



UNIVERSIDADE FEDERAL DE SERGIPE
PRÓ-REITORIA DE PÓS-GRADUAÇÃO E PESQUISA
MESTRADO EM CIÊNCIAS DA SAÚDE

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TREINAMENTO FÍSICO RESISTIDO PREVINE
HIPERTENSÃO ARTERIAL E MELHORA MODULAÇÃO
AUTONÔMICA CARDÍACA EM RATOS DIABÉTICOS
INDUZIDOS PELA ALOXANA

ARACAJU – SE

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Dissertação apresentada ao Programa de Pós-Graduação em Ciências da Saúde do Núcleo de Pós-Graduação em Medicina da Universidade Federal de Sergipe como requisito parcial à obtenção do grau de Mestre em Ciências da Saúde. Área de concentração: Estudos Clínicos e Laboratoriais em Saúde.

Orientador: Prof. Dr. Márcio Roberto Viana Santos

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PARECER

*Dedico este trabalho aos meus pais (Valdecí e Eliel),
aminha esposa (Rosana) e filha (Giovana) por terem
acreditado junto comigo na realização desse sonho.*

Amo vocês!!!

AGRADECIMENTOS

A Deus, todo poderoso, ao qual sempre me permitiu compartilhar de Sua maravilhosa presença e desfrutar da certeza de sua fidelidade em todos os momentos.
A Ti dedico minha vida e minhas conquistas;

A minha mãe Valdecí, que me faz acreditar que é possível viver de forma ética e digna através de muita dedicação, trabalho, compromisso e sobretudo amor em tudo que faz. A valorização da família por ela demonstrada em toda sua vida foi fundamental para formação do meu caráter. A meu pai Eliel, pelo amor, carinho e incentivo aos estudos sempre;

A minha esposa Rosana, por seu amor, compreensão e dedicação à família. Pelo amor que tenho a você vivo a certeza de que Deus reservou o melhor dessa terra para mim. À minha filha Giovana por demonstrar-me a graça de renovar a esperança todos os dias;

A minha irmã Luciana por seu exemplo de garra e determinação em seus objetivos com ética e dignidade e ao meu cunhado e pastor Adlai pelo aconselhamento espiritual e inabalável fé em Deus que sempre evidenciou;

Aos meus sobrinhos amados Sarah, Davi, Israel, Sophia, Luana, Wendell, Arthur e Mariana pelo amor e carinho que demonstram por mim;

Ao meu avô Fileto, *in memorian*, pela firmeza de caráter e exemplo de vida pautada no evangelho. A minha avó Ianete, matriarca da família, por seu amor verdadeiro e carinho que sempre demonstrou por mim;

Ao meu amigo e prof. Lucindo que me incentivou a esse desafio, por seu exemplo de amor e dedicação a pesquisa científica e a sua esposa Jullyana, minha cunhada, que me recebeu como um irmão;

Ao amigo e parceiro de mestrado Marcelo, por seu companheirismo e dedicação ao trabalho realizado;

Aos professores Drs. José Ausgusto, Valter Santana e Msc José Melquíades pela orientação e colaboração na elaboração do trabalho;

Aos colegas do laboratório que contribuíram com o desenvolvimento dessa pesquisa Milene, Ana Paula Soares, Tharciano, Ana Paula Barbosa, Ayslan, Vagner e Fernando;

Ao Prof Dr. Márcio Roberto Viana Santos por ter aceitado o desafio de ser meu orientador e acreditado no meu potencial. Seu compromisso com o rigor metodológico e dedicação a pesquisa científica com qualidade mesmo na adversidade, foram fundamentais para minha formação como pesquisador e professor. Agradeço também por sua paciência e dedicação com as correções e sugestões que por muitas vezes sacrificou seu tempo pessoal. Muito obrigado por tudo;

Aos órgãos de fomento CNPq, CAPES, FAPITEC-SE, SES/SE e ao Ministério da Saúde que permitiram a realização desse trabalho.

BARRETO, A.S. Treinamento físico resistido previne hipertensão e melhora balanço autonômico cardíaco em ratos diabéticos induzidos pela aloxana. 2010. 89f. Dissertação (Mestrado em Ciências da Saúde) – Universidade Federal de Sergipe, Aracaju.

RESUMO

O objetivo desse estudo foi avaliar os efeitos do treinamento físico resistido sobre a pressão arterial, repolarização ventricular, sensibilidade barorreflexa e balanço autonômico cardíaco em ratos diabéticos. A avaliação cardiovascular foi realizada em animais conscientes treinados e sedentários, após 8 semanas do início do diabetes com aloxana ou nos animais controle. O treinamento físico resistido consistiu de 3 séries de 10 repetições realizada a 40% do teste de uma repetição máxima, 3 dias/semana durante 8 semanas em um aparato que simula o exercício de agachamento em humanos. Pressão arterial foi monitorada por 30 minutos 48 horas após a última sessão de treinamento físico ou tempo controle. A sensibilidade barorreflexa foi analisada pelo método da sequência e o balanço autonômico cardíaco foi avaliado pela variabilidade da freqüência cardíaca no domínio da freqüência. Após 8 semanas, o diabetes aumentou significativamente a glicemia (de 83 ± 8 para 381 ± 41 mg/dl), pressão arterial média (de 104.7 ± 5.4 para 125 ± 5.4 mmHg), intervalo QTc (de 4.4 ± 0.1 para 5.1 ± 0.1 ms), reduziu sensibilidade barorreflexa (de 2.01 ± 0.3 para 0.38 ± 0.1 ms/mmHg) e produziu um distúrbio sobre o balanço autonômico cardíaco. O treinamento físico resistido foi capaz de produzir significante redução sobre a glicemia (270 ± 17 mg/dl), previneu o aumento da pressão arterial (100.8 ± 4.2 mmHg) e intervalo QTc (4.6 ± 0.1 ms), a redução da sensibilidade barorreflexa (2.63 ± 0.5 ms/mmHg) e distúrbio sobre a balanço autonômico cardíaco. Esses resultados sugerem que o treinamento físico resistido promove um melhor controle glicêmico, previne hipertensão e melhora a sensibilidade barorreflexa e balanço autonômico cardíaco em ratos diabéticos induzidos pela aloxana.

Palavras-chave: barorreflexo; diabetes mellitus; pressão arterial; sistema nervoso autônomo; treinamento resistido.

BARRETO, A.S. Resistance training prevents hypertension and improves cardiac autonomic modulation in alloxan diabetic rats. 2010. 89f. Dissertação (Mestrado em Ciências da Saúde) – Universidade Federal de Sergipe, Aracaju.

ABSTRACT

The aim of this study was to evaluate the effects of resistance training on blood pressure, ventricular repolarization, baroreflex sensitivity and cardiac autonomic balance in diabetic rats. Cardiovascular evaluation was performed in conscious trained and sedentary animals, 8 weeks after the onset of diabetes with alloxan or control animals. The resistance training consisted of 3 sets of 10 repetitions performed at 40% of one repetition maximum test, 3 days/wk over 8 wks in squat-training apparatus. Blood pressure was monitored for 30 min 48 h after the last training session or time control. Baroreflex sensitivity was analyzed by sequence method and cardiac autonomic balance was assessed by heart rate variability in the frequency domain. After 8 wks, the diabetes significantly increased glycemia (from 83 ± 8 to 381 ± 41 mg/dl, $p<0.05$), mean blood pressure (from 104.7 ± 5.4 to 125.1 ± 5.4 mmHg, $p<0.05$), QTc interval (from 4.4 ± 0.1 to 5.1 ± 0.1 ms, $p<0.05$), reduced baroreflex sensitivity (from 2.01 ± 0.3 to 0.38 ± 0.1 ms/mmHg, $p<0.05$) and impaired the cardiac autonomic balance. Resistance training was able to produce significant reduction on the glycemia (270 ± 17 mg/dl, $p<0.05$), prevented the increase of mean blood pressure (108 ± 3 mmHg, $p<0.001$) and QTc interval (4.6 ± 0.1 ms, $p<0.01$), the reduction of baroreflex sensitivity (2.63 ± 0.5 ms/mmHg, $p<0.01$) and disturbance on the cardiac autonomic balance. These results suggest that resistance training promotes a better glycemic control, prevents hypertension and improves baroreflex sensitivity and cardiac autonomic balance in alloxan diabetic rats.

Keywords: blood pressure, autonomic nervous system, diabetes mellitus, exercise, baroreflex sensitivity.

