. OBJETIVOS

2.1. Objetivo Geral

Avaliar estado nutricional e balanço energético no perioperatório de pacientes em lista de espera e submetidos a TH, acompanhados no Ambulatório Bias Fortes do Hospital das Clínicas da Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais.

2.1.1. Objetivos específicos

- Avaliar a capacidade preditiva de diferentes parâmetros nutricionais (isolados e combinados com a Avaliação Global Subjetiva) em relação aos desfechos clínicos em pacientes na lista de espera para TH (Capítulo I).
- Avaliar a evolução nutricional e do balanço energético no perioperatório de pacientes submetidos a TH; e a associação dessas variáveis com desfechos clínicos (Capítulo II).

3. REVISÃO DE LITERATURA

3.1. Doença hepática e transplante

O TH é o segundo tipo de transplante de órgão sólido mais realizado no Brasil (29). Em 2016 foram realizados cerca de 1.800 transplantes, sendo que 99 foram no estado de Minas Gerais (29). O TH é o tratamento indicado para vários tipos de doenças hepáticas quando o limite da terapia clínica já foi alcançado (30), sendo indicado em casos de falência hepática causada por doença hepática crônica, neoplasia hepática primária ou secundária, distúrbios metabólicos e, em algumas situações de doença hepática aguda e irreversível (**Quadro 1**) (31, 32).

Quadro 1: Principais indicações para transplante hepático

Indicação	Descrição
Hepatopatia crônica avançada	
Cirrose hepática	Cirrose por vírus, hepatite automimune, álcool e cirrose criptogênica
Doenças hepáticas colestáticas	Colangiteesclerosante primária e secundária, cirrose biliar primária, síndrome colestática familiar e atresia de vias biliares
Distúrbios genéticos e metabólicos	Deficiência de α -1 antitripsina, doença de Wilson, hemocromatose hereditária, entre outras
Tumores malignos do fígado	Carcinoma hepatocelular primário e fibrolamelar, metástases hepáticas de tumores endócrinos, hepatoblastoma
Hepatopatia aguda	Insuficiência hepática fulminante, trauma hepático grave, insuficiência hepática associada à gravidez, entre outras.

Fonte: Adaptado de Mehrabi et al.(31)

A cirrose hepática é a principal indicação para o transplante. É a forma mais grave do dano hepático, sendo consequência do longo curso clínico de doenças hepáticas crônicas que por vários mecanismos de lesão causam necroinflamação e fibrogênese. Histologicamente é caracterizada pela regeneração nodular difusa rodeada por densos septos fibróticos com subsequente extinção do parênquima e colapso das estruturas do fígado. Esses, em conjunto, causam alteração pronunciada da arquitetura vascular. Em consequência há aumento da resistência ao fluxo da circulação portal, causando hipertensão portal e disfunção hepática. A doença hepática crônica é notoriamente

assintomática até que ocorra a descompensação clínica da cirrose. Essa, é marcada por manifestações que incluem ascite, varizes esofágicas e hemorragia digestiva, além de encefalopatia, síndrome hepatorrenal, dentre outras (33).

Pontuações que estimam o prognóstico desses pacientes são amplamente utilizadas para prever a sobrevida e a necessidade de transplante. A escala de Child-Pugh e *Model for End-Stage Liver Disease* (MELD) são instrumentos frequentemente utilizados para predizer a mortalidade. A pontuação Child-Pugh (inicialmente denominado Child-Turcotte) foi originalmente concebida para prever a mortalidade de pacientes com cirrose, submetidos a qualquer ato operatório. Criada em 1964, por Child e Turcotte (34), foi posteriormente modificada por Pugh et al. (35) a partir da combinação de parâmetros clínicos e bioquímicos, assim como a presença e a gravidade de ascite e encefalopatia. A pontuação varia entre 1-3 para cada variável, com pontuação global entre cinco e 15, o que representa a gravidade crescente da doença.

A escala de Child-Pugh foi amplamente utilizada na prática clínica durante décadas (36), entretanto, os parâmetros clínicos dessa classificação são baseados em medidas subjetivas, influenciadas pela interpretação clínica (como exemplo, ascite e encefalopatia) (31). A escala MELD, por outro lado, leva em consideração medidas objetivas como valores séricos de bilirrubina, creatinina, relação normatizada internacional para o tempo de protrombina e etiologia da doença hepática (37). Os valores de MELD foram originalmente desenvolvidos como modelo prognóstico de mortalidade precoce em pacientes com cirrose que receberam *shunt* transjugular intra-hepático portossistêmico (38). A escala original foi posteriormente simplificada, sendo atualmente utilizada para estimar gravidade da doença hepática e prever mortalidade em curto prazo (37, 39, 40). O escore do MELD varia de 6 a 40, sendo que quanto maior o escore, maior a estimativa de mortalidade. Na interpretação da escala MELD em pacientes hospitalizados, a mortalidade em 3 meses é de 4% para MELD < 10; 27% para MELD 10 a 19; 76% para MELD 20 a 29; 83% de para MELD 30 a 39; e 100% de mortalidade para MELD > 40 (37).

Atualmente, grandes centros de TH substituíram a pontuação de Child-Pugh pelo MELD para priorizar a alocação de órgãos (31, 41). No Brasil, o Ministério da Saúde, por meio da Portaria nº 1.160 de 29 de maio de 2006 (42), implantou o sistema MELD substituindo o antigo sistema de lista de espera por ordem de inscrição.

3.2. Aspectos nutricionais

3.2.1. Pré-transplante

O fígado é o principal órgão metabólico do corpo humano. Sendo assim, nutrição e fígado estão diretamente interligados e qualquer alteração pode afetar positiva ou negativamente ambos. A relação entre o estado nutricional e a doença hepática é complexa, pois o metabolismo de energia, macro e micronutrientes é afetado em decorrência da doença (43). De sorte que a desnutrição é uma das complicações mais comuns da cirrose, especialmente em pacientes com doença avançada (2, 4).

A patogênese da desnutrição associada à cirrose é multifatorial. Além das alterações do metabolismo há vários outros fatores que contribuem para tal. A diminuição da ingestão alimentar é comum e é atribuída ao uso de medicamentos, à presença de náuseas, anorexia, vômitos e dietas restritivas, além da ascite volumosa que comumente leva à saciedade precoce (44). A diminuição da ingestão alimentar promove alterações eletrolíticas e déficits de macronutrientes, assim como de vitaminas e minerais (45). A hipertensão portal contribui para inadequada digestão e absorção de nutrientes, sendo que com o avanço da cirrose, esta condição se torna mais grave, impactando negativamente no processamento metabólico (6, 46). Pacientes com doença hepática avançada também apresentam mudanças da síntese e do armazenamento de proteínas (47, 48), além de desenvolverem estado catabólico durante o jejum mais rapidamente do que indivíduos saudáveis, com ativação precoce da gliconeogênese. Isto ocorre também como forma compensatória às baixas reservas de glicogênio, com objetivo de manter a homeostasia e a oferta de combustíveis para o organismo (49, 50). Outro fator que pode afetar o estado nutricional é a deficiência de ácidos biliares, que leva à diminuição de produção de bile, e em sequência causa má absorção de lipídios vitamina lipossolúveis (6, 51). O crescimento excessivo de bactérias no trato gastrointestinal é também outro problema frequente, que pode resultar em atrofia da mucosa e vilosidades do intestino delgado, agravando ainda mais a absorção e utilização de nutrientes (6).

Além da deficiência de macronutrientes, a deficiência de vitaminas e minerais também é frequente. Colestase e hipertensão portal podem causar absorção alterada de vitaminas lipossolúveis (A, D, E e K) (6, 47). Como resultado, podem ocorrer outras alterações específicas, tais como osteoporose (pela perda de cálcio e má absorção de vitamina D), deficiências de ácido fólico, riboflavina, ácido pantotênico, piridoxina, vitamina B12 e tiamina. A diminuição dos níveis

de zinco, magnésio, sódio e fósforo também é comum (47, 52). A deficiência de zinco, particularmente, afeta cicatrização de feridas, reação imunológica, metabolismo de proteínas e ainda, pode alterar apetite e paladar. A perda de proteínas e minerais também é condição clínica comum nessa população, muitas vezes causada por intervenções como uso de diuréticos, lactulose e realização de procedimentos como paracenteses. Ainda, pode ocorrer perda de sangue oculto ou evidente, devido a sangramento de varizes esofágicas, gástricas, e do lúmen intestinal, decorrente de ulcerações ou ainda enteropatia portal que leva a perda principalmente de proteínas (47, 52).

A prevalência de desnutrição em pacientes com doença hepática avançada varia dependendo dos métodos utilizados. Em nosso meio, Ferreira et al. (2011) mostraram que 74,7% de pacientes em lista de espera para o TH foram diagnosticados como desnutridos de acordo com a AGS. A alta prevalência da desnutrição nessa população é preocupante devido à associação independente do estado nutricional com complicações e mortalidade. A desnutrição está associada com aumento do número de complicações incluindo piora da função hepática, ascite, sangramento de varizes e taxas de morbimortalidade cirúrgica aumentadas (2, 3, 53, 54). No entanto, ainda existe dificuldade de detecção da desnutrição devido à inexistência de método padrão e limitações relacionadas à doença. Embora a literatura tenha mostrado relação entre desnutrição detectada por métodos de avaliação nutricional isolados e desfechos clínicos, ferramentas nutricionais combinadas ainda não foram avaliadas para ajudar a melhorar a precisão e capacidade preditiva.

3.2.2. Pós-transplante precoce

Atualmente observam-se altas taxas de sobrevida após o TH, em torno de 75% em um ano e 68% em cinco anos (29), resultado das melhorias nas técnicas cirúrgicas, da seleção do receptor, da gestão e seleção dos doadores, da anestesia, dos cuidados perioperatórios e dos avanços no entendimento da microbiologia. Ressalta-se também a utilização de maior espectro de agentes imunossupressores que contribuíram para tal (55).

Apesar do aumento da sobrevida, as complicações ainda são comuns, e contribuem para significativa mortalidade desses pacientes (56). As principais complicações no período pós-operatório imediato estão relacionadas com função do enxerto (disfunção e rejeição), infecções (bacterianas, fúngicas e virais) e complicações sistêmicas (pulmonar, renal ou neurológicas) (56-58). Importante fator no desencadeamento dessas complicações e consequentemente na evolução clínica desses pacientes é a desnutrição. Alguns autores mostraram associação da desnutrição com predisposição a infecções, função do enxerto, aumento da perda de sangue na operação, maior

tempo de permanência no CTI, tempo aumentado de suporte respiratório, assim como mortalidade e custos hospitalares totais mais elevados após o TH (3, 16, 17, 26).

O estado nutricional do paciente pode ainda piorar rapidamente durante o período pós-operatório, em consequência à terapia imunossupressora, às complicações pós-operatórias, catabolismo consequente ao estresse cirúrgico e aos períodos de jejum prolongados (59, 60). Em especial, ocorre degradação proteica, principalmente nas duas primeiras semanas após a operação (61).

Nesse sentido, é importante a avaliação da ingestão alimentar desses pacientes e, se necessário a intervenção nutricional precoce deverá ser otimizada. A recomendação é que pacientes bem nutridos ou com desnutrição leve e que estejam aptos a utilizar a via oral após o transplante não necessitam de terapia nutricional específica (62-64). Quando não é possível alimentação via oral ou se a ingestão alimentar for insuficiente para atingir as necessidades nutricionais, é recomendada a utilização de terapia nutricional, enteral ou parenteral, de preferência precocemente, em especial considerando-se o estado nutricional do enfermo (63-65).