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LISTA DE ABREVIATURAS

- ADP:** difosfato de adenosina
ALX: aloxana
ATP: trifosfato de adenosina
BP: pressão sanguínea
BRS: sensibilidade barorreflexa
DAC: doença arterial coronariana
DBP: Pressão sanguínea diastólica
DM: Diabetes *Mellitus*
DP: duplo-produto
ECG: eletrocardiografia
EROs: espécies reativas de oxigênio
ET: treinamento físico aeróbico
FFT: transformação rápida de Fourier
HbA1c: hemoglobina glicada
HF: banda de alta frequência
HR: freqüência cardíaca
HRV: variabilidade da freqüência cardíaca
LF/HF: balanço simpato-vagal
LH: banda de baixa frequência
MAP: pressão arterial média
NAC: neuropatia autonômica cardíaca
NAD⁺: nicotinamida adenina dinucleotídeo
PAM: pressão arterial média
RM: repetição máxima
RT: treinamento físico resistido
SBP: pressão sanguínea sistólica
STZ: Estreptozotocina
TFA: treinamento físico aeróbico
TFR: treinamento físico resistido

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INTRODUÇÃO

1 INTRODUÇÃO

O diabetes *mellitus* (DM) é uma síndrome heterogênea de etiologia múltipla decorrente da falta e/ou resistência a ação da insulina, caracterizada por hiperglicemia crônica com distúrbios do metabolismo intermediário dos carboidratos, lipídios e proteínas. Esses distúrbios estão associados a complicações crônicas no sistema cardiovascular e no controle autonômico de vários órgãos em humanos e animais (De ANGELIS et al, 2000; NEGRÃO; BARRETTO, 2006; SBD, 2007).

A hiperglicemia é acompanhada por sintomas como poliúria, polidipsia, perda de peso, polifagia e visão turva. Pode evoluir com complicações agudas como a cetoacidose diabética, estado hiperosmolar não-cetótico e hipoglicemia, ou complicações crônicas como doença macro e microvascular e neuropatia, as quais proporcionam dano, disfunção e falência de vários órgãos, especialmente olhos, rins, nervos, coração e vasos sanguíneos (POWERS, 2001; GROSS et al, 2002; SBD, 2007).

Atualmente no Brasil, o DM se apresenta como uma doença fortemente associada à alta mortalidade e morbidade, gerando um elevado custo médico-sócio-econômico. Os custos diretos com DM variam entre 2,5% e 15% do orçamento anual da saúde, dependendo de sua prevalência e do grau de sofisticação do tratamento disponível. Constitui-se a principal causa dos internamentos por problemas cardiovasculares, entre elas a hipertensão, sendo também a principal causa de amputação de membros e cegueira adquirida. Além disso, os custos intangíveis (dor, ansiedade, inconveniência, incapacidade para o trabalho ou perda da produtividade e de qualidade de vida) também apresentam grande impacto na vida das pessoas com diabetes (SBD, 2007).

A evolução clínica dos portadores de DM é bastante limitante. Alterações como vasculopatia, nefropatia, neuropatia autonômica e hipertensão arterial além dos níveis plasmáticos de glicemia são critérios importantes no prognóstico dessa patologia. A avaliação portanto de parâmetros hemodinâmicos e bioquímicos são de grande utilidade no acompanhamento da evolução dessa morbidade (LERARIO, 2002; SCHEFFEL et al, 2004; ALVARENGA, 2005).

Movidos pela busca de soluções para essa problemática social, diversos estudos têm sido continuamente desenvolvidos no sentido de esclarecer as causas, os efeitos e o tratamento desta doença. O desenvolvimento de modelos experimentais em animais de laboratório tem dado contribuições significativas para o desenvolvimento de estudos que definem com acurácia e precisão a patologia desta doença, o que tem possibilitado o estudo de métodos preventivos, paliativos e curativos (MACHADO et al, 2000; DUNCAN & SCHIMIDT, 2001; SCHAAN et al, 2004; TOSCANO, 2004; BARRETO et al, 2005; PASSOS et al, 2005; RUSSELL et al, 2005).

O exercício físico tem sido indicado como uma conduta não-farmacológica no tratamento de diversas patologias como o diabetes, hipertensão arterial e insuficiência cardíaca devido aos benefícios cardiovasculares, metabólicos e no sistema nervoso autonômico (TIPTON et al, 1991; WALLBERG et al, 1998). Estudos recentes demonstraram que é possível diminuir significativamente a incidência de novos casos de DM através de mudanças no estilo de vida, como por exemplo, realizar exercício físico regular e educação alimentar (EDELSTEIN et al, 1997; BARZILAV et al, 1999; TUOMILEHTO et al, 2001).

O treinamento físico (TF) adequado proporciona importantes ajustes metabólicos, neuroendócrinos e cardiovasculares, que contribuem para prevenção, redução e reversão das alterações metabólicas nos diabéticos, as quais melhoram a qualidade de vida desses indivíduos. As alterações persistentes na estrutura ou na função do organismo são particularmente ocasionadas em resposta ao estímulo gerado pelo exercício físico repetido sistematicamente e ao longo do tempo (TANCREDE et al, 1982; DORN et al, 2001; ADA, 2004; LaMONTE et al, 2005).

A maioria dos estudos que investigaram as repercussões metabólicas e cardiovasculares do treinamento físico no diabetes utilizaram protocolos aeróbicos. Estes estudos tem observado um aumento na sensibilidade à insulina, redução na sua dose diária, melhora na cinética e no consumo de oxigênio, melhora no controle de fatores de risco para doenças cardiovasculares como redução na pressão arterial, peso corporal e estresse oxidativo (ACSM, 2000a; CIOLAC & GUIMARÃES, 2002 e 2004; GOTO et al, 2003; ADA, 2004; SASAKI & SANTOS, 2006).

Recentemente, alguns estudos têm demonstrado o valor potencial e relativa segurança do treinamento resistido no portador de DM. O principal mecanismo

biológico aparente envolvido é a hipertrofia da musculatura esquelética, com um aumento associado na absorção de glicose e sensibilidade à insulina, além de adaptações cardiovasculares como o efeito hipotensor arterial. (POLLOCK et al, 2000; FLETCHER et al, 2001; CIOLAC & GUIMARÃES, 2004; SANCHEZ & LEON, 2006).

Portanto, existem evidências na literatura de que o treinamento físico contribui de maneira significativa para a melhora da disfunção metabólica e cardiovascular do diabetes *mellitus*, entretanto os estudos concentram-se nos benefícios advindos do treinamento aeróbico. Tanto atividades aeróbias quanto resistidas devem ser consideradas na elaboração do TF do portador de DM. Além disso, existe carência na literatura sobre possíveis contribuições do TFR sobre parâmetros hemodinâmicos. Por conseguinte, a realização desse trabalho com a finalidade de ofertar mais uma modalidade de tratamento, que represente uma significativa melhora na função metabólica e cardiovascular nesse grupo populacional, é mais que justificado.

FUNDAMENTAÇÃO TEÓRICA

2 FUNDAMENTAÇÃO TEÓRICA

2.1 Diabetes Mellitus

O diabetes *mellitus* (DM) não é uma única doença, mas um grupo heterogêneo de distúrbios metabólicos que apresentam em comum a hiperglicemia crônica. Esta hiperglicemia é o resultado de defeitos na ação e/ou secreção da insulina, que gera distúrbios do metabolismo intermediário dos carboidratos, lipídios e proteínas (SBD, 2007).

O número de pessoas com diabetes está aumentando devido ao crescimento, envelhecimento e urbanização populacional e aumento da prevalência de obesidade e sedentarismo, bem como a maior sobrevida do paciente com DM (ADA, 2006). Segundo a Sociedade Brasileira de Diabetes (SBD) uma epidemia de DM está em curso. Em 1985 estimava-se que existissem 30 milhões de adultos com DM no mundo, esse número cresceu para 135 milhões em 1995, atingindo 173 milhões em 2002, com projeção de chegar a 300 milhões no ano de 2030. Cerca de dois terços desses indivíduos com DM vivem em países em desenvolvimento, onde a epidemia tem maior intensidade, com crescente proporção de pessoas afetadas em grupos etários mais jovens (WILD et al, 2004).