Dados de ingestão alimentar e balanço energético nos períodos pré (27) e pós-transplante tardio (28, 66) já foram explorados, no entanto, pouco é descrito na literatura em relação ao período perioperatório. Apesar de haver recomendações pré-estabelecidas para os pacientes nesse período, a avaliação do consumo alimentar e do balanço energético no perioperatório, de nosso conhecimento, ainda não foi descrita.

Logo, a importância da realização de avaliação nutricional minuciosa e do balanço energético, acompanhada de intervenção nutricional o mais precocemente possível, certamente poderá contribuir com melhor evolução destes enfermos. Salienta-se a necessidade de que o método de avaliação nutricional deve levar em conta o custo-benefício, além de prover adequado diagnóstico e que possa ser usado para monitorar a eficácia do tratamento nutricional, ou seja, a evolução. Até o momento, na prática clínica isso tem sido difícil de alcançar, o que demanda mais estudos a serem realizados.

3.3. Avaliação nutricional

Embora não haja padrão para avaliação nutricional em pacientes com doença hepática, AGS, medidas antropométricas, parâmetros funcionais e análise de bioimpedância elétrica têm sido amplamente utilizados (4, 67). Esses métodos são recomendados pela Sociedade Europeia de

Nutrição Clínica e Metabolismo (ESPEN) para identificar pacientes com estado nutricional comprometido (68, 69).

3.3.1. Avaliação global subjetiva

A AGS é método validado, não invasivo, fácil de aplicar e de baixo custo pois não requer aparelhos para ser realizada (70). Essa ferramenta baseia-se na história clínica, exame físico (perda de gordura subcutânea, perda de massa muscular, edema sacral, edema de tornozelo e ascite), alterações da capacidade funcional, alterações da ingestão alimentar e sintomas gastrointestinais. O diagnóstico nutricional é dado a partir da aplicação do questionário e exame físico simplificado. Os pacientes são classificados como: nutridos; suspeita de desnutrição ou moderadamente desnutridos; ou desnutridos grave (70).

A AGS tem sido frequentemente utilizada para avaliar o estado nutricional de pacientes com diferentes diagnósticos clínicos (71-73), e em pacientes com doença hepática avançada, para os quais foi desenvolvida AGS adaptada específica para esses pacientes (7). Alguns autores consideram AGS como método padrão para validação e comparação com outros métodos de avaliação nutricional (8, 9). Em pacientes com doença hepática crônica também é utilizada, em particular, naqueles que aguardam o transplante (15, 67). O método foi associado à perda de massa muscular e gordura subcutânea em pacientes transplantados de fígado (7).

Apesar de todas as vantagens apresentadas por esse instrumento, a AGS também possui limitações. A principal crítica ao método é que a precisão depende da experiência e habilidade do avaliador, e por ser um método subjetivo pode haver variação entre diferentes examinadores (9, 70). Outra desvantagem é a característica de não ser método sensível, capaz de detectar mudanças no estado nutricional em curto prazo (9). Além disso, especificamente, em pacientes com doença hepática avançada, a AGS pode ser comprometida por parâmetros alterados, tais como peso e presença de ascite, edema, que estão diretamente relacionados à insuficiência hepática crônica (74). Portanto, o presente estudo tem como um dos objetivos o uso concomitante de um método objetivo adicional que poderia aumentar a capacidade preditiva de desfechos clínicos nessa população.

3.3.2. Avaliação objetiva

3.3.2.1. Antropometria

Antropometria é a medida do tamanho corporal e respectivas proporções. O método antropométrico é parâmetro objetivo, de baixo custo, facilmente aplicável e útil em estudos clínicos e de campo. Circunferências, dobras cutâneas, altura e peso corporal são medidas antropométricas comumente utilizadas na avaliação nutricional. Contudo, em pacientes com estado hídrico alterado, como pacientes com doença hepática avançada, que frequentemente apresentam edema ou ascite, pode haver superestimação e interpretação errada dos dados. Nesse caso, peso e índices dependentes dessa variável como Índice de Massa Corporal não são recomendados. Apesar das limitações, vários autores consideram o uso da antropometria como parte da avaliação nutricional, para identificar depleção muscular e gordurosa em pacientes com doença hepática (10, 67).

As medidas mais utilizadas são dobras e circunferências como a do braço (CB), a circunferência muscular do braço (CMB), a dobra cutânea tricipital (DCT) e a área muscular do braço (AMB). Isso pode ser explicado pelo fato de que são medidas avaliadas no compartimento superior do corpo, área menos propensa ao acúmulo de líquidos extravasculares, particularmente em pacientes ambulatoriais.

Em nosso meio, dentre as medidas antropométricas, a CB teve maior concordância com a AGS para avaliar desnutrição em pacientes cirróticos (4). A associação dessas medidas com variáveis clínicas também já foi avaliada. AMB foi associada à gravidade da doença hepática (4) e CB, DCT e AMB foram preditores independentes de sobrevivência em pacientes cirróticos (17-19).

3.3.2.2. Avaliação funcional

As alterações da composição corporal consequentes à desnutrição estão relacionadas com quantidade de proteína corporal (75, 76) e massa celular (77). A perda de força muscular gera diminuição da mobilidade e da capacidade para realizar atividades do cotidiano, parâmetros esses que em conjunto, são definidos como capacidade funcional (78). Pacientes com doença hepática crônica e cirrose apresentam também alterações cardíacas e pulmonares, tais como síndrome

hepatopulmonar e hipertensão portopulmonar, que juntamente com outras complicações da cirrose como ascite ou edema, podem afetar a função pulmonar e a capacidade de se exercitar (79).

A avaliação da funcionalidade é importante não apenas pela estrita relação com o estado nutricional (21), sendo inclusive utilizada como parâmetro para diagnóstico (11), mas também como fator prognóstico entre pessoas sadias (80) e doentes (81, 82), incluindo aqueles com cirrose (83). A avaliação da funcionalidade já foi utilizada como método para predizer complicações clínicas em pacientes em estágio final da doença hepática crônica (10).

Uma forma objetiva de avaliar a capacidade funcional é por meio da força de preensão manual, também conhecida como dinamometria manual (DM). A DM reflete a força máxima derivada da combinação da contração dos músculos da mão, extrínsecos e intrínsecos, que levam a flexão das articulações da mão (84). É considerado, portanto, um teste funcional, e vem recebendo crescente atenção de clínicos e pesquisadores, nos últimos anos. As vantagens estão em ser método validado, simples e rápido, sendo um dos mais viáveis métodos de cabeceira, o que torna essa ferramenta atraente para utilização na prática clínica (82). As desvantagens são a variabilidade da técnica e os diferentes pontos de corte para comparação de resultados (80). A dinamometria já foi comparada à AGS em pacientes com cirrose (21) e foi descrita como melhor preditora de complicações clínicas como ascite, encefalopatia hepática, peritonite bacteriana e síndrome hepatorrenal (21, 43). Essa ferramenta também foi preditora de morbidade e mortalidade, em curto e longo prazo em diferentes populações (82).

Outra forma objetiva de avaliação da funcionalidade é por meio do Teste de 6 minutos de Caminhada (T6MC). Este é prático e simples e, avalia a resposta integrada e global de sistemas envolvidos no exercício cardiopulmonar como circulação sistêmica e periférica, função neuromuscular e metabolismo muscular (23). Não é teste de esforço e não mede informações específicas de cada órgão. Considerando que a maioria das atividades diárias é realizada em níveis submáximos de esforço, esse método reflete o nível de exercício físico funcional diário para as atividades cotidianas. As vantagens adicionais estão relacionadas com simplicidade, segurança e baixo custo do teste (85). O T6MC também tem sido utilizado como preditor de morbidade e mortalidade de indivíduos com insuficiência cardíaca, doença pulmonar obstrutiva crônica, hipertensão pulmonar e, também entre candidatos para transplante de pulmão (85). O método pode também ser utilizado para avaliar estado funcional de pessoas idosas e de pacientes com câncer de pulmão, fibromialgia e doença vascular periférica (85). Em pacientes cirróticos há estudos descrevendo a funcionalidade, por meio de outros métodos, como consumo máximo de oxigênio (86) ou ainda por protocolo utilizando associação de três parâmetros (equilíbrio estático, velocidade

de marcha, e o ato de se sentar e levantar de uma cadeira) (83). Porém, poucos autores exploraram o T6MC, entre indivíduos com cirrose. Os estudos encontrados utilizando esse parâmetro relacionaram o T6MC com qualidade de vida (23), marcadores clínicos e bioquímicos da doença hepática (87) e sobrevida (23, 87).

3.3.2.3. Avaliação da integridade celular

A análise de bioimpedância (*Bioelectrical Impedance Analysis – BIA*) é técnica objetiva, não invasiva, de fácil uso e reprodução, que tem sido usada para avaliar a composição corporal (88). Esse método consiste na passagem pelo organismo de corrente elétrica indolor de baixa amplitude e baixas frequências, aplicada por meio de cabos conectados a eletrodos ou a superfícies condutoras, que são colocadas em contato com a pele. A condução da corrente permite a medição da resistência e reatância dos tecidos, que são então usados para calcular a impedância e o ângulo de fase. A água corporal total é estimada, além da quantidade de água intra e extracelular. A massa livre de gordura pode então ser calculada assumindo-se que a água corporal total é uma parte constante da massa livre de gordura. Nesse sentido, outros compartimentos do corpo, tais como massa gorda e massa celular corporal também podem ser mensurados (89).

Contudo, a principal limitação do método são situações em que há alteração no estado de hidratação (89), condição comum em pacientes com doença hepática avançada. Dentro desse contexto, destaca-se a mensuração do ângulo de fase (AF), que consiste em medida direta da integridade das membranas celulares, da massa celular e da distribuição celular da água (89). AF tem sido utilizado como marcador nutricional (13, 90), especificamente em pacientes com cirrose baixo ângulo de fase foi associado com desnutrição (91) e menor tempo de sobrevida (24, 92).

Alguns estudos demonstraram a influência da idade nas variações dos valores de AF (93, 94), sendo essa apontada por alguns autores como principal determinante biológico para essa medida (95). Os mesmos autores também identificaram a influência da raça nos valores de AF (95), não sendo, portanto, recomendado utilizar valores de referências universais. Nesse sentido, foi proposto a padronização do ângulo de fase baseada nos valores da população brasileira, de acordo com sexo e idade, sendo ponto de corte de -1,65 representativo do percentil 5, considerado como limite inferior para a população saudável (93, 96, 97).

3.4. Balanço energético

Todos os sistemas do corpo humano necessitam de energia para adequado funcionamento e para manter os processos vitais do organismo. Dá-se o nome de gasto energético basal (GEB) a necessidade de energia para manter esses processos vitais básicos (98). No entanto, para mensuração do GEB, há demanda de condições difíceis de serem alcançadas na prática clínica, como o estado de vigília. Portanto, utiliza-se o Gasto Energético de Repouso (GER), que pode ser medido com o indivíduo acordado e em repouso. Esse possui pequena diferença de valor (3 a 10%) em relação ao GEB.

O GER está associado a alterações metabólicas que podem ser observadas em pacientes com doença hepática, podendo ser estes classificados como normo, hipo ou hipermetabólicos. No entanto, essas mudanças ainda são ponto de discussão (99), sendo que a maioria dos estudos descreve a presença de hipermetabolismo nesses pacientes (100-102).