No Brasil, no final dos anos 1980, a prevalência de DM na população adulta foi estimada em 7,6%. Dados mais recentes, levantados por Torquato et al (2003), apontam para taxas mais elevadas, como 12,1% no município de Ribeirão Preto, SP. De acordo com o Sistema de Informação de Atenção Básica - SIAB, o Estado de Sergipe possui 30.520 diabéticos cadastrados numa perspectiva total de 60.000 doentes. Nesse mesmo estado, em 2006 foram contabilizados 1.266 casos de hospitalizações devido complicações do DM, em 2008 foram 1.235 casos e até julho de 2009 foram 735 hospitalizações (MINISTÉRIO DA SAÚDE, 2009).

A natureza crônica do DM, a gravidade de suas complicações e os meios necessários para controlá-las, tornam-a uma doença muito onerosa, não apenas para os indivíduos afetados e suas famílias, mas também para o sistema de saúde. Os custos diretos com DM variam entre 2,5% e 15% do orçamento anual de saúde, dependendo de sua prevalência e do grau de sofisticação do tratamento disponível. Estimativas do custo no Brasil estão em torno de 3,9 bilhões de dólares americanos,

em comparação com 0,8 bilhão para Argentina e 2 bilhões para o México (BARCELÓ et al, 2003; SBD, 2007).

Os custos do DM não são apenas um problema econômico. Os custos intangíveis como dor, ansiedade, inconveniência e perda da qualidade de vida também representam grande impacto na vida desses indivíduos e de suas famílias (SBD, 2007).

A classificação atual do DM proposta pela Organização Mundial da Saúde (OMS) e pela Associação Americana de Diabetes (ADA) (2006) é baseada na sua etiologia, estabelecida em quatro classes clínicas: DM tipo 1 (DM 1), DM tipo 2 (DM2), outros tipos específicos de DM e DM gestacional. O DM 1 caracteriza-se pela ausência ou diminuição da secreção de insulina pelas ilhotas de Langerhans, causada ou por processo auto-imune, desencadeado após interação complexa entre fatores genéticos e ambientais que destroem células β - pancreáticas responsáveis pela produção da insulina, ou por forma idiopática. Já o DM 2 ocorre devido a uma resistência à ação da insulina e sua etiologia está relacionada, principalmente, com a obesidade andróide (NOTKINS, 1979; WHO, 1999; De FRONZO, 2004; SKYLER, 2004; ADA, 2006).

As complicações do diabetes podem ser categorizadas como agudas e crônicas. As complicações agudas envolvem a cetoacidose diabética, o estado hiperosmolar não cetótico e a hipoglicemia que está associada ao tratamento inadequado. A cetoacidose predomina no DM tipo 1, enquanto que o quadro hiperosmolar, no tipo 2. Já a hipoglicemia é um evento ocasional para os usuários de hipoglicemiantes orais (DM2), mas relativamente freqüente para os usuários de insulina (DM1) (POWERS, 2001).

A cetoacidose e o estado hiperosmolar são condições graves causadas por extrema deficiência da ação insulínica e caracterizados por níveis circulantes elevados de glicose (> 400 mg/dL). A deficiência total ou parcial da insulina permite excessiva produção de glicose pelo fígado, além de catabolismo de proteínas e gorduras dos tecidos muscular e adiposo, os quais geram aminoácidos e ácidos graxos livres que são utilizados pelo fígado para produzir mais glicose e corpos cetônicos. A hiperglicemia leva a glicosúria, que induz diurese osmótica, depleção de volume, taquicardia, hipotensão e choque. A hipoglicemia (glicemia < 45 mg/dL) induz privação de glicose ao cérebro podendo produzir tremores, sudoreses,

taquicardia, palidez, tonturas, distúrbios visuais, confusão mental, coma e convulsões (FREITAS-FOSS & FOSS, 2003; NEGRÃO & BARRETO, 2006).

As complicações crônicas da DM advém da hiperglicemia crônica que pode causar lesões por meio de alterações metabólicas. Tais alterações produzem acúmulo de sorbitol que causa edema celular. A pseudo-hipóxia intracelular e diminuição do mioinositol reduzem a velocidade de condução dos nervos. Além disso, a glicação de proteínas circulantes ou intracelulares afetam suas propriedades e propicia o dano tissular (CEFALU, 2001; POWERS, 2001; ROITH, 2001).

A ligação dos produtos finais de glicação avançada nas paredes dos vasos sanguíneos predispõe a liberação de citoquinas e fatores de crescimento, à aterosclerose, à destruição da estrutura e à alteração da composição vascular, contribuindo para o aumento da permeabilidade do espessamento arterial. Há também diminuição da síntese de óxido nítrico, principal produto vasodilatador derivado do endotélio, aumento da viscosidade sanguínea e agregação plaquetária, comprometendo assim o fluxo na microcirculação. O aumento do fluxo sanguíneo e da pressão estimulam o espessamento e a permeabilidade capilares. As mudanças estruturais e funcionais macro e microvasculares alteram a irrigação, a permeabilidade e tônus vasomotor, limitando a perfusão dos tecidos e causando dano tecidual (CEFALU, 2001; POWERS, 2001; ROITH, 2001).

Estas complicações crônicas são classificadas, portanto como macrovasculares ou microvasculares. As macrovasculares se manifestam clinicamente principalmente através de cardiopatia isquêmica, acidente vascular cerebral e doença vascular periférica. Já a microvascular pode se manifestar sob a forma de retinopatias, nefropatias e neuropatias sensitiva-motora ou autonômica gastrointestinal, urogenital e cardiovascular (NEGRÃO & BARRETTO, 2006).

2.2 Diabetes e alterações cardiovasculares

Os distúrbios do metabolismo da glicose podem causar complicações que envolvem doenças cardiovasculares, incluindo hipertensão arterial, doença arterial coronariana (DAC) e insuficiência cardíaca (IC), sendo que 75% dos pacientes diabéticos morrem por algum evento cardiovascular (KANNEL et al, 1974; GIULIANO et al, 1996; GU et al, 1999).

Observa-se que dentre as complicações cardíacas apresentadas por pacientes diabéticos, denominada cardiomiopatia diabética, estão a fibrose do miocárdio, lise de miócitos, alterações ultra-estruturais (FACTOR et al, 1981; FACTOR et al, 1984; FANG et al, 2004), depressão da contratilidade e do relaxamento cardíaco (RODGERS, 1986; RODRIGUES & McNEILL, 1986; FANG et al, 2004; BORGES et al, 2006; WICHI et al, 2007), e consequente disfunção sistólica e diastólica (VENCO et al., 1987; GROSSMAN et al., 1992; FANG et al, 2004; NEMOTO et al, 2006).

Todas estas alterações manifestam-se de forma mais severa em indivíduos hipertensos-diabéticos do que naqueles que apresentam hipertensão ou diabetes isoladamente, ressaltando a gravidade da associação entre as duas doenças (ROSSING et al, 1996). Nesses indivíduos, o aumento da resistência vascular periférica devido à disfunção arterial induz sobrecarga ao coração com consequente hipertrofia patológica. Esta hipertrofia é observada principalmente no ventrículo esquerdo em diabéticos de longo curso, com precário controle glicêmico e de pressão arterial (POORNIMA et al, 2006).

As alterações promovidas pelo catabolismo de carboidratos e de lipídeos e mudanças eletrolíticas de cálcio e potássio no sangue podem causar modificações na estrutura e fisiologia cardiovascular, que, por sua vez, alteram o registro do eletrocardiograma (ECG) (PYE et al, 1992; TOMASELLI, et al, 1994).

Entre as principais alterações observadas no ritmo cardíaco no paciente diabético, encontra-se o aumento do intervalo QT, também chamado síndrome do QT longo. O prolongamento do intervalo QT se deve ao retardado na despolarização e/ou na repolarização do potencial de ação cardíaco, provocando o aumento do risco de arritmias e de morte súbita. O intervalo QT varia inversamente com a freqüência cardíaca (FC), de modo que ele deve ser corrigido em relação à FC, gerando o QT corrigido (QTc), que é preferencialmente utilizado. (FEUVRAY, 1997; GIUNTI et al, 2005; KLEIN et al, 2005).

Outros estudos demonstraram no ECG de pacientes diabéticos um quadro compatível com doença arterial coronariana (DAC) e consequente processo isquêmico silencioso, como presença de depressão do segmento ST (NASS et al, 1998; LEE et al, 2001). Portanto, a avaliação do ECG em diabéticos é um valioso instrumento para avaliar comprometimento da condução do ritmo elétrico do coração

e identificar também anormalidades subclínicas (LEE et al, 2001; KLEIN et al, 2005; NYGREN et al, 2007).

A neuropatia autonômica cardiovascular (NAC) é outra séria e freqüente complicaçāo do diabetes. A ocorrēcia de NAC é um fator preditivo para isquemia miocárdica silenciosa, desenvolvimento de acidente vascular cerebral e morte. Está associada com prognóstico ruim e pode resultar em manifestações clínicas como taquicardia de repouso, hipotensão postural, intolerância ao exercício e instabilidade cardiovascular peri e intra-operatória (VINIK et al, 2007). Por causa da associação com uma variedade de resultados adversos, incluindo morte, a NAC é a mais importante e bem estudada forma de neuropatia autonômica diabética (VINIK et al, 2003 e 2007).

Em estudos com diabetes experimental em ratos, Lin et al (2008), demonstrou que a NAC pode preceder alterações funcionais e estruturais do sistema cardiovascular como rigidez arterial e hipertrofia cardíaca. Além disso, vários estudos têm comprovado o envolvimento do sistema nervoso autonômico cardíaco como o comprometimento do barorreflexo, quimiorreflexo, reflexo cardiopulmonar, balanço autonômico cardiovascular e atividade neural simpática tanto em humanos quanto em ratos diabéticos (DALL'AGO, 1997; HICKS et al, 1998; OLIVEIRA, 1999; USTINOVA, 2000; De ANGELIS, 2002 e 2007; HARTHMANN, 2007).

Portanto o diagnóstico precoce da NAC pode sugerir grau de evolução do comprometimento do sistema cardiovascular na história clínica do portador de diabetes. A avaliação, por conseguinte do balanço do sistema nervoso autônomo cardiovascular pelo uso de diferentes técnicas de medida tem permitido estimar a contribuição desse sistema nas respostas alteradas do diabetes associado às doenças cardiovasculares (De ANGELIS et al, 2004a).

Os parâmetros mais utilizados para estimar a funcionalidade do sistema nervoso autônomo cardiovascular nos diferentes níveis constituem-se na sensibilidade dos reflexos barorreceptor e quimiorreceptor arterial, cardiopulmonar, análise da variabilidade da freqüência cardíaca e pressão arterial, além da atividade neuronal simpática (COSTA et al, 2004; Dall'AGO et al, 1997; De ANGELIS et al, 2002; MIKI et al, 2004). A avaliação de tais parâmetros pode servir, portanto, como preditor precoce de envolvimento do sistema cardiovascular nas complicações do diabetes.

Diante das limitações impostas pelo diabetes, torna-se imprescindível a melhor compreensão dos mecanismos patológicos do diabetes e de suas complicações, à procura de um tratamento capaz de contribuir para a melhora das alterações endócrino-metabólicas causadas pela doença e, principalmente, as lesões crônicas sobre os diferentes órgãos. Neste particular, os estudos experimentais sobre o diabetes têm sido extremamente necessários.

2.3 Diabetes *Mellitus* experimental

Estudos envolvendo pacientes diabéticos são frequentemente inconclusivos em relação aos mecanismos patológicos da doença e de suas complicações a longo prazo. Isso deve-se a complexidade da síndrome e alta variabilidade do controle glicêmico entre os pacientes. Além disso, estudos em humanos possuem várias limitações práticas e éticas que podem ser contornadas pelo uso de modelos animais, os quais têm fornecido importantes informações em relação aos mecanismos celulares e moleculares fundamentais para a compreensão da fisiopatologia do diabetes (SURWIT & WILLIAMS, 1996; RODRIGUES et al, 1999).

Existem vários modelos experimentais de diabetes. O diabetes em animais pode ser produzido por cirurgia, agentes químicos e alterações genéticas. Dentre as formas de indução mais utilizadas está a indução química. A indução química do DM experimental é amplamente utilizada para se investigar as complicações causadas pelo DM e avaliar possíveis efeitos de intervenções terapêuticas nesse grupo populacional. Os agentes químicos diabetogênicos mais utilizados pela comunidade científica são a streptozotocina (STZ) e a aloxana (ALX) (BATTLE et al, 1999; SZKUDELSKI, 2001).

O mecanismo de ação tóxico da STZ inicia-se pela entrada nas células β -pancreáticas. Isto ocorre devido à alta afinidade da STZ aos receptores GLUT2 presentes na membrana plasmática. A entrada da STZ provoca alquilação do DNA. O dano ao DNA induz ativação de poli ribozilação de ADP, um processo que é mais importante para o efeito diabetogênico da STZ do que o dano ao DNA diretamente. A poli ribozilação do ADP conduz a depleção de NAD^+ e ATP. O aumento da defosforilação do ATP fornece substrato para a enzima xantina oxidase resultando na formação de radicais superóxidos. Consequentemente, peróxido de hidrogênio e

radicais hidroxilas são também gerados. Ademais, STZ libera quantidades tóxicas de óxido nítrico, o qual inibe a atividade da enzima aconitase e participa do dano ao DNA. Como resultado as células β -pancreáticas sofrem destruição por necrose (BATTLELL et al, 1999; SZKUDELSKI et al, 1998 e 2001).

A ação citotóxica do agente diabetogênico ALX, que possui alta afinidade pelas células β -pancreáticas, é mediada por EROs. ALX e o produto de sua redução, o ácido dialurônico, estabelecem um ciclo redox com a formação de radicais superóxidos. Esses radicais são dismutados a peróxido de hidrogênio, posteriormente são formados radicais altamente reativos de hidroxila pela reação de Fenton. A ação das EROs associado ao aumento maciço na concentração de cálcio citosólico causam rápida destruição das células β -pancreáticas. O aumento maciço da concentração de cálcio deve-se tanto pelo aumento do influxo extracelular, quanto pela liberação dos estoques intracelulares de cálcio e limitada eliminação do citosol (BATTLELL et al, 1999; SZKUDELSKI et al, 1998 e 2001).

A destruição de grande parte das células β -pancreáticas pela aloxana impossibilita a produção de insulina necessária para demanda do organismo. A ausência de insulina produz um estado hiperglicêmico, característico do diabetes mellitus, associado a sintomas como poliúria, polidipsia e polifagia (LEZEN, 1988; SKUDELSKI, 2001).

Apesar da seletividade pelas células β -pancreáticas, segundo Szkudelski (1998), a ALX também causa sobrecarga oxidativa em outros órgãos como no fígado. Entretanto a capacidade antioxidante hepática é maior que a dose necessária para citotoxicidade das células β -pancreáticas. Doses excessivas de ALX podem levar a morte decorrente de necrose tóxica da célula tubular renal (LENZEN et al, 1996).

O modelo experimental de DM induzido pela aloxana é portanto do tipo 1, caracterizado pela ausência ou significativa redução de insulina proporcionando desequilíbrio na homeostase glicêmica. Segundo Lenzen e Panten (1988), os animais diabéticos induzidos pela aloxana apresentam sintomas semelhantes aos encontrados no DM humano, tais como perda de peso, poliúria, polidipsia, polifagia, glicosúria, cetonúria, hipoinsulinemia, hiperglicemias e cetonemias. Esse modelo também induz o desenvolvimento do diabetes associado a um quadro de hipertensão arterial sistêmica (VADLAMUDI, 1983; KULKARNI et al, 2002).

2.4 DM e exercício físico

Os objetivos principais no tratamento do DM são controlar os níveis de glicemia e os fatores de risco coexistente de doenças cardiovasculares, além de prevenir ou reduzir a progressão de complicações crônicas. Isto pode ser conseguido pela combinação de dieta, interrupção do tabagismo, utilização de insulina ou de medicamentos hipoglicemiantes e prática regular de exercício físico (PAN et al, 1997).

Os benefícios cardiovasculares, metabólicos e autonômicos observados com o exercício físico agudo e crônico têm levado muitos investigadores a sugerir o treinamento físico como uma conduta não farmacológica importante no tratamento de diferentes patologias como o diabetes, a hipertensão arterial e a insuficiência cardíaca (JENNINGS et al, 1986; TIPTON et al, 1991; WALBERGHERIKSSON et al, 1998).

Estudos epidemiológicos e de intervenção têm demonstrado que é possível diminuir significativamente a incidência de novos casos de DM ou diminuir suas complicações através de medidas de intervenção como a realização de exercício físico regular e educação alimentar (EDELSTEIN et al, 1997; BARZILAV et al, 1999; TUOMILEHTO et al, 2001; CASTANEDA et al, 2001 e 2002).