A patogênese do hipermetabolismo na cirrose hepática ainda permanece mal elucidada. Alguns autores descreveram associação do hipermetabolismo com a gravidade da doença hepática (103, 104) e com parâmetros bioquímicos de colestase e de marcadores bioquímicos de dano celular (99). Outros apontaram associações do hipermetabolismo com parâmetros extra-hepáticos (105) como a inflamação sistêmica devido ao aumento da liberação de citocinas, alterações da hemodinâmica do sistema porta (106), aumento da atividade adrenérgica induzida por incremento das catecolaminas plasmáticas (100) e resistência à insulina (101). O hipermetabolismo também foi associado com menor sobrevida de pacientes em lista de espera e, com a maior necessidade de TH, independente dos critérios de gravidade Child-Pugh e MELD (107).

Por outro lado, o hipometabolismo também foi descrito em pacientes com doença hepática, mas tem sido pouco avaliado. Uma das causas propostas está associada ao uso de medicamentos β -bloqueadores, muito utilizados no tratamento das complicações da doença hepática (100, 107). Em nosso meio, a prevalência de hipometabolismo foi de 7,4% e, o hipermetabolismo foi observado em 24,7% dos pacientes em fila de espera para o TH (108).

A avaliação do consumo alimentar e do balanço energético (BE) também são importantes como parte da avaliação nutricional, pois como citado anteriormente, a diminuição da ingestão alimentar é uma das causas da desnutrição. Existem vários métodos para avaliar a história alimentar, sendo o registro alimentar de três dias utilizado, com frequência, como método de referência (109, 110). O BE é o resultado da energia ingerida, por meio da alimentação, e a energia gasta pelo corpo durante o dia ($BE = IA - GET$). Gasto Energético Total (GET), corresponde à

energia gasta pelo indivíduo em 24 horas, é composto pelo gasto energético basal (GEB), gasto energético induzido pela termogênese alimentar, e gasto energético despendido em atividades físicas (111). O GEB é o principal componente do GET, representando cerca de 60% a 75% em indivíduos sedentários, e pode ser estimado por fórmulas ou medido por calorimetria indireta (112). A termogênese induzida pela dieta (digestão, absorção, e estoque de nutrientes) contribui com no máximo 10% do GET e, o gasto com atividade física, pode variar entre 10% a 30% do GET (98, 113). O GET é marcadamente dependente da energia gasta pelas atividades físicas diárias, e pode ser estimado multiplicando-se o GER por um fator que estima o nível de atividade do indivíduo (111). Tal fator pode ser computado de acordo com tabelas de equivalentes metabólicos (METs: *Metabolic Equivalents*), correspondentes a cada atividade realizada (114).

BE positivo é encontrado quando a ingestão alimentar é superior ao GET, levando à deposição energética e tendência ao ganho de peso; por outro lado, BE negativo se dá quando a ingestão alimentar é inferior ao GET, ocasionando depleção das reservas energéticas e tendência à perda de peso (115). Sendo assim, a determinação do GET é essencial para planejamento da intervenção nutricional a ser realizada com o paciente, e BE adequado está intimamente relacionado ao adequado estado nutricional do indivíduo (116).

4. CAPÍTULO I

- **Artigo submetido no periódico “Nutrition” (ANEXO A)**

Combined nutritional assessment methods to predict clinical outcomes in patients on the waiting list for liver transplantation

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Abstract

Nutritional diagnosis is essential given that malnutrition negatively impacts morbidity and mortality in patients with liver disease. In the absence of a standard method, limited accuracy has been reported in relation to nutritional assessment. The objective was evaluated the use of subjective global assessment (SGA) and different methods of nutritional assessment, isolated and in combination with SGA to predict clinical outcomes. This was a longitudinal study with patients waiting for liver transplantation. Nutritional status was classified according to SGA. Anthropometric parameters, standard phase angle (SPA), handgrip strength and 6-minute walk test (6MWT) were evaluated. Univariate and multivariate analysis and receiver operator characteristic (ROC) curve were performed. P value <0.05 was statistically significant. A total of 73 patients with an average age of 52.3 ± 11.4 years were evaluated. 63.0% were men. Low mid-arm muscle area (MAMA) ($p<0.001$), malnutrition by SGA + low MAMA ($p<0.001$) and malnutrition by SGA + low SPA ($p<0.001$) were independent predictors of clinical features of advanced cirrhosis. SGA + SPA presented the greater area under the curve (AUC:0.6431). Death was predicted by low mid-arm circumference (MAC) ($p=0.037$) and slow gait speed on the 6MWT (GS-6MWT) ($p=0.017$), with both parameters isolated or concomitantly linked to malnutrition. SGA + GS-6MWT presented the highest predictive power for death (AUC: 0.6673) slightly greater than SGA+MAC (AUC: 0.6346). The results indicate that SGA together with SPA has greater predictive power for features of advanced cirrhosis and SGA plus gait speed is able to better predict mortality in patients on the waiting list for liver transplant.

Keywords: Nutritional assessment; Subjective global assessment; Phase angle; Gait speed; Clinical outcomes; Liver transplantation.

Introduction

Malnutrition is one of the most common complications in cirrhotic patients, especially in those with advanced disease (2, 4). The prevalence of malnutrition in this population varies depending on the assessment method. Subjective Global Assessment (SGA), anthropometric measurements, bioimpedance analysis (BIA) and functional parameters have been used (4, 67). All are recommended by the European Society of Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition to identify cirrhotic patients with compromised nutritional status (68). However, in the absence of a gold standard testing method, limited accuracy has been reported (4). Nutritional diagnosis is essential given that malnutrition negatively impacts morbidity and mortality (2).

SGA, a non-invasive, easy to apply, low-cost, validated method, has been widely advocated because it relies on patient history and physical examination, overcoming the drawback of interpreting objective parameters affected by liver disease (4, 7, 21). Despite its clinical reasoning advantage, SGA has limitations, particularly related to the expertise and ability of the interviewer to adequately collect all relevant clinical data. Therefore, to increase the accuracy of nutritional diagnosis, use of at least one additional objective method (8) that would be able to identify body compartment changes and functional derangements has been suggested.

Anthropometry has also been used to assess nutritional status, although some parameters become less reliable in patients with cirrhosis due to the presence of edema or ascites, which can lead to important misinterpretation of data. Several authors have defended its use to identify muscle and fat depletion in liver disease patients (10, 67). In particular, arm-muscle circumference and triceps skinfold thickness have been shown as independent predictors of survival in cirrhotic patients (18).

BIA has also been described as a tool to assess body composition of liver disease patients, but the presence of edema/ascites negatively impacts accuracy (91, 117). Phase angle (PA), a nutritional marker obtained directly from BIA, relies on the association between resistance and reactance and is not subject to prediction equations, which can lead to limitations in patients with fluid retention (117). Therefore, PA indicates the integrity of cellular membranes, body cell mass and water cellular distribution, which are related to nutritional status (90, 92). PA has previously been evaluated in patients with cirrhosis (14) and has been shown to be related to prognosis (24, 92).

Loss of muscle mass and strength is associated to the amount of body protein (75) and cell mass (77), which result in decreased functional capacity (78). The relationship between functional

capacity and nutritional status in different populations has been recommended as part of the complete nutritional assessment (11, 118-120). Two currently used methods are handgrip strength (HGS) (11) and the 6-minute walk test (6MWT) (85), which are easy, quick and low cost. Some authors have shown that HGS is a good method to predict clinical complications in different clinical situations (22, 82, 121), including patients with liver cirrhosis (20, 21). In addition, the 6MWT has been used as a predictor of morbidity and mortality in individuals with various diseases (22, 85, 122). In patients with advanced liver disease, few studies have reported outcomes relating the 6MWT with quality of life (23), clinical/biochemical markers of liver disease (87) and survival (23, 87).

Although, nutritional status and clinical outcomes are different conditions, they are directly related and, considering the multifactorial causes of malnutrition among advanced liver disease patients (6), the use of different methods that evaluate the nutritional state in different ways is more likely to better predict outcomes than an isolated tool. Thus, although the literature has shown a relationship between isolated nutritional assessment methods and clinical outcomes, combined nutritional assessment tools have not yet been evaluated to help improve accuracy and predictive ability. The objective of the paper was to evaluate the use of SGA and different methods of nutritional assessment (MAC – mid-arm circumference, TSF - triceps skinfold thickness, MAMA – mid-arm muscle area, PA, HGS, and 6MWT), isolated and in combination with SGA to predict clinical outcomes (features of advanced cirrhosis and death) in patients on the waiting list for liver transplantation.

Methods

This was a longitudinal study performed with patients over 20 years old who were waiting for liver transplantation under regular clinical follow-up at the Liver Transplant Clinic, Alfa Institute of Gastroenterology, Hospital das Clínicas, Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais, Brazil. Patients with an indication for dual transplantation, re-transplantation or fulminant hepatitis as an indication for transplantation were excluded from the study. The research protocol was approved by the Research Ethics Committee (CAAE - 10726313.3.0000.5149, number: 607239) and registered in Clinical Trials under protocol number NCT02917382. Data were collected from July 2014 to July 2016. All patients read and signed an informed consent.

Patients were classified as nourished, suspected/moderately malnourished or severely malnourished according to SGA (70). For statistical purposes, nutritional status was categorized into two groups: the nourished group *versus* the malnourished (suspected/moderate + severe).

Anthropometric evaluation consisted of TSF measured with a Lange skinfold caliper (Cambridge Scientific Industries Inc., Cambridge, MD, USA) and MAC measured with inextensible tape, which were both used to calculate MAMA (123). To minimize practical variability, the average of three consecutive measurements was recorded. TSF, MAC and MAMA values below the 5th percentile were considered inadequate (low TSF, low MAC and low MAMA) (124).

BIA (Quantum X, RJL Systems, Inc., Clinton Township, Michigan) was used to determine PA. Resistance and reactance values were entered in body composition software (RJL Systems) to calculate the PA. Absolute values of the PA were adjusted as a standardized phase angle (SPA) according to sex and age. Values lower than the cutoff of -1.65 were considered inadequate (low SPA) (93).

HGS was performed with a Jamar® dynamometer (Preston, Jackson, MI, USA). Patients were seated and the elbow of the non-dominant arm was flexed at 90°, with the wrist in a neutral position. Triplicate assessments were performed and the average value was used (125). Values below the 5th percentile were considered inadequate (low HGS) (126). The 6MWT was conducted in a 30 m long corridor with a straight, flat surface (85). All patients were previously assessed for clinical contraindications to participate in the test (85). In these cases, the considered distance was 0 meters. Those who had no contraindications (85) were instructed to walk the full distance at their normal pace for six minutes. 6-minute walk distance (6MWD) < 400 m and gait speed on 6MWT (GS-6MWT) < 1 m/s were considered inadequate (short 6MWD and slow gait speed, respectively) (127).

In addition to individual assessment tools, combined parameters were used in the analyses. Patients classified as malnourished by SGA and with cutoffs below the references for each nutritional parameter were grouped as follows: malnourished by SGA + low TSF, malnourished by SGA + low MAC, malnourished by SGA + low MAMA, malnourished by SGA + low HGS, malnourished by SGA + short 6MWD and malnourished by SGA + slow GS-6MWT.

Demographic variables consisted of sex and age. Clinical variables included the medical history of the patient as disease etiology for indication to transplantation as well as the severity of liver disease by MELD (*Model for End-Stage Liver Disease*). This information was verified in the

medical records, as well as the clinical outcomes (features of advanced cirrhosis and death), which were assessed every month until the end of the study or transplantation. The evaluated features of advanced cirrhosis were encephalopathy, esophageal varices, edema, infection, portal hypertension, portal vein thrombosis, renal impairment and complications requiring hospitalization.

Data analyses were performed using the Statistical Package for Social Sciences software (SPSS) version 20.0 (SPSS Inc, Chicago, IL, USA). The sample calculation was performed according to the number of predictors to be inserted in the regression (128). Considering four predictors (nutritional assessment method and three confounding factors - age, sex and disease severity), a sample size of 40 attained an 80.0% statistical power. Continuous variables were submitted to the Kolmogorov-Smirnov test. According to the distribution, mean and standard deviation or median and interquartile range (IQR) were described. Categorical variables were presented as frequency distribution and percentage. A p value <0.05 was considered statistically significant. Univariate analyses included the Student's t-test, the Mann Whitney test, Chi-square and Fisher's exact test and log-rank (Kaplan-Meier) test. Multivariate analysis was performed to evaluate the independent prediction parameters for the outcomes. Poisson regression with robust variance was performed to estimate the prediction of features of advanced cirrhosis, and Cox regression was carried out to predict death. Receiver operator characteristic (ROC) curve was applied to establish the predictive power of each regression model. The area under the curve (AUC) with no discrimination power is 0.5, while values over 0.8 indicate excellent data and a value from 0.6 to 0.8 indicates clinically useful parameters.

Results

A total of 73 patients with an average age of 52.3 ± 11.4 years were evaluated, and 63.0% (n=46) were men. The average MELD was 16.4 ± 4.3 and the main diseases related to the indication for transplantation were ethanolic cirrhosis (30.2%), followed by hepatitis C (29.4%), hepatocellular carcinoma (15.4%) and cryptogenic cirrhosis (12.6%). Other diseases were less prevalent: autoimmune hepatitis (7.0%), primary sclerosing cholangitis (5.6%), secondary biliary cirrhosis (5.5%), hemochromatosis (2.8%), primary biliary cirrhosis steatohepatitis (2.7%), nonalcoholic steatohepatitis (1.4%) and Caroli disease (1.4%). Nutritional parameters (mean and proportion of inadequacy) according to SGA, MAMA, SPA, HGS, 6MWD and GS-6MWT are shown in **Table 1**.

Table 1. Nutritional parameters (mean and percentage of inadequacy) of patients on the waiting list for liver transplantation. Brazil, 2017

Parameters	Mean ± standard deviation	Inadequacy n (%)
SGA	N/A	43 (58.9)
MAC	29.1 ± 4.2	15 (20.5)
SGA + MAC	N/A	14 (19.2)
TSF	19.6 ± 6.5	6 (8.2)
SGA + TSF	N/A	6 (8.2)
MAMA	33.9 ± 10.8	29 (39.7)
SGA + MAMA	N/A	25 (34.2)
SPA	-1.62 ± 1.6	40 (54.8)
SGA + SPA	N/A	30 (41.1)
HGS	26.9 ± 11.6	20 (28.2)
SGA + HGS	N/A	16 (21.9)
6MWD	359.2 ± 149.4	38 (52.1)
SGA + 6MWD	N/A	24 (32.9)
GS-6MWT	0.99 ± 0.41	25 (34.2)
SGA + GS 6MWT	N/A	17 (23.3)

SGA: Subjective Global Assessment; MAC: Mid-arm Circumference; TSF: Triceps Skinfold Thickness; MAMA: Mid-Arm Muscle Area; HGS: Handgrip Strength; SPA: Standard Phase Angle; 6MWD: 6-Minute Walk Distance; GS-6MWT: Gait Speed on 6-Minute Walk Test.
N/A: not applicable.

Presence of features of advanced cirrhosis occurred in 78.1% of the patients. A total of 6.8% presented with 1, while 23.3% had 2, 13.7% had 3, 16.4% had 4, 6.8% presented with 5, 9.6% had 6 and 1.4% had 7 features of advanced cirrhosis. The most frequent was presence of edema (65.9%), followed by encephalopathy (54.8%), esophageal varices (26.6%), infection (8.4%) and renal impairment (6.8%). Hospital admission occurred in 31.5% of the patients due to complications. Thirty patients (41.1%) underwent liver transplantation, within a median time until the operation of 2.6 (IQR: 0.9– 5.4) months. Mortality rate at 2 years was 16.4% and the median (IQR) survival time was 17.9 (8.9 – 27.6) months.

Univariate analysis was performed to determine the parameters to be included in the multivariate analysis. Therefore, malnourished by SGA ($p=0.049$), low MAMA ($p=0.052$), malnourished by SGA + low MAMA ($p=0.038$), low SPA ($p=0.093$), malnourished by SGA + low SPA ($p=0.040$), short 6MWD ($p=0.187$), and malnourished by SGA + short 6MWD ($p=0.173$) were inserted into the model for presence of features of advanced cirrhosis. No significant

association was shown between presence of features of advanced cirrhosis and the other parameters.

Malnourished by SGA ($p=0.173$), low MAC ($p=0.027$), malnourished by SGA + low MAC ($p=0.010$), malnourished by SGA + short 6MWD ($p=0.044$), slow GS-6MWT ($p=0.033$) and malnourished by SGA + slow GS-6MWT ($p=0.010$) were included in the prediction model for death. The other parameters evaluated were not associated with death.

A model for each parameter was created and multivariate analysis was performed involving parameters with $p<0.2$ in univariate analysis, including potentially confounding risk factors for outcomes: age, sex and severity of disease (MELD). SGA alone had no ability to predict the occurrence of features of advanced cirrhosis or death (**Table 2 and 3**). In the final model, low MAMA, malnutrition by SGA + low MAMA and malnutrition by SGA + low SPA were independent predictors of presence of features of advanced cirrhosis ($p<0.05$) (**Table 2**). Malnutrition by SGA + low SPA presented a higher relative risk in relation to the other methods, which represented a greater strength of association with features of advanced cirrhosis. However, this difference was small given that the other methods presented similar values of relative risk (**Table 2**).

Table 2. Nutritional parameters predicting presence of features of advanced cirrhosis in patients on the waiting list for liver transplantation according to Poisson regression. Brazil, 2017.

Parameters	OR	95% CI	p-value
Malnourished by SGA	1.29	0.98 – 1.69	0.074
Low MAMA	1.42	1.18 – 1.72	<0.001*
Malnourished SGA + Low MAMA	1.41	1.18 – 1.69	<0.001*
Low SPA	1.25	0.94 – 1.66	0.123
Malnourished SGA + low SPA	1.43	1.18 – 1.75	<0.001*
Short 6MWD	1.18	0.84 – 1.51	0.198
Malnourished SGA + short 6MWD	1.19	0.95 – 1.49	0.130

OR: Odds Ratio; CI: Confidence Interval. * $p<0.05$.

Models: controlled analysis for the confounding factor: age, sex and MELD

SGA: Subjective Global Assessment; MAMA: Mid-Arm Muscle Area; SPA: Standard Phase Angle; 6MWD: 6-Minute Walk distance; GS-6MWT: Gait Speed on 6-Minute Walk Test.

All AUC values ranged from 0.6 to 0.8, indicating that all parameters can be considered clinically useful. Malnutrition by SGA + low SPA showed the highest predictive power for presence of features of advanced cirrhosis (AUC: 0.6431), followed by malnutrition by SGA + low MAMA (AUC: 0.6393) and low MAMA (AUC: 0.6343) (**Figure 1**).

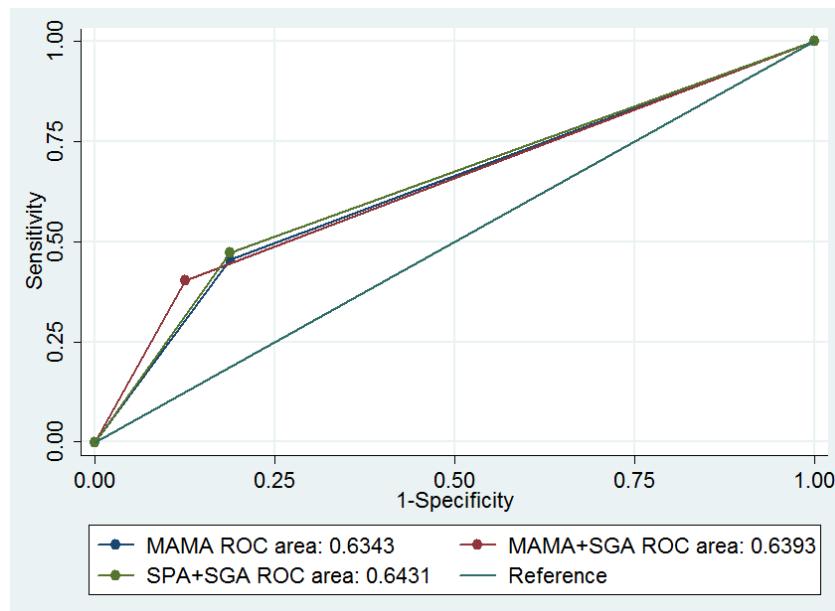


Figure 1. Sensitivity and specificity by Receiver Operator Characteristic (ROC) curve of regression model for Mid-Arm Muscle Area (MAMA), Subjective Global Assessment (SGA) + MAMA, SGA + Standard Phase Angle (SPA).

Death was predicted by low MAC and slow gait speed on the 6MWT, with both parameters isolated or concomitantly linked to malnutrition by SGA (**Table 3**). When used in combination with SGA, low MAC and slow gait speed presented a higher relative risk. Malnutrition by SGA + MAC and malnutrition by SGA + slow GS-6MWT showed the highest AUC. SGA + GS-6MWT presented the highest predictive power for death with an AUC value (0.6673) slightly greater than the AUC of SGA + MAC (0.6346). MAC and GS-6MWT presented the same values (AUC: 0.6264) (**Figure 2**).

Table 3. Nutritional parameters predicting death of patients on the waiting list for liver transplantation according to Cox regression. Brazil, 2017.

Parameters	HR	95% CI	p-value
Malnourished SGA	2.43	0.65 – 9.09	0.187
Low MAC	3.41	1.75 – 10.86	0.037*
Malnourished SGA + low MAC	4.09	1.28 – 13.09	0.018*
Malnourished SGA + short 6MWD	3.07	0.97 – 9.67	0.056
Slow GS-6MWT	3.21	1.03 – 9.96	0.044*
Malnourished SGA + slow GS-6MWT	4.06	1.28 – 12.9	0.017*

HR: Hazard Ratio; CI: Confidence Interval. *p<0.05.

Models: controlled analysis for the confounding factor: age, sex and MELD

SGA: Subjective Global Assessment; MAC: Mid-arm Circumference; 6MWD: 6-Minute Walk distance; GS-6MWT: Gait Speed on 6-Minute Walk Test.

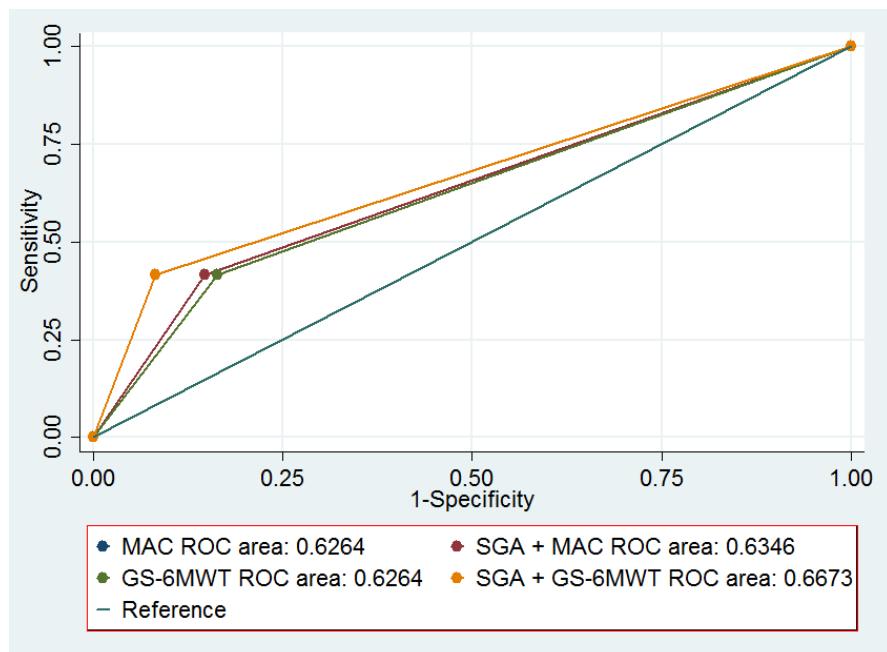


Figure 2: Sensitivity and specificity by Receiver Operator Characteristic (ROC) curve of regression model for Mid-Arm Circumference (MAC), Subjective Global Assessment (SGA) + MAC, Gait Speed on 6-Minute Walk Test (GS-6MWT) and SGA + GS-6MWT.