O treinamento físico (TF) adequado proporciona importantes ajustes metabólicos, neuroendócrinos e cardiovasculares, contribuindo para prevenção, redução e reversão das alterações metabólicas nos diabéticos e melhorando a qualidade de vida desses indivíduos. As alterações persistentes na estrutura ou na função do organismo são particularmente ocasionadas em resposta ao estímulo gerado pelo exercício físico repetido sistematicamente e ao longo do tempo (DORN et al, 2001; TANCREDE et al, 2002; ADA, 2004; LaMONTE et al, 2005).

Vários estudos têm demonstrado a importância do TF no manejo da glicemia plasmática de diabéticos (TUOMILEHTO et al, 2001; CASTANEDA et al, 2001 e 2002; CAMACHO et al, 2005). Entre os fatores que melhoram a homeostase glicêmica por aumentar a captação de glicose celular durante o exercício, pode-se destacar principalmente, o aumento da translocação de vesículas contendo GLUT4 para a membrana da célula muscular. Este mecanismo intracelular de translocação não é completamente compreendido, mas é independente de insulina. O aumento da

concentração de cálcio, o estímulo da enzima sintase do óxido nítrico, ou até mesmo a hipóxia proporcionadas pela contração muscular podem estar envolvidas nesse processo de sinalização (GOODYEAR & KAHN, 1998; HENRIKSEN, 2002; KROOK et al, 2004; JESSEN & GOODYEAR, 2005).

Esses resultados são reforçados por pesquisas que verificaram a ausência de envolvimento na ativação de sinalização insulínica para a entrada de glicose na célula, demonstrada pela carência de fosforilação do receptor de insulina, de seus substratos (IRS-1 e IRS-2) e nem da enzima fosfatidilinositol-3-quinase (PI3K) durante o exercício (GOODYEAR & KAHN, 1998). Além disso, foi demonstrado que a proteína quinase estimulada por AMP (AMPK), que não participa da cascata insulínica, também é estimulada pela contração muscular (GOODYEAR & KAHN, 1998; MUSI et al, 2001; RYDER, 2001; HENRIKSEN, 2002; SAKAMAOTO & GOODYEAR, 2002).

Portanto observa-se que a via insulino-independente para a captação da glicose durante o exercício é fundamental para o controle da glicemia plasmática em diabéticos até porque durante o exercício há diminuição da secreção de insulina e aumento dos hormônios contra-regulatórios (NEGRÃO & BARRETTO, 2006).

Entretanto os benefícios do TF na população diabética não se restringem apenas aos efeitos agudos. Dentre os efeitos crônicos do TF proporcionados por adaptações metabólicas pode-se observar a redução da resistência insulínica devido ao aumento da sensibilidade de seus receptores. O aumento da sensibilidade à insulina facilita a captação de glicose durante o repouso, contribuindo para a redução da quantidade de insulina exógena administrada. Além disso, alguns estudos demonstraram aumento dos estoques de glicogênio muscular e hepático (NEGRÃO & BARRETTO, 2006).

Estudos realizados em humanos têm demonstrado que diabéticos submetidos ao treinamento físico aeróbico (TFA) apresentaram aumento na sensibilidade à insulina, redução na sua dose diária, melhora na cinética e no consumo de oxigênio, diminuição das complicações crônicas do DM, melhora no controle de fatores de risco para doenças cardiovasculares associadas ao DM, como redução da pressão arterial (PA), frequência cardíaca (FC), peso corporal e stress oxidativo (ACSM, 2000; CIOLAC & GUIMARÃES, 2002; GOTO et al, 2003; CIOLAC & GUIMARÃES, 2004; ADA, 2004; SASAKI & SANTOS, 2006).

O TF também diminui os níveis circulantes de angiotensina, aldosterona, vasopresina e endotelina, como também reduz os níveis de citocinas, entre elas o fator de necrose tumoral alfa e a interleucina-6, que estão diretamente associadas à maior ativação do sistema renina-angiotensina e à disfunção endotelial (LEVINE et al, 1990; BRAITH et al, 1999; MAEDA et al, 2001).

Outros estudos demonstraram as contribuições do treinamento físico no sistema nervoso autônomo (SNA), tanto em animais normais, como na neuropatia autonômica cardiovascular (NAC) presente no diabetes. Dentre estas contribuições podem se citar melhora na sensibilidade barorreflexa, quimiorreflexa e receptores cardiopulmonares, além de melhora do balanço autonômico cardiovascular. Nesses estudos pode-se observar uma redução na atividade simpática e aumento da atividade parassimpática contribuindo para redução dos fatores de risco cardivascular (De ANGELIS, et al, 2000; LOIMAALA et al, 2003; COSTA et al, 2004; ANGELIS, et al, 2004b; IRYGOYEN et al, 2005; HARTHMANN et al, 2007).

Por outro lado, o RT não está isento de efeitos desfavoráveis. Nesse sentido alguns estudos demonstraram que intensidades elevadas do treinamento físico resistido, que é caracterizado por um forte componente isométrico, podem induzir hipertrofia cardíaca concêntrica e rigidez arterial, ocasionada pela sobrecarga de pressão (KAWANO et al, 2007; MIHL, et al, 2008). Entretanto os estímulos moleculares e celulares para tais efeitos ainda não são claros. Esses resultados demonstram que intensidades elevadas de RT deveriam ser desencorajadas na reabilitação cardiovascular.

Segundo Graves e Franklin (2006) não há publicação de estudos epidemiológicos ou experimentos clínicos sobre os efeitos do exercício resistido na prevenção do DM tipo 2 ou na administração glicêmica do DM dos tipos 1 ou 2. Entretanto só recentemente um número limitado de estudos tem demonstrado o valor potencial e relativa segurança do treinamento resistido no portador de DM.

Este tipo de treinamento físico tem como principal mecanismo biológico, aparentemente envolvido no controle glicêmico, a hipertrofia da musculatura esquelética. Esta hipertrofia caracteriza-se pelo aumento das taxas de síntese protéica, com aumento associado na absorção de glicose e sensibilidade à insulina, além de adaptações cardivascular como o efeito hipotensor arterial (FARREL et al, 1998; POLLOCK et al, 2000; FLETCHER et al, 2001; CIOLAC &

GUIMARÃES, 2004; SANCHEZ & LEON, 2006). Segundo Honkola et al e Eriksson et al, (1997) o TFR em diabéticos também foi capaz de reduzir a HbA1c.

Esse tipo de treinamento é considerado relativamente seguro para aumentar a força muscular e melhorar a qualidade de vida tanto em adultos saudáveis quanto em idosos ou portadores de comprometimentos cardiovasculares. Um método seguro e não invasivo que tem sido utilizado para avaliar o trabalho do miocárdio, durante o repouso ou esforços físicos é o cálculo do duplo-produto (DP)(frequência cardíaca multiplicada pela pressão arterial sistólica), pois apresenta uma forte correlação com o consumo de oxigênio pelo miocárdio. Valores mais elevados representam maior estresse cardiovascular. Logo trata-se de uma variável estreitamente relacionada com segurança da atividade (GOBEL et al, 1994; FEIGENBAUM et al, 1999; POLLOCK et al, 1994; ACSM, 2000b; POLITO & FARINATTI, 2003).

Alguns estudos mostram que os valores do DP dos exercícios resistidos costumam ser menores do que os observados em atividades aeróbias de intensidade moderada em razão de uma menor resposta de pico para a FC (DEBUSK et al, 1978; POLLOCK et al, 2000).

Outro fator que justifica a utilização do TFR é que a progressão da doença torna o diabético mais debilitado e pode limitá-lo para prática de atividades aeróbicas. Baseado nestas observações postula-se que o treinamento resistido poderia ser útil no gerenciamento do DM.

Existem, portanto, evidências na literatura de que o treinamento físico contribui de maneira significativa para a melhora do manejo glicêmico e as complicações do DM. Por conseguinte devem ser consideradas tanto atividades aeróbias quanto resistidas na elaboração de um protocolo de treinamento para o portador de DM, maximizando assim, os benefícios advindos da prática regular do exercício físico. Estas atividades devem ter como objetivos tanto prevenção, quanto tratamento das complicações do DM, representando uma significativa melhora na função dos diversos sistemas orgânicos acometidos pelo diabetes.