Discussion

Malnutrition is highly prevalent in patients with cirrhosis, and its negative impact on complications and mortality rates has been reported (2, 129, 130). However, there are discrepancies in the described prevalence of this condition due to difficulty in adequately assessing this population. The current study shows the ability of different methods, such as SGA and objective tools used alone or combination, to predict clinical outcomes.

SGA has been widely used as a standard method due to its overall clinical reasoning, but also has limitations. One of the major criticisms of the method is that its accuracy depends on the evaluator's experience, thus leading to variation between examiners (9, 70). Specifically in patients with advanced liver disease, SGA may be jeopardized by altered parameters, such as weight change and the presence of ascites and edema, which are also directly related to chronic liver failure (74). These facts support the need to use SGA associated with another objective method in order to increase reliability of the nutritional diagnosis and the capacity of predicting outcomes.

In the current study, the decrease in MAC and MAMA predicted features of advanced cirrhosis and death. According to Figueiredo et al. (10), mid-arm muscle circumference is a sensitive marker of body cell mass depletion in patients with end-stage liver disease. Although Huisman et al. reported the association of muscle mass depletion evaluated by mid-arm muscle circumference with complications, this finding was lost in a subsequent multivariate analysis (54). Contrary to these authors and similar to our findings, Harrison et al. (17) identified a significant proportion of patients undergoing liver transplantation who were nutritionally compromised using mid-arm muscle circumference. They reported an association between MAC and infections, graft function and mortality after transplantation (17). Data shown in Alberino et al. (18) also indicates that patients with muscle mass depletion (mid-arm muscle circumference <5th percentile) and TSF (<5th percentile) had lower survival rates and that these anthropometric data were found to be independent predictors of survival (18). Likewise, Kalman et al. (19) showed an impressive decrease in survival in patients with the lowest anthropometric indices. Severely malnourished patients, as determined by triceps skinfold thickness or mid-arm muscle circumference (<5th percentile for both), had a nearly four times higher mortality rate at 24 months (19). All of these studies used a wide variety of circumferences or skinfolds, but the results in general indicate that anthropometric indices, excluding weight and body mass index (which are greatly affected by hydration and water retention), are good predictors of clinical outcomes in patients with liver disease, which is in agreement with our findings. This may be explained by the fact that such

measurements are assessed in the upper compartment of the body, an area less prone to accumulating extravascular fluids, particularly in ambulatory patients.

In healthy subjects, BIA offers reliable information on body composition when suitable (i.e. age-, sex- and population-specific) equations are applied (13). However, in individuals with fluid imbalance and body shape abnormalities, such as in liver disease, its use has been questionable (131). Therefore, PA has gained attention because it is suggested to be an indicator of cellular health and considered a screening tool for the identification of patients at risk of malnutrition and decreased functional status (13). Some authors have demonstrated PA to be a relevant nutritional evaluation tool in liver disease patients (14, 24). In our study, SPA used alone was not associated with clinical outcomes, however it was the best independent predictor of clinical features of advanced cirrhosis when associated with SGA. Similarly, in male patients with cirrhosis, a PA $\leq 4.9^\circ$ was independently associated with mortality and identified patients with poor metabolic, nutritional and disease progression profiles (25). Selberg et al. (15) showed that patients with liver cirrhosis who presented PA $\leq 5.4^\circ$ had shorter survival times than patients with higher PA. The authors concluded that PA may be superior to commonly used body composition tools used in clinical practice (24). Other authors who assessed cirrhotic patients with PA $\leq 4.9^\circ$ reported similar results in which malnutrition was independently associated with mortality (92). Nonetheless, differences in the cut-offs used and our isolated PA negative association indicate that a careful interpretation of this method should prevail and that efforts to standardize adequate cut-off values are needed.

Assessing functionality provides important information in diagnosing nutritional status as well as related prognoses in a wide variety of clinical settings (132). It has thus been recommended as a part of a complete nutrition assessment (11). Although some studies have found dynamometry to be related to clinical outcomes in patients with liver disease (20, 21), the present study did not find the same result. 6MWT was a variable that predicted outcomes in our population. Few studies have described the relationship between nutritional status and 6MWT in this specific population. Martin-Ponce et al. (22) showed that the ability to walk was closely related to HGS and nutritional status. They indicated that when nutritional status as assessed by muscle mass and serum protein values is impaired, physical abilities decline (22). The same authors showed that the walking distance evaluated by 6MWT is a better predictor of short and long-term mortality when compared to muscle mass assessment (22). In our study, short 6MWD was associated with death in the univariate analysis, but did not remain as a risk variable in the multivariate analysis, whereas isolated slow gait speed or its association with malnutrition by SGA was an independent predictor

of survival. The relationship between 6MWD and death has been shown by Carey and colleagues (23) who evaluated 121 LTx candidates with a 6MWD below 250 m, which was shown to be associated with an increased risk of death. According to the authors, for every 100-m increase in walking distance from the baseline, there was a significantly associated 52% reduction in mortality. Alameri et al. (87) and Yadav et al. (133) also showed a short 6MWD was an independent predictor of survival in cirrhotic patients and that the distance covered by surviving patients was longer than for non-survivors. We used a cutoff distance of 400 m to define adequacy of the 6MWT, which may explain the difference in findings. Our results corroborate those by Lai et al. (83), who reported that patients with slow gait speed experience higher rates of mortality. They indicated that an increase in gait speed by 0.1 meters/second (i.e., improvement in physical function) was associated with a 28% decreased mortality risk for patients on the waiting list for liver transplantation (83). Gait speed has also been shown to predict mortality in other populations (134-136).

In conclusion, our results indicate that SGA together with SPA has greater predictive power for presence of features of advanced cirrhosis and that SGA plus gait speed is able to better predict mortality in patients on the waiting list for liver transplant. However, the association between SGA and other readily available assessment tools, such as anthropometrics, as well as single individual objective assessment methods were also predictive of clinical outcomes. SGA is a quick and easy method and is inexpensive, non-invasive and does not require the use of devices (70). This method is frequently used to assess nutritional status in patients with various clinical diagnoses (71-73) and has often been a standard method of validating other assessment tools (9). SGA has previously been shown to be associated with loss of muscle mass and subcutaneous fat in liver transplant patients (7) in an era when computed tomography (CT) was still in early stages as a tool to assess body composition. In fact, to our knowledge there has been no study comparing the nutritional status provided by clinical tools versus that derived from body composition assessment by CT. Furthermore, while CT is a convenient method to evaluate body compartments, it represents an extra economic burden in countries with limited health care resources. Appropriate training of examiners to perform SGA is fundamental to minimize variance among different professionals and is more affordable than the use of sophisticated tools (70, 137).

The current study has limitations related to data regarding features of advanced cirrhosis, which were retrieved from medical records. The latter may be subject to incomplete or even absent registers. Also, follow-up time was relatively short for some patients. Finally, because all patients were from a single center, results should be confirmed in a larger series with a longer follow-up time.

5. CAPÍTULO II

- Artigo submetido no periódico “Journal of Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition”
(ANEXO B)**

Prospective evaluation of nutritional status, energy balance and clinical outcomes in the perioperative of patients undergoing liver transplantation

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Abstract

Background: The assessment of dietary intake and energy balance is still poorly described in the perioperative of liver transplantation (LTx). **Aim:** To evaluate the nutritional and energetic evolution before and after short-term LTx, and to identify whether these changes affect clinical outcomes. **Methods:** A prospective observational study was conducted with patients waiting for LTx, assessed before and after operation. Anthropometry data, handgrip strength (HGS), phase angle (PA), resting energy expenditure (REE), total energy expenditure (TEE) and energy balance (EB) were evaluated. Presence of complications after operation, length of Intensive Care Unit and hospital stay, and death were registered. Data analysis was performed by IBM-SPSS and p value < 0.05 was considered as statistically significant. **Results:** 29 subjects who underwent transplantation were prospectively evaluated. The average age was 54.1 ± 11.5 years; 79.3% of the patients were male and the mean MELD was 16.7 ± 4.6 . Patients presented malnutrition (3.4% to 81%) and negative energy balance (71.4% and 77.8%) before and after LTx, respectively. Patients with longer hospitalization had lower values of muscle arm area ($p=0.020$) and lower values of HGS ($p=0.010$). Patients who presented complication after LTx had decreased values of SPA ($p=0.019$), low protein intake ($p=0.013$) and low values of REE ($p=0.031$). These individuals also had a more negative energy balance ($p=0.004$). **Conclusions:** Malnutrition with negative EB was dominant throughout the perioperative liver transplantation period and were associated with outcomes. The results draw attention to the potential benefit of nutritional assessment, including dietary intake, individualized nutritional interventions assessment and nutritional therapy.

Key words: nutritional status, dietary assessment, energy balance, outcomes, liver transplantation, perioperative

Introduction

Malnutrition is highly prevalent in patients with liver disease, especially in those with advanced disease (2, 4). Poor nutritional status negatively impacts morbidity and mortality rates after liver transplantation (LTx) (2, 3). Increased blood loss in the operation, longer length of stay in the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) with longer respiratory support as well as higher total hospital costs and increased mortality have been associated with the poor nutritional status of these patients. Reports on impaired graft function have also been attributed to malnutrition (3, 16, 17, 26). Hence, perioperative nutritional care is outstandingly important to either recover or preserve the nutritional status in patients undergoing LTx.

Patients with end-stage liver disease commonly present with decreased food intake secondary to anorexia, nausea, early satiety, vomiting and the use of various medications, leading to severe malnutrition (129, 138). Immediately after transplantation, the decrease in food consumption may persist due to the organic response to trauma and the associated postoperative intestinal dysmotility (64, 138). Other factors may also contribute to the decrease in post-operative food intake, such as the loss of vagal innervation related to the transplantation. This affects autonomic regulatory control, and may also influence nutrient absorption and metabolism, glucose and lipid homeostasis, appetite signaling and eating behavior (59, 139). In addition, in the immediate phase after LTx, protein catabolism is markedly increased, with excretion of large amounts of urinary nitrogen (138, 140), mainly in the first three (141) to 10 days (142) after transplantation. Protein catabolism occurs even in the absence of hypermetabolism (141) and, may not be reverted in the first year after liver transplant (28, 63, 143, 144). Also, the use of immunosuppressive therapy and, the presence of postoperative complications with longer fasting periods (59, 60) can further lead to malnutrition. Therefore, in general, these patients present with negative energy balance (EB) (a condition characterized by insufficient energy intake in relation to expenditure) which leads to a depletion of energy stores (145, 146). Also, it is not clear if these individuals are always hypermetabolic as some authors have indicated (143, 147), or if hypometabolism (139) or no change in energy expenditure is present (148). Thus, it is of utmost importance to investigate the components of EB (energy intake and expenditure) throughout the perioperative period, as well as to assess the nutritional status in order to create strategies for early and effective treatment, especially for already malnourished patients.

Dietary intake data and energy balance while on the waiting list (149) and later after the transplant (150) have been explored. However, in the early postoperative period, the assessment of

dietary intake and energy balance is still poorly described. In this prospective observational study, we aimed at evaluating the nutritional and energetic evolution before liver transplantation and in the short-term afterwards. In addition, it was our goal to identify whether these changes affect clinical outcomes.

Methods

A prospective observational study was conducted with patients waiting for liver transplantation, aged over 20, who were under regular clinical follow-up at the Liver Transplant Clinic, Alpha Gastroenterological Institute of the Hospital das Clínicas, Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais. Data were collected from July 2014 to July 2016. Patients with an indication for dual transplant, re-transplantation or fulminant hepatitis as the indication for transplantation were excluded from the study. The research protocol was approved by the Research Ethics Committee (CAAE - 10726313.3.0000.5149, number: 607239) and Clinical Trials (NCT02917382). Written informed Consent was signed by all participants.

Patients were evaluated while on the waiting list and after undergoing transplantation. There were three assessment moments: (1), in the pre-transplant period; (2), between the 1st and 3rd postoperative day (POD), and (3), between the 5th and 10th POD. In the first assessment, demographic characteristics (sex and age) and clinical history (etiology of the disease to indicate the transplant and the severity of liver disease by MELD) were collected. Anthropometry data, handgrip strength (HGS) phase angle (PA) and food intake were evaluated in the three moments. Resting energy expenditure (REE), total energy expenditure (TEE) and energy balance (EB) were evaluated in the first and third assessments (not in the second assessment due to patients' denial/discomfort), except for patients who were intubated during the ICU (the calorimeter was not adapted to any of the available respirators).

The anthropometric indicators used in this study were mid-arm circumference (MAC), tricipital skin fold (TSF) and arm muscle area (AMA) calculated from data on TSF and MAC (123). Values lower than the 5th percentile were considered inadequate (124, 151). Handgrip Strength, measured by the JAMAR® dynamometer (Preston, Jackson, MI, USA), was used to evaluate functional capacity. Patients who presented values lower than the 5th percentile were considered to have reduced functional capacity (126). Electrical bioimpedance, Quantum X model (RJL Systems, Inc., Clinton Township, Michigan) was utilized to determine the phase angle (PA).

The absolute values of the phase angle were adjusted to standardized phase angle (SPA) according to sex and age (93).

REE was measured by indirect calorimetry using the Quark RMR® calorimeter with a canopy mode (COSMED® Rome, Italy), already validated in previous studies (152, 153). The test was performed after a 12-hour overnight fast, with the patient in a recumbent position, awaken, in a silent room with the temperature around 22-24°C and in the morning. Oxygen consumption (VO₂) and the production of carbon dioxide (VCO₂) were used to calculate REE according to the Weir formula (154). The TEE was calculated by using the measured REE data associated with the assessment of daily physical activities while in the pre-transplant phase (155). To assess physical activity, patients described their daily activities, and the corresponding MET values were computed (114). The METs were multiplied by the time spent performing each activity, all activities were summed and, the total was divided by 24 to obtain the physical activity factor (AF), in a day. The TEE was obtained by multiplying the 24-h REE by the calculated AF (TEE x AF) (155). In the post-transplant period, an activity factor of 1.2 was used for bedridden patients and 1.3 for those spending most of the time out of bed (156). The EB was obtained by subtracting the TEE and the energetic value of the food intake: EB [kcal] = food intake [kcal] - TEE [kcal] (155).

Dietary intake was quantified by means of a three-day non-consecutive food record, in all three periods when applicable, performed with the Avanutri Online® program. The macronutrients were analyzed according to the amount in grams and the percentage they represent in the total caloric value of the diet. Food intake after the operation included the type of diet according to consistency (regular, soft, puree, mild, full liquid or clear liquid diet) and use of oral supplements. Also, data comprising time on *nil per os* (NPO), the beginning of the oral diet, and the use of enteral or parenteral nutrition were recorded.

The presence of the following complications after surgery was recorded while patients were in the hospital: acute renal failure, need for hemodialysis, blood transfusion, vascular or biliary complications, infection, reoperation, graft dysfunction, re-transplantation. Surgical complications were graded according to the Dindo–Clavien classification (157). Furthermore, the length of ICU and hospital stay, as well as death (when applicable), were registered.

Data analysis was performed by IBM - Statistical Package for Social Science (SPSS) software version 20.0 (SPSS Inc, Chicago, IL, USA). A convenience sample was used since the main objective of the study was an exploratory description of the EB and its components (REE and

energy intake) (158, 159). Continuous variables were evaluated by the Shapiro-Wilk test, for the determination of distribution. Variables were described by their mean and standard deviation (mean \pm SD) or median and interquartile range (median–IQR) according to the normality. Categorical variables were presented by means of their frequency and percentage distribution. Paired T-test, Wilcoxon and Mc Nemar Tests were used in the univariate analysis for paired variables. Student T-test, Mann-Whitney test and Kaplan-Meier were used for independent variables. P-values < 0.05 were considered as statistically significant.

Results

Seventy-three patients on the waiting list for liver transplantation were initially assessed for follow up. Of these, 21 were still on the waiting list, 4 had the transplant contraindicated, 3 were subsequently placed as inactive on the list (for not completing the protocol for transplantation), 2 had clinical improvement, 2 were transferred to other institutions, and 12 died in the waiting list for LT. Thus there were 29 who underwent transplantation and were prospectively evaluated. The average age was 54.1 ± 11.5 years, and 79.3% were male. The mean MELD was 16.7 ± 4.6 . The most common underlying disease leading to transplantation was ethanolic cirrhosis (27.8%), followed by cirrhosis due to C virus (20.7%) and cryptogenic cirrhosis (20.7%). Hepatocarcinoma, isolated or associated with other indications, was presented in 24.1% of patients.

The patients were evaluated on a median of 79.5 (IQR: 15.6 - 160.3) days before transplantation, and on average 2.4 ± 1.2 days for the first evaluation after LTx and 8.1 ± 2.8 days for the second evaluation. The nutritional parameters and the inadequacy according to each tool over time are described in **Table 4**.

Table 4. Prospective assessment of nutritional parameters and percentage of inadequacy according to different tools before and after liver transplantation. Brazil, 2017.

Parameters	Pre-transplant	Inadequacy %	First evaluation after LTx ^a	Inadequacy %	Second evaluation after LTx ^b	Inadequacy %
Handgrip Strength (kg)	28.5 ± 10.1	48.0	$21.8 \pm 9.5^*$	70.0	$23.6 \pm 8.0^{*\dagger}$	56.3
Mid-arm Circumference (cm)	28.2 ± 3.6	17.2	$26.7 \pm 3.8^*$	41.4	$25.9 \pm 3.9^{*\dagger}$	34.5
Tricipital Skin Fold (mm)	17.7 ± 6.8	41.4	$14.8 \pm 5.3^*$	3.8	$13.8 \pm 5.2^*$	3.4
Muscle Arm Area (cm^2)	31.9 ± 9.2	48.3	29.9 ± 10.8	65.4	$28.6 \pm 10.1^*$	69.6
Standard Phase Angle	-1.5 ± 1.6	57.7	$-2.9 \pm 2.0^*$	86.4*	$-2.9 \pm 1.8^*$	81.0*

LTx: Liver Transplantation. Values are expressed as Mean \pm Standard Deviation.

^a Average of 2.4 ± 1.2 days after operation; ^b average of 8.1 ± 2.8 days after operation.

* $p < 0.05$ compared to the values at the pre-transplantation time. † $p < 0.05$ compared to values at the first evaluation after liver transplantation.

The energy expenditure, food intake and energetic balance in the three time points are described in **Table 5**. The majority of patients presented lower energy consumption than TEE: 71.4% and 77.8% of the patients presented negative energy balance in the pre and post-transplant period, respectively.

Table 5. Prospective assessment of energy expenditure, dietary intake and energy balance before and after liver transplantation. Brazil, 2017.

Parameters	Pre-transplant	First evaluation after LTx ^a	Second evaluation after LTx ^b
Resting energy expenditure (kcal)	1,548.4 ± 326.6	---	1,604.5 ± 279.9
Respiratory Coefficient	0.88 ± 0.7	---	0.81 ± 0.7*
Total Energy Expenditure (kcal)	2,070.1 ± 451.3	----	2,134.8 ± 334.4
Energy intake (kcal)	1,524.6 ± 445.5	566.1 (585.8 – 2410.8)*	1,392.2 ± 457.3†
Energy balance (kcal)	-294.4 ± 454.2	----	-901.4 ± 471.3*
Protein intake (%)	15.9 ± 5.1	17.8 ± 5.4	19.4 ± 4.9†
Protein intake (g)	59.1 ± 27.6	27.1 (13.3 – 47.7)	63.4 (46.3 – 93.8)
Carbohydrate intake (%)	54.5 ± 12.9	55.8 ± 11.8	54.5 ± 11.3
Carbohydrate intake (g)	203.2 ± 81.0	85.9 (62.4 – 145.8)*	198.9 (149.5 – 268.6)†
Lipid intake (%)	25.1 ± 9.7	26.4 ± 9.9	25.4 ± 9.2
Lipid intake (g)	40.4 ± 20.5	16.8 (13.7 – 25.9)*	38.3 (24.9 – 56.0)

LTx: Liver Transplantation.

^a Average of 2.4 ± 1.2 days after operation; ^b average of 8.1 ± 2.8 days after operation.

Values are expressed as mean ± standard deviation or median (interquartile range).

*p<0.05 compared first and second evaluation after liver transplantation to the values at the pre-transplantation time.

†p<0.05 compared second evaluation to values at the first evaluation after liver transplantation.

The median fasting time after transplantation was 2 (IQR: 1-3) days, with a maximum of 5 days. The majority of patients (93.1%) were allowed an oral diet, and enteral nutrition was used by 2 (6.9%) patients, who started it on the 5th POD. One of these two patients also received parenteral nutrition, after 7 days on enteral nutrition (on the 12th day after the operation). Of patients on an oral diet, 34.5% were given a soft diet, 27.6% puree, 20.7% a full liquid diet, 3.4% a clear liquid diet and 3.4% a regular diet.

The median time spent in the ICU was 4 days (IQR: 3 – 6 days), and the median hospital length of stay was 14.5 days (IQR: 13 – 21.5 days). On average, patients had 1.8 complications, and most were rated grade 2. Blood transfusion was required by 37.9% of the patients. Acute renal failure was present in 34.5% of the individuals, 70.0% of which underwent hemodialysis. The other complications were infections (31.0%), reoperation (13.8 %), vascular complications (13.8 %) and cholestasis (3.4%). Two individuals (6.9%) had graft dysfunction due to hepatic artery thrombosis, and both underwent re-transplantation. Of the 29 patients, 5 (17.2%) died.

The severity of liver disease was inversely associated with energy intake in the pre-transplant period. Patients with higher MELD values presented lower energy intake ($p = 0.037$). Age was also inversely associated with REE in the pre-transplant assessment, with lower REE as age increases ($p = 0.011$). Sex and indication for transplantation did not impact the variables of interest ($p < 0.05$).

Nutritional status deteriorates during hospitalization and is associated with clinical outcomes. Patients with longer hospitalization (> 15 days) had lower values of muscle arm area after transplantation ($33.9 \pm 8.6 \text{ cm}^2$) than the others ($24.1 \pm 9.5 \text{ cm}^2$) ($p = 0.020$). In the same way, patients with longer hospitalization also presented lower values of dynamometry in the second evaluation after LTx ($19.8 \pm 7.3 \text{ kg}$) than patients who were in the hospital for less than 15 days ($30.2 \pm 5.4 \text{ kg}$) ($p = 0.010$).