OBJETIVOS

3 OBJETIVOS

3.1 OBJETIVO GERAL

- Avaliar os efeitos do treinamento físico resistido sobre o balanço autonômico cardíaco de ratos diabéticos induzidos pela aloxana.

3.2 OBJETIVOS ESPECÍFICOS

- Avaliar em ratos diabéticos os efeitos do TFR sobre:
 - Glicemia;
 - Pressão arterial (PA) e Freqüência Cardíaca (FC);
 - Sensibilidade barorreflexa arterial (SBA);
 - Variabilidade da frequência cardíaca (VFC);
 - Repolarização ventricular.

RESULTADOS

RESISTANCE TRAINING PREVENTS HYPERTENSION AND IMPROVES
CARDIAC AUTONOMIC MODULATION IN ALLOXAN DIABETIC RATS

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Short title: Resistance training and autonomic function in DM

Word count total: 5436; **Abstract:** 248; **Figures:** 3; **Tables:** 2

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ABSTRACT

This study aimed to evaluate the effects of resistance training on blood pressure, baroreflex sensitivity, cardiac autonomic balance and ventricular repolarization in diabetic rats. Cardiovascular evaluation was performed in conscious trained and sedentary animals, 8 weeks after the onset of diabetes with alloxan or control animals. The resistance training consisted of 3 sets of 10 repetitions performed at 40% of one repetition maximum test, 3 days/wk over 8 wks in squat-training apparatus. Blood pressure was monitored for 30 min 48 h after the last training session or time control. Baroreflex sensitivity was analyzed by sequence method and cardiac autonomic balance by heart rate variability in the frequency domain. After 8 wks, the diabetes significantly increased glycemia (from 83 ± 8 to 381 ± 41 mg/dl, $p<0.05$), mean blood pressure (from 104.7 ± 5.4 to 125.1 ± 5.4 mmHg, $p<0.05$), QTc interval (from 4.4 ± 0.1 to 5.1 ± 0.1 ms, $p<0.05$), reduced baroreflex sensitivity (from 2.01 ± 0.3 to 0.38 ± 0.1 ms/mmHg, $p<0.05$) and impaired the cardiac autonomic balance. Resistance training was able to produce significant reduction on the glycemia (270 ± 17 mg/dl, $p<0.05$), prevented the increase of mean blood pressure (108 ± 3 mmHg, $p<0.001$) and QTc interval (4.6 ± 0.1 ms, $p<0.01$), the reduction of baroreflex sensitivity (2.63 ± 0.5 ms/mmHg, $p<0.01$) and disturbance on the cardiac autonomic balance. These results suggest that resistance training promotes a better glycemic control, prevents hypertension and improves baroreflex sensitivity and cardiac autonomic balance in alloxan diabetic rats.

Keywords: diabetes mellitus, exercise, blood pressure, baroreflex sensitivity, autonomic nervous system.

INTRODUCTION

The incidence of diabetes mellitus (DM) in a modern society has been rising at epidemic rates, mostly related to an increase in the prevalence of obesity associated with sedentary lifestyle. DM is a chronic metabolic disorder associated to secondary complications in the cardiovascular system, such as microangiopathy, atherosclerosis, hypertension and autonomic neuropathy (1, 2).

Cardiac autonomic neuropathy is a major cause of cardiovascular complications in diabetes and it is closely with cardiovascular events as silent myocardial ischemia, stroke and sudden death (3). There are several reports showing that Cardiac autonomic neuropathy produce abnormalities in the heart control and cardiovascular dynamics (4), affecting the autonomic modulation of the sinus node, reducing heart rate variability (HRV) and impairing baroreflex sensitivity (BRS) (5, 6). Several methods of assessing cardiovascular function have been introduced for the diagnosis of autonomic neuropathy in diabetes increasing our knowledge about autonomic control of the cardiovascular system and the associated pathophysiological mechanisms, both in patients (7) and in experimental models (8, 9).

Exercise training has been one of the non-pharmacological interventions indicated for preventing or controlling cardiovascular complications associated to diabetes (10,11), and there are several studies showing the effects of endurance training (ET) protocols on diabetes and its cardiovascular complications (12, 13). However, the cardiovascular adaptations induced by resistance training (RT) are not well documented. Thus the purpose of the present study was to determine the effects of chronic RT on blood pressure, heart rate, baroreflex sensitivity, cardiac autonomic balance and ECG in alloxan-diabetic rats.

METHODS

Animals

Experiments were performed in male wistar rats weighing between 250 and 300 g. The animals were housed in individual cages with free access to water and food, at a constant temperature of $22 \pm 1^\circ\text{C}$, on a 12 h light/dark cycle. All experimental protocols were in accordance with the Guidelines for Ethical Care of Experimental Animals and were approved by the Animal Research Ethics Committee of the Federal University of Sergipe.

Diabetes Induction

Diabetes was induced by a single injection of alloxan (ALX) diluted in saline (40 mg/kg of body weight, i.v., pH 4.5, Sigma Chemical Co, St Louis, MO, USA), administered 2 wks before the start of exercise training protocols. The sedentary control group (SC) ($n = 8$) received the same volume of vehicle. The rats were fasted for 12 h before ALX or vehicle injection. One week after, only the animals with plasma glucose above 200 mg/dl evaluated by glucose analyser (Accu-chek Advantage II, Roche, São Paulo, Brazil) were included in diabetic group. Before the beginning of experiments, the diabetic animals were randomized in sedentary (SD) ($n = 8$) or trained (TD) ($n = 8$) groups.

Exercise training

Diabetic animals allocated in the trained group followed a protocol where the hindlimbs of all exercised rats were trained with sessions of weight lifting as described in detail elsewhere (14). Before start the exercise training, rats were adapted for 1 week. Rats fitted with a canvas jacket were able to regulate the twisting

and flexion of their torsos and were suspended in a standard position on their hind limbs. An electrical stimulation (20 V, 0.3 s duration, at 3 s intervals) delivered by an electro stimulator (Bioset, Physiotonus four, mod 3050, Rio Claro, SP-Brazil) was applied to the tail of the animal through a self adhesive surface electrode (Valu Trode, model CF3200, size 3.2cm, Axekgeerd, Fallbrook, CA, EUA). As a result, the rats flexed their legs repeatedly, which lifted the weight-arm of the training apparatus. The exercise session involved 3 sets of 10 repetitions (lifts) with ~1 min rest between each set preformed 3 times a wk during 8 wks. The exercises were started after 1 week of adaptation. After measurement of the maximum weight lifted (1RM) with the squat-training apparatus, the training load was set at 40% of 1RM. The training load was adjusted each 15 days by 1RM test until finishing the exercise training to maintain the same load during all experimental protocol.

Cardiovascular assessments

At the end of the eighth week of exercise training or time control, rats were anaesthetized (45 mg/kg, i.p., Thiopentax, Cristália, Itapira, SP, Brazil) and a polyethylene catheter (PE), segment of PE-10 (internal and external diameter of 0.28 mm and 0.61, respectively) was placed into the right femoral artery for the direct measurement of blood pressure (BP). Thereafter, electrodes were subcutaneously implanted into the thorax for ECG records on lead II configuration. Catheters and wire from ECG electrodes were exteriorized through the back of the neck and the incision was sutured. Conscious rats were studied 24 h after surgical procedure and were allowed to move freely during the experiments. The arterial catheters was connected to a pressure transducer (Edwards Lifescience, Irvine, CA, USA) and after 30 min to stabilizing BP signals were recorded more 30 min by a microcomputer

equipped with an analogue-to-digital converter board (BioData, João Pessoa, PB, Brazil). The data were recorded with 2 kHz sampling frequency and were analyzed on a beat-to-beat basis to quantify changes in mean BP and HR. The baroreflex control of HR was assessed through spontaneous changes in arterial pressure and pulse interval by the sequence method described by Bertinieri and coworkers (15). Ramps of progressive increases and decreases in systolic arterial pressure were automatically detected in 10^4 beats of pulsatile arterial pressure recordings using the freely available HemoLab computer software (http://www.intergate.com/_harald/HemoLab/Hemolab.html). Sequences defined ramps of four or more systolic arterial pressure values associated with parallel changes in pulse interval, i.e., systolic arterial pressure increases and pulse interval lengthenings, as well as systolic arterial pressure decreases and pulse interval shortenings. The spontaneous BRS was calculated from the slope (ms/mmHg) of linear regression lines between the systolic arterial pressure and the subsequent pulse interval. Only regression lines with a correlation coefficient higher than 0.85 were considered (16).