The nutritional status measured by the standard phase angle was also associated with complications. Patients who presented any complication after LTx had lower values of SPA before transplantation and in the second post-transplant evaluation ($p < 0.05$) (**Table 6**). Lower protein intake in the pre-transplant period was also associated with the presence of complications after the operation ($p < 0.05$) (**Table 6**). In the first evaluation after LTx, those patients with lower amount of protein intake ($29.8 \pm 25.3 \text{ g}$) had a higher prevalence of death than those who consumed the largest amount in grams ($69.4 \pm 40.7 \text{ g}$) ($p=0.039$). In the post-operative period, lower energy expenditure, respiratory quotient and energy balance were associated with the presence of complications ($p < 0.05$) (**Table 6**).

Table 6. Associated factors with the presence of complications after liver transplantation. Brazil, 2017.

Variable	No Complications	Presence of complications	p-value
Pre-transplant			
Standard Phase Angle pre-LTx	1.83 ± 1.46	-0.09 ± 0.94	0.019
Protein intake pre-LTx (%)	17.4 ± 4.8	11.6 ± 3.4	0.013
Post-transplant			
Standard Phase Angle post-LTx	-2.02 ± 0.76	-3.29 ± 1.9	0.046
Resting Energy Expenditure post-LTx (kcal)	$1,788.7 \pm 141.6$	$1,518.5 \pm 289.9$	0.031
Respiratory Quotient post-LTx	0.83 ± 0.08	0.75 ± 0.05	0.035
Energy Balance post-LTx (kcal)	-476.4 ± 548.9	-1081.2 ± 389.7	0.004

LTx: Liver transplantation.

Values are expressed as mean \pm standard deviation.

Discussion

This study aimed to describe changes in nutrition status, dietary intake, resting energy expenditure and energy balance before and after liver transplantation. In addition, the relationship of these parameters with clinical outcomes and death after operation were also evaluated. To our knowledge, this is the first study to describe these variables in the perioperative period of patients undergoing liver transplantation.

It is worth noting that in general there was a decrease in the values of the nutritional parameters during the hospitalization period, which reflects a worsening of the nutritional status. Several risk factors have been reported to be associated with nutritional status deteriorations after LTx. The nutrition condition of these patients is already precarious before transplantation. After surgery, factors such as the metabolic response to trauma (59, 143), protein catabolism (140-142), immunosuppressive therapy, longer fasting periods, and postoperative complications contribute to a worse nutritional status (28, 59, 63).

In this study, lower values of SPA before and after transplantation were associated with complications. Other studies have shown phase angle as a marker of nutritional status and as a prognostic factor in different populations (90, 160, 161) and in patients with cirrhosis (14, 24, 25, 91). Muscle arm area and handgrip strength were also associated with clinical outcomes. Patients with lower values of these parameters after transplantation presented longer hospital stay. Corroborating these results, several studies have shown the relationship of malnutrition with longer hospital stay and other complications (162), including studies with patients undergoing liver transplantation (3, 16, 20, 21).

More than 70.0% of the patients had negative EB before and early after transplantation. A previous study conducted by our research group also showed high negative EB in patients on the waiting list for liver transplantation (27). On the other hand, we also showed that there is an increase of energy intake and consequently positive energy balance 30 days after transplantation (149). Merli *et al.* also found negative EB before transplantation, which became positive on the third month after transplantation (28). To our knowledge, no studies have assessed dietary intake and energy balance early after the operation. In the current study, we could observe that the precarious pre-transplant dietary intake further declines when the patient undergoes transplantation, thereby worsening the nutritional status.

REE and EB after transplantation were both associated with clinical outcomes. REE and EB after LTx were associated with presence of complications. Some authors have explored the relationship between REE before LTx and clinical outcomes (101, 163, 164). In the present study, lower values of REE were associated with poorer outcomes, a result that would be paradoxical if it were not the case that there is a negative correlation between REE and age (i.e. older patients show lower REE). The elderly commonly present decreased muscle mass (age related sarcopenia) such as malnutrition, which are directly associated with REE (165, 166). Although we are not able to compare our data with those of other authors encompassing the same population, in critically ill patients, Villet *et al.* showed a correlation of negative EB with complications, particularly infections (146). These authors suggest that energy debt may be a promising tool for nutritional assessment and follow-up. Given the difficulty of objectively assessing the early stages of malnutrition, a negative EB indicating either a decreased energy intake, an increased resting metabolic rate, or both, could prompt an objective nutritional status marker.

Pre-transplant total energy intake was associated with the severity of liver disease. This relationship has already been reported (27). Lower intake of protein in the pre-transplant period was associated with length of hospital stay, presence of complications and death (data not shown) after liver transplantation. We also observed an association between substrate oxidation and the presence/number of complications. Patients with complications had RQ value close to 0.75. It's reported that RQs less than 0.84 may be related to underfeeding and also reflect higher amount of fat and protein oxidation (167). Protein, especially in critically ill patients, is underprescribed and mostly underdelivered as shown by a recent review of a current International Nutrition Survey (168). Emerging evidence suggests that protein intake has the potential to improve the recovery of critically ill patients as well as energy balance (168, 169). This improvement has been reported in overall hospitalized patients (170), geriatric individuals (171), and recently in cirrhotic patients (172). The ESPEN guidelines recommend early re-establishing of oral or enteral nutrient intake in order to lower the risk of infection and to reduce the length of hospital stay (64). Thus, the need for aggressive/adequate nutritional therapy due to the presence of negative energy balance is suggested to be mandatory in the pre-transplant stage and also early after the operation, as EB is even more negative then. In this regard, the necessity to indicate nutritional therapy to these patients, even when they seem "well nourished" by presenting an increase body mass index is key to their integral therapeutic approach.

One limitation of our study is that the EB values are based on dietary surveys, and these methods have known drawbacks (110). However, all records were double-checked with the patient to increase the reliability of the food intake data. This process attempted to minimize possible errors in the conversion of household food measures and also confirmed that what was recorded actually matched the patient's habitual intake. Thus, despite the limitations of such a method, and the lack of testing with biochemical markers for energy and macronutrients, our dietary intake data did seem to provide a good approximation of the food intake profile for these patients, and thus allows for an assessment of the main oral diet deficiencies and a proposal of specific intervention strategies. A similar limitation is the fact that the TEE analysis was computed based on self-reported daily activities. Double labeled water is the gold standard for the measurement of TEE in humans, but this technique has some disadvantages, in particular its high cost (173). Lastly, even though the sample size was considered adequate for an exploratory descriptive study, some variables may not have been associated with the outcomes evaluated due to their low incidence. Further research should be carried out with a larger population and in different centers.

Conclusion

Malnutrition was associated with clinical outcomes. Negative EB was overwhelmingly present throughout the perioperative liver transplantation period, and was associated with longer hospital stay and presence of complications. Low protein intake was also related with negative outcomes which further supports the association between the nutritional status and morbidity. These results suggest the importance of individualized nutritional interventions, including dietary intake assessment and nutritional therapy either with oral supplements, enteral or parenteral nutrition, both before and after liver transplantation in order to avoid poor clinical outcomes.

6. CONSIDERAÇÕES FINAIS

Os resultados desse trabalho indicaram que a utilização de métodos objetivos, como ângulo de fase padronizado, velocidade de marcha no teste de seis minutos de caminhada e antropometria aumentaram o poder preditivo da avaliação global subjetiva para predizer complicações e mortalidade nos pacientes em lista de espera para o transplante.

Após o transplante os aspectos relacionados ao estado nutricional também foram associados aos desfechos clínicos. Grande parte dos pacientes apresentaram balanço energético negativo no perioperatório e, este fator foi associado a maior permanência hospitalar e taxa de complicações. Ingestão baixa de proteínas também foi relacionada com resultados negativos, o que reforça a relação do estado nutricional com a morbi-mortalidade desses pacientes.

Poucos estudos realizaram abordagem metabólica e nutricional completa de pacientes no período perioperatório do TH, o que dificulta comparações com o presente trabalho. Além disso, a heterogeneidade da população, as diferentes abordagens metodológicas, e a falta de dados atuais, também contribuem para isso. Ao mesmo tempo, essa desvantagem evidencia a importância dos dados reportados nesse estudo. Esses servirão de base para futuros trabalhos de pesquisa na área, principalmente relacionados aos aspectos pouco pesquisados como a associação de métodos de avaliação nutricional e o balanço energético.

O estado nutricional do paciente com doença hepática avançada em lista de espera para o transplante, tanto antes quanto depois da operação, é importante fator que interfere nos desfechos clínicos do paciente. Sendo assim, avaliação e monitoração nutricional, são essenciais para orientar intervenções nutricionais precoces, adequadas e individualizadas, tanto antes como depois do TH, afim de evitar piores desfechos clínicos, possibilitando melhor sobrevida e qualidade de vida dessa população.

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APÊNDICE A – Termo de Consentimento Livre e Esclarecido

TERMO DE CONSENTIMENTO LIVRE E ESCLARECIDO

Titulo do projeto: Relação entre métodos de avaliação nutricional e complicações do pós-operatório imediato em pacientes submetidos a transplante hepático

Investigadores:

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Você está sendo convidado(a) para participar, como voluntário, em uma pesquisa. Leia cuidadosamente o que segue e me pergunte sobre qualquer dúvida que você tiver. Após ser esclarecido(a) sobre as informações a seguir, no caso aceite fazer parte do estudo, assine ao final deste documento, que consta em duas vias. Uma via pertence a você e a outra ao pesquisador responsável. Em caso de recusa você não sofrerá nenhuma penalidade.

- A sua participação é totalmente voluntária e não terá custo para você;
- Você pode decidir por não participar do estudo, ou retirar-se durante o mesmo em qualquer momento, sem pena alguma e sem prejuízo.
- Se tiver dúvidas, entre em contato com os pesquisadores nos telefones acima ou no Instituto Alfa de Gastroenterologia do Hospital das Clínicas da UFMG, localizado na Av. Alfredo Balena, 110, Bairro Santa Efigênia – Belo Horizonte, MG. Você também poderá procurar pelo COEP - Comitê de Ética em Pesquisas, que se localiza na Av. Antônio Carlos, 6627 – Unidade Administrativa II – 2º andar –Campus Pampulha da UFMG – Belo Horizonte/MG – Tel. (31) 3409-4592.

Procedimentos do estudo. Para participar do estudo, você passará pelos seguintes procedimentos:

- Responderá a questionário com perguntas sobre o seu nome, endereço, telefone, idade;
- Responderá a questionários com perguntas sobre hábitos alimentares e qualidade de vida;
- Será avaliado (a) sobre o estado nutricional por meio de anamnese (conversa com os pesquisadores) e terá o diagnóstico de bem nutrido, desnutrido moderado ou desnutrido grave;
- Será submetido (a) à medida do peso corporal e da estatura;
- Será submetida (a) a exame de Bioimpedância Elétrica, que avaliará a composição corporal. Neste exame, ficará deitado e terá quatro placas tipo esparadrapo coladas no pé direito e mão direita, por onde passará corrente elétrica, que não é sequer sentida pelo corpo humano. Este exame não causa nenhuma dor ou desconforto;
- Apertará com a mão um aparelho chamado dinamômetro, que tem o objetivo de avaliar a força muscular;
- Fará o exame calorimetria indireta que consiste ficar deitado por cerca de 30 minutos e respirar dentro de uma canópia;
- No momento do transplante será coletada amostra do músculo reto abdominal
- Serão solicitadas imagens de tomografia computadorizada, caso estejam disponíveis, para posterior análise.