The cardiac autonomic balance (CAB) was evaluated by heart rate variability through spectral analysis. The spectral density of the various frequency components of systolic arterial pressure and heart rate was calculated using Fast Fourier Transform (Kubios HRV, Department of Physics, University of Kuopio, Kuopio, Finland). This analysis requires data collected at equal time intervals. Therefore, the beat-to-beat systolic arterial pressure and heart rate data were converted into data points every 100 ms using a cubic spline interpolation. The interpolated series were divided into half-overlapping sequential sets of 512 data points. The spectra obtained for the different data sets was averaged in order to attenuate the contribution of

variable noise and to sharpen the reproducible spectral peaks. The averaged spectra were integrated in three frequency bands defined as VLF (0.01 to 0.04 Hz), LF (0.04 to 0.15 Hz) and HF (0.15 to 0.4 Hz). This procedure permitted the automatic quantification of the center frequency and the power of each relevant component in absolute as well as in normalized.

Electrocardiographic parameters

Subcutaneous electrodes were implanted to evaluate ventricular repolarization in DII derivation. At the end of blood pressure recording, the electrodes were connected to a bioelectric amplifier (bioData, Model BD-01, João Pessoa, PB, Brazil), the ECG was continuously sampled (2000 Hz) for a period of 30 min, and QRS, PR, QT and QTc intervals were evaluated. Interval QTc was calculated by using Bazetts formula.

Statistical Analysis

Values are expressed as mean \pm standard error mean (SEM). When appropriate Student's test or one way ANOVA with Bonferroni post-test were conducted in order to evaluate the significance of differences between means. Significant values were considered those whose differences were lower than 5%. All statistical analyses were done by using Graph Pad PrismTM version 3.02 software.

RESULTS

Animals submitted to resistance training presented an increase in the workload (Initial: 900 ± 77 and final: 1340 ± 67 g, $p < 0.001$ Student's test). ALX treated animals developed severe and significant hyperglycemia initial (SD: 320 ± 26 and TD: 340 ± 21 mg/dl) when compared with control animals (SC: 83 ± 8 mg/dl,

$p<0.001$ one-way ANOVA). However, after experimental protocol it was significantly reduced in the trained animals (TD: 270 ± 17 mg/dl, $p<0.05$ vs. SD Student's test) and significantly increased in sedentary animals (SD: 381 ± 41 mg/dl, $p<0.05$ Student's test).

The cardiovascular evaluations from all groups are presented in table 1. SD animals presented higher SBP and MAP levels when compared SC. RT was effective in preventing the changes in these parameters. The HR was not altered by the diabetes, however RT was able to produce bradycardia. As shown in figure 1, spontaneous BRS was lower in SD (0.38 ± 0.1 ms/mmHg) when compared to the SC animals (2.01 ± 0.3 ms/mmHg, $p<0.05$). This BRS impairment was restrained by RT (2.63 ± 0.5 ms/mmHg, $p<0.01$).

Figure 2 shows a schematic picture of pulse interval (upper panel) and spectra of pulse interval (lower panel) of an animal representative from each group: sedentary control (SC), sedentary diabetic (SD) and trained diabetic (TD).

Power band from LF and HF in normalized units and LF/HF ratio are presented in figure 3 A and B respectively. SD animals presented increase LF (from 41.2 ± 2.1 to 59.2 ± 4.4 n.u.) and decrease HF band (from 58.8 ± 2.1 to 40.8 ± 4.4 n.u.) when compared to the SC animals ($p<0.05$). Nevertheless, RT promoted a decrease LF (37.9 ± 3.4 n.u.) and increase HF band (62.1 ± 3.4 n.u.) when compared to the SD animals ($p<0.05$). On the CAB LF/HF ratio was higher in SD animals (from 0.71 ± 0.06 to 1.67 ± 0.31 ms^2 , $p<0.01$), however the RT was able to prevent this increase (0.63 ± 0.11 ms^2 , $p<0.01$).

As shown in table 2, the ECG analyses showed that there was a lengthening in QTc interval in DS when compared with SC animals ($p<0.001$). In DT animals, the lengthening in QTc interval was not observed.

DISCUSSION

The purpose of this study was to evaluate the hemodynamic and autonomic responses promoted by RT in diabetic rats. The current study showed, for the first time to our knowledge, that alloxan-induced diabetes produces BRS and CAB dysfunctions in rats and that RT was able to prevent them. Furthermore RT improved glucose control, prevented the increase of BP and improved QTc interval. The 1RM was used as an index of training efficiency and the maximal strength achieved by the rats was used to determine the training load and to demonstrate training adaptation. Increased workload demonstrated efficiency of this model of exercise training in diabetic rats. This same efficiency was observed in others studies by using normal animals (17, 18).

It is known that the poor glycemic control increases the risk of cardiovascular complications and mortality in patients with DM (1). In our study, the glycemia was reduced in diabetic animals submitted to RT. Similarly to other studies (19, 20), our results showed effectiveness of RT in improving glycemic control in DM. Despite this reduction in glucose levels was not enough to restore the normal glycemia, it appears have contributed to avoid the development of autonomic unbalance during our experimental period. Clinical studies have demonstrated that autonomic unbalance can be prevented or controlled by improving the glycemic control (21, 22).

The majority of animal studies that investigate the cardiovascular effects in diabetic rats uses streptozotocin (STZ) as diabetogenic agent (6, 9, 23), however in our study was used ALX since there are studies in the literature that reported the diabetogenic proprieties of this drug (24). The cardiovascular effects from STZ-induced diabetes

have been widely described in the literature (8, 25), and they are summarized as: hypotension, bradycardia, decreased baroreflex gain and heart rate variability characterized mainly by reduction in vagal and increase in sympathetic tonus (26). In the present study, BP was significantly higher in SD animals. These results are in agreement with findings of other studies that showed higher BP levels when normotensive rats are made diabetic with ALX (27, 28). This increase in BP seems to be due an increase of oxidative stress and consequently reduction of availability nitric oxide to vascular tissue (29). The association of DM and hypertension in humans is well documented (30). Therefore, this model produces cardiovascular changes more closely related to the human diabetes.

This study suggests that RT applied 40% of 1RM was able to reduce BP. Other investigations demonstrated similar results but with higher workloads as 65 and 75% in normal animals (17, 18). The literature is controversial regarding to the RT effect on hemodynamic parameters. Recent studies examined the effects of RT on BP showing that dynamic RT is associated with a decreasing in resting systolic and diastolic BP in hypertensive adults (31, 32). Conversely, others studies that evaluated the effect of RT on BP in hypertensive patients with type 2 DM showed that the RT has no effect on resting BP. The difference between these studies can be related to the variation in the duration of the RT or the workload applied (17, 18).

The bradycardia observed in the present study in TD animals corroborates the results of longitudinal studies involving resistance short-term training (33, 34) and is a reversible common adaptation mainly after ET.

The results obtained so far show that ALX was able of inducing diabetes associated with hypertension and the RT was able to induce better fitness, reduce hyperglycemia and prevent development of hypertension in ALX-diabetic animals.

A number of factors are involved in the pathogenesis of hypertension when it is associated with DM as sodium retention, extracellular fluid volume overload, altered activity of sympathetic nervous system, renin angiotensin system and increased vascular reactivity towards norepinephrine and angiotensin II (35). In order to evaluate the possible mechanisms involved in the cardiovascular changes induced by ALX and RT in diabetic animals were investigated the arterial baroreflex and autonomic nervous system participation by using BRS and HRV analysis.

The analysis of the sympatho-vagal balance by means of the LF/HF ratio showed a sympathetic predominance in DS animals while in trained animals the sympatho-vagal balance shifted to a parasympathetic tone. These results show that ALX induces cardiac autonomic neuropathy which is characterized by reduction of the baroreflex sensitivity, higher sympathetic activity and lower parasympathetic activity.

Other study demonstrated parasympathetic denervation of the heart with ALX (36). Several studies demonstrated impairment on BRS and HRV, however on diabetic rats induced with STZ (6, 23). The disturbance in sympatho-vagal balance associated with the diminished BRS is similar to the cardiac autonomic neuropathy described in human diabetes.

In addition, RT was able to improve arterial baroreflex gain associated with increased parasympathetic activity. Therefore, it is possible that autonomic modulation induced by RT plays a role in the hypotensive and bradycardic effects in ALX diabetic animals.