Riscos e desconfortos: Não haverá riscos na participação do estudo, pois os métodos utilizados não causam nenhuma lesão. Poderá haver algum desconforto ao respirar dentro da canópia, durante a realização do exame de calorimetria indireta.

Benefícios: Ao participar do estudo você poderá contribuir para que novos métodos sejam empregados na avaliação do estado nutricional de pacientes submetidos a transplante hepático. Isto pode contribuir na evolução do tratamento, com importante melhora dos resultados.

Sigilo: Tudo que for realizado neste estudo será mantido em sigilo e privacidade. Apenas você e os pesquisadores do projeto terão acesso às informações. Sua identidade será mantida em segredo.

Concordo que todas as informações obtidas no estudo são de uso da Faculdade de Medicina da UFMG, à qual dou direito de retenção, uso na elaboração da pesquisa e de divulgação em jornais, televisão, congressos, revistas científicas do país e do estrangeiro, respeitando a ética em pesquisa.

Nome do voluntário: _____ Assinatura: _____

Pesquisador: _____ Assinatura: _____

Belo Horizonte, ____ de ____ 20 ____

APÊNDICE B – Formulário coleta de dados pré e pós-transplante hepático



Projeto: Relação entre métodos de avaliação nutricional e complicações do pós operatório recente em pacientes submetidos a transplante hepático

Programa de Pós Graduação em Ciências Aplicadas à Cirurgia e Oftalmologia - Faculdade de Medicina - UFMG/Doutoranda: Helem Sena Ribeiro

Data: _____

Dados pessoais

Nome: _____ Registro: _____
Telefone: _____ Email: _____
Data nascimento: _____ Idade: _____

Dados sócioeconômicos

Sexo
Feminino () Masculino ()
Profissão: _____ Ocupação atual: _____
Renda familiar: _____ Nº pessoas: _____
Per capita: _____
Estado civil
Solteiro (a) () Separado/divorciado ()
Casado/Mora com cônjuge () Viúvo (a) ()

Escolaridade

Analfabeto ()	Superior incompleto ()
Fundamental incompleto ()	Superior completo ()
Fundamental completo ()	Pós graduação ()
Médio incompleto ()	Anos de estudo ()
Médio completo ()	

História clínica

Indicação para o transplante

Etanólica ()	Criptogênica ()
Vírus C ()	Colangiteesclerosante 1ª ()
Vírus B ()	Hepatite autoimune ()
Autoimune ()	Cirrose biliar 1ª ()
Hepatocarcinoma ()	Outra: ()

Doenças associadas:

Gravidade da doença

ChildPugh: _____ MELD: _____

	1ª av. Pré-TH	2ª av. pós TH - CTI	3ª pós TH - av. Enfermaria
<i>Data</i>			
Peso habitual (kg)			
Peso atual (kg)			
Edema/Ascite			
Peso seco (kg)			
Altura (m)			
IMC			
AGS (anexo)			
PCT (mm)			
Circunferência Braço (cm)			
Dinamometria (kg)			
Bioimpedântica - AF			
Resistência			
Reactância			
Hr última alimentação			
GER			
VO ²			
VCO ²			
%CHO			
%LIP			
RQ			
Hr dormir		x	
Hr levantar		x	
Atividades assentadas TV		x	
Leitura		x	
Computador		x	
Deslocamento a pé		x	
Alimentação, banho		x	
Ativ domésticas		x	
Exercícios físicos		x	
Outros:		x	
Tempo perm. CTI	x	x	x
Tempo perm. hospital	x	x	
Medicamentos em uso	Furosemida	Tacrolimus	Tac
	Espironolactona	Prednisona	Pred
	Lactulose	MMF	MMF
	Propanolol		
Outros:			
Nº total:			
Suplementos:			

APÊNDICE C – Formulário coleta de dados pós-transplante precoce

	CTI	Enfermaria
Data		
Data liberação da dieta		
Tipo de dieta		
Oral		
Consistência		
Tipo de dieta		
Enteral		
Tipo de dieta		
Data início consumo alimentar		
Necessidade ventilação mecânica		
Dias		
Desmame		
Necessidade traqueostomia		
Tempo permanência CTI		
Tempo permanência hospital		
Mortalidade		
Data		
Causa		
Hemorragia		
Infecção		
Número infecções		
Retardo cicatrização		
Comp. Vasculares		
Comp. Biliares		
Rejeição/falha enxerto		
Transfusão		

APÊNDICE D – Avaliação Global Subjetiva Adaptada

Avaliação Global Subjetiva do Estado Nutricional

Paciente: _____

Registro: _____ Data da avaliação: ____ / ____ / ____

A. História

1. Peso

Peso habitual: _____ kg

Perdeu peso nos últimos 6 meses? sim não desconhecido. Quantidade _____ kg

Nas últimas 2 semanas: continua perdendo estável engordou

2. Ingestão alimentar em relação ao habitual

sem alteração

alterada: duração = _____ dias.

Tipo: dieta sólida em menor quantidade dieta líquida completa líquida restrita jejum

3. Sintomas gastrointestinais presentes há mais de 15 dias

nenhum falta de apetite náuseas vômito diarréia (> 3 evacuações líquidas/dia)

4. Capacidade funcional

sem disfunção

com disfunção: duração = _____ dias

Tipo: trabalho subótimo tratamento ambulatorial acamado

5. Doença principal e sua relação com as necessidades nutricionais

Diagnóstico(s) principal(is): _____

Demandas metabólicas: baixo stress stress moderado stress elevado

B. Exame Físico

Perda de gordura subcutânea (tríceps, tórax) normal leve moderada importante

Perda muscular (quadríceps, deltóide e ombros) normal leve moderada importante

Presença de edema ou ascite normal leve moderada importante

C- Condições Existentes

Encefalopatia: nenhuma grau I-II grau III grau IV

Infecção crônica ou recorrente nenhuma 1 semana > 1 semana

Função renal boa diminuída (sem diálise) diminuída (com diálise)

Varizes: nenhuma varizes (sem sangramento) varizes (com sangramento)

C. Classificação (selecionar uma)

Bem nutrido

Suspeita de desnutrição ou moderadamente desnutrido

Desnutrido grave

APÊNDICE E – Registro alimentar de 3 dias

Nome: _____

Preencha o registro e entregue no dia agendado para a avaliação da calorimetria indireta. O preenchimento cuidadoso desse registro é fundamental para avaliação mais precisa da sua alimentação.

Para preencher o registro, anote tudo o que foi consumido (alimentos e bebidas) no dia em questão com o maior detalhamento possível:

- Anote o horário da refeição;
- Se o alimento for industrializado, anote a marca;
- Quantidades detalhadas: ex: 1 ponta de faca de manteiga (ou 1 colher de chá de manteiga); 1 copo americano na risca de leite integral (ou desnatado, por exemplo), 1 copo duplo cheio de suco de laranja natural com 1 colher de chá rasa de açúcar; 1 colher de servir rasa de arroz; 4 folhas de alface com 5 gotas de azeite normal)
- Escolha 2 dias de semana e um dia de final de semana

Diferentes tipos de colheres: Colher de café, chá, sobremesa, sopa



Pegador, colher de sopa, colher de servir, escumadeira, concha



Xicara de leite cheia, nivelada e rasa



Copo duplo e copo americano



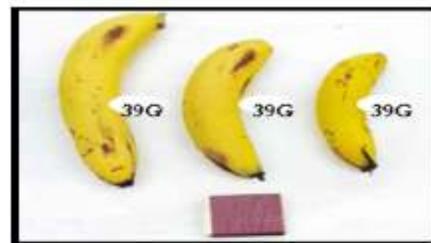
Fatia de bolo pequena, média e grande



Bife grande, médio e pequeno



Banana pequena, média e grande



ANEXO A – Comprovante de submissão artigo 1

- Periódico Nutrition

Fwd: Your Submission NUT-D-17-00265 Entrada Mais

Isabel Correia <isabel_correia@uol.com.br> 29 de mai para mim

Isabel Correia
www.nutricaoevida.com.br

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Alessandro Laviano" <eesserver@eesmail.elsevier.com>
Subject: Your Submission NUT-D-17-00265
Date: 29 May 2017 11:29:41 GMT-3
To: isabel_correia@uol.com.br
Reply-To: "Alessandro Laviano" <alessandro.laviano@uniroma1.it>

Ms. Ref. No.: NUT-D-17-00265
Title: Combined nutritional assessment methods to predict clinical outcomes in patients on the waiting list for liver transplantation
Nutrition

Dear Professor Correia,

Your article Combined nutritional assessment methods to predict clinical outcomes in patients on the waiting list for liver transplantation has been returned by our reviewers. In its present form, it cannot be accepted for publication in Nutrition.

However, Nutrition would be willing to reconsider it for possible publication, if you feel you can fully address the reviewers' comments. Please remember that we would have to send your revised manuscript back to the original referees and keep this time frame in mind when you respond to the critiques.

If you wish to have your manuscript reconsidered for publication, please revise it and return it to this office by 2017-06-28 00:00:00.

For your guidance, reviewers' comments are appended below.

Please provide along with your cover letter a list of your responses to the reviewers' critiques and the changes you have made in your manuscript. If you disagree with a referee's comments and choose to make no revision on certain points, please clearly support your view.

To submit a revision, please go to <https://ees.elsevier.com/nut/> and login as an Author. On your Main Menu page is a folder entitled "Submissions Needing Revision". You will find your submission record there.

Your username is: isabel_correia@uol.com.br

If you need to retrieve password details please go to: http://ees.elsevier.com/nut/automail_query.asp

NOTE: Upon submitting your revised manuscript, please upload the source files for your article. For additional details regarding acceptable file formats, please refer to the Guide for Authors at: <http://www.elsevier.com/journals/nutrition/0899-9007/guide-for-authors>

Please note that this journal offers a new, free service called AudioSlides: brief, webcast-style presentations that are shown next to published articles on ScienceDirect (see also <http://www.elsevier.com/audioslides>). If your paper is accepted for publication, you will automatically receive an invitation to create an AudioSlides presentation.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

Alessandro Laviano, M.D.
Editor-in-Chief
Nutrition

ANEXO B – Comprovante de submissão artigo 2

- Periódico Journal of Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition

The screenshot shows an email inbox interface with a message from the Journal of Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition. The message is dated July 12, 2017, and is addressed to Dr. Ribeiro. It informs him that his manuscript has been submitted and is being considered for publication. The message includes the manuscript ID (JPEN-2017-07-166) and instructions for future correspondence.

Journal of Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition Manuscript ID - JPEN-2017-07-166

Journal of Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition <onbehalfof+jpen+nutritioncare.org@manuscriptcentral.com>

para mim, mim, castro.n, simonenutufmg, agnaldo, isabel_correia

12 de jul

12-Jul-2017

Dear Dr. Ribeiro:

Your manuscript entitled "Prospective evaluation of nutritional status, energy balance and clinical outcomes in the perioperative of patients undergoing liver transplantation" has been successfully submitted online and is presently being given full consideration for publication in the Journal of Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition.

Your manuscript ID is JPEN-2017-07-166.

Please mention the above manuscript ID in all future correspondence or when calling the office for questions. If there are any changes in your street address or e-mail address, please log in to ScholarOne Manuscripts at <https://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/jpen> and edit your user information as appropriate.

You can also view the status of your manuscript at any time by checking your Author Center after logging in to <https://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/jpen>.

Thank you for submitting your manuscript to the Journal of Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition.

Sincerely,
Journal of Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition Editorial Office