There are evidences that demonstrate improvement in BRS and HRV with ET in diabetes (12, 37), but the literature about RT effects on autonomic nervous system is poor.

There is experimental evidence of a protective effect of vagal stimulation on ventricular electrical vulnerability, correlating the parasympathetic underactivity the development of lethal arrhythmias (38). This protection appears to have been lost in our SD animals confirmed by their longer QT and QTc intervals. The calculation of the QTc interval allows a better analysis of cardiac repolarization independent of the duration of the RR interval. Depending on the magnitude of increase of QTc interval, it could mean higher duration of ventricular repolarization. Studies have demonstrated increased QTc interval in diabetic humans and it is considered a precursor of increased risk of sudden death (38, 39).

On the other hand, to check if the bradycardia induced possibly by higher parasympathetic activity observed in TD animals would potentially increase other electrocardiographic variables besides R-R interval the PR, QRS, QT and QTc intervals were evaluated. Our results support that RT induces bradycardia without altering QTc interval in ALX diabetic rats. It means that RT did not bring any prejudice to the time of ventricle repolarization. No significant differences were observed in the other electrocardiographic variables studied (PR and QRS intervals).

Perspectives

The results of the present study provide evidence for the effectiveness of RT in reducing some of the cardiovascular complications associated with DM. Therefore RT can be used as a safe non-pharmacological therapy for the treatment of human diabetes associated to hypertension. However the possible mechanisms involved in these effects need to be more clarify. The maintenance in baroreflex sensitivity and heart rate variability caused by resistance training exercise training suggest

peripheral modulation of autonomic system. The next step will investigate possible participation of central autonomic modulation.

In conclusion, these results indicate that ALX induces diabetes associated to cardiac neuropathy and the RT was able to get better glycemic control and prevent cardiovascular complications from diabetes. In addition, they suggest that the effects of RT to prevent the increase in blood pressure have involvement of BRS and cardiac autonomic balance.

Acknowledgements

We thank Mr Osvaldo Andrade Santos for the technical support.

Sources of Fundings

This work was supported by grants from CNPq, CAPES, FAPITEC-SE, Ministério da Saúde, SES/SE, Brazil.

Conflict of interest : None

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Figure legends

Figure 1. Arterial baroreflex gain after experimental protocol in Sedentary Control

(SC) (n = 8), Sedentary Diabetic (SD) (n = 8) and Trained Diabetic (TD) (n = 8).

Data are presented as means \pm SEM. To evaluate difference between groups, it was

used one-way ANOVA followed by Bonferroni post-test. *p<0.05 SD vs SC;

^{††}p<0.01 TD vs SD.

Figure 2. Schematic picture of pulse interval (upper panel) and spectra of pulse

interval (lower panel) of an animal representative from each group: Sedentary

Control (SC), Sedentary Diabetic (SD) and Trained Diabetic (TD).

Figure 3: Analysis of spectral power in normalized units (n.u.)(A) and in ms² (B) of

cardiac autonomic balance in Sedentary Control (SC)(n = 8), Sedentary (SD)(n = 8)

and Trained (TD)(n = 8) diabetic rats. LF = Low frequency; HF = High frequency.

Data are presented as means \pm SEM. To evaluate difference between groups, it was

used one-way ANOVA followed by Bonferroni post-test. *p<0.05 SD vs SC;

[†]p<0.05 TD vs SD; **p<0.01 SD vs SC and ^{††}p<0.01 TD vs SD.

Table legends

Table 1. Cardiovascular evaluation in Sedentary Control, Sedentary and Trained diabetic rats.

Table 2. PR, QRS, QT and QTc intervals from ECG in Sedentary Control, Sedentary and Trained Diabetic rats.

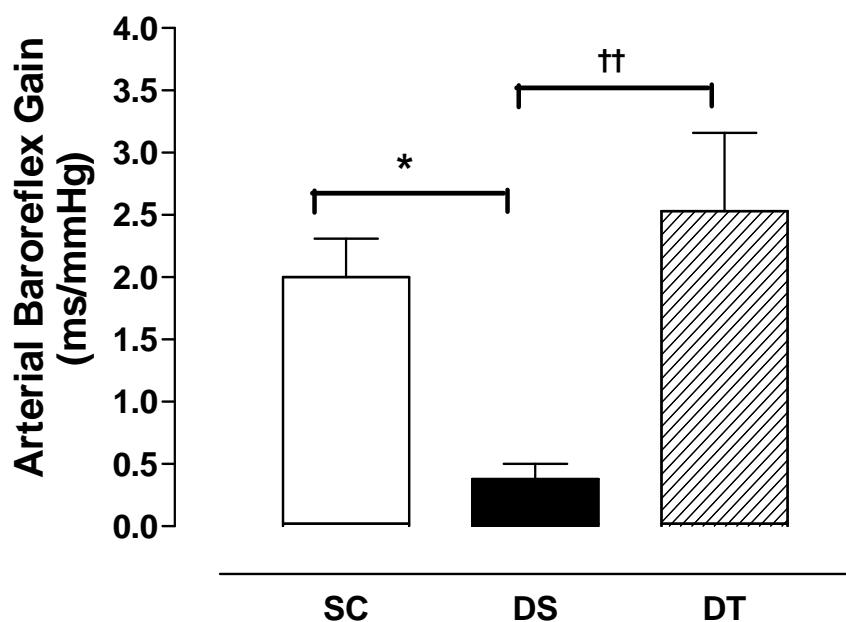
Figure 1

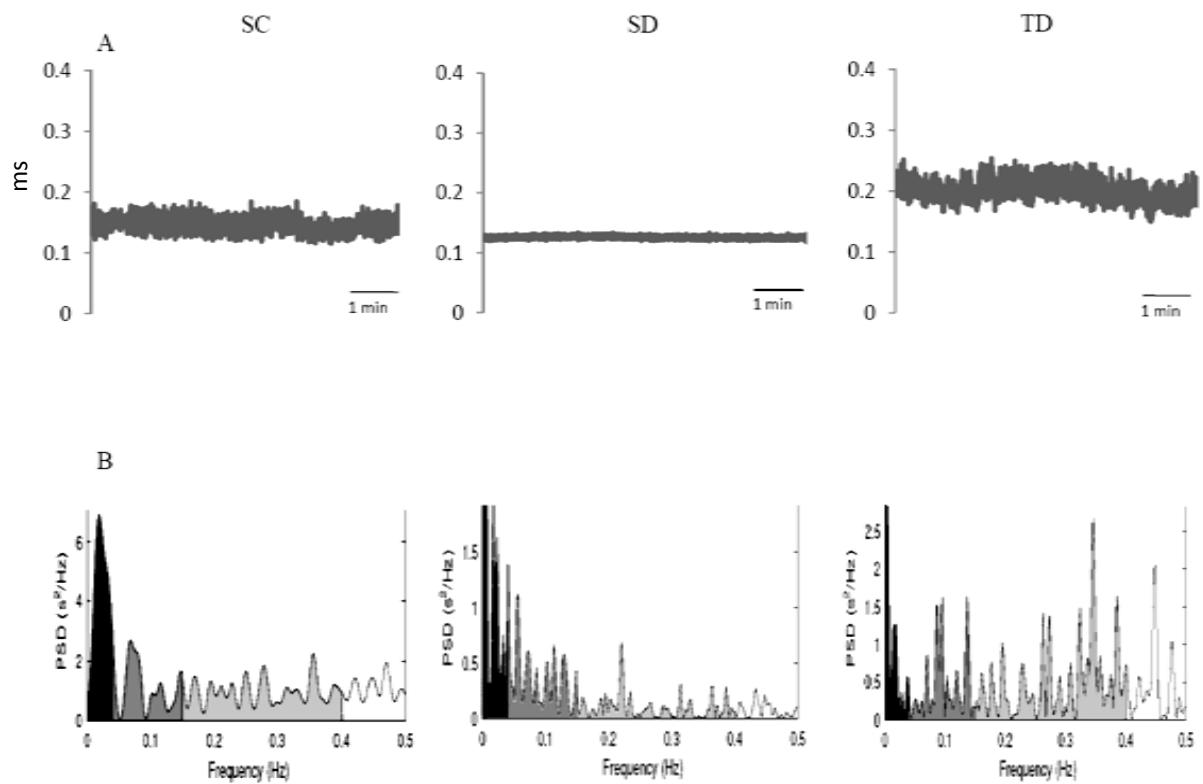
Figure 2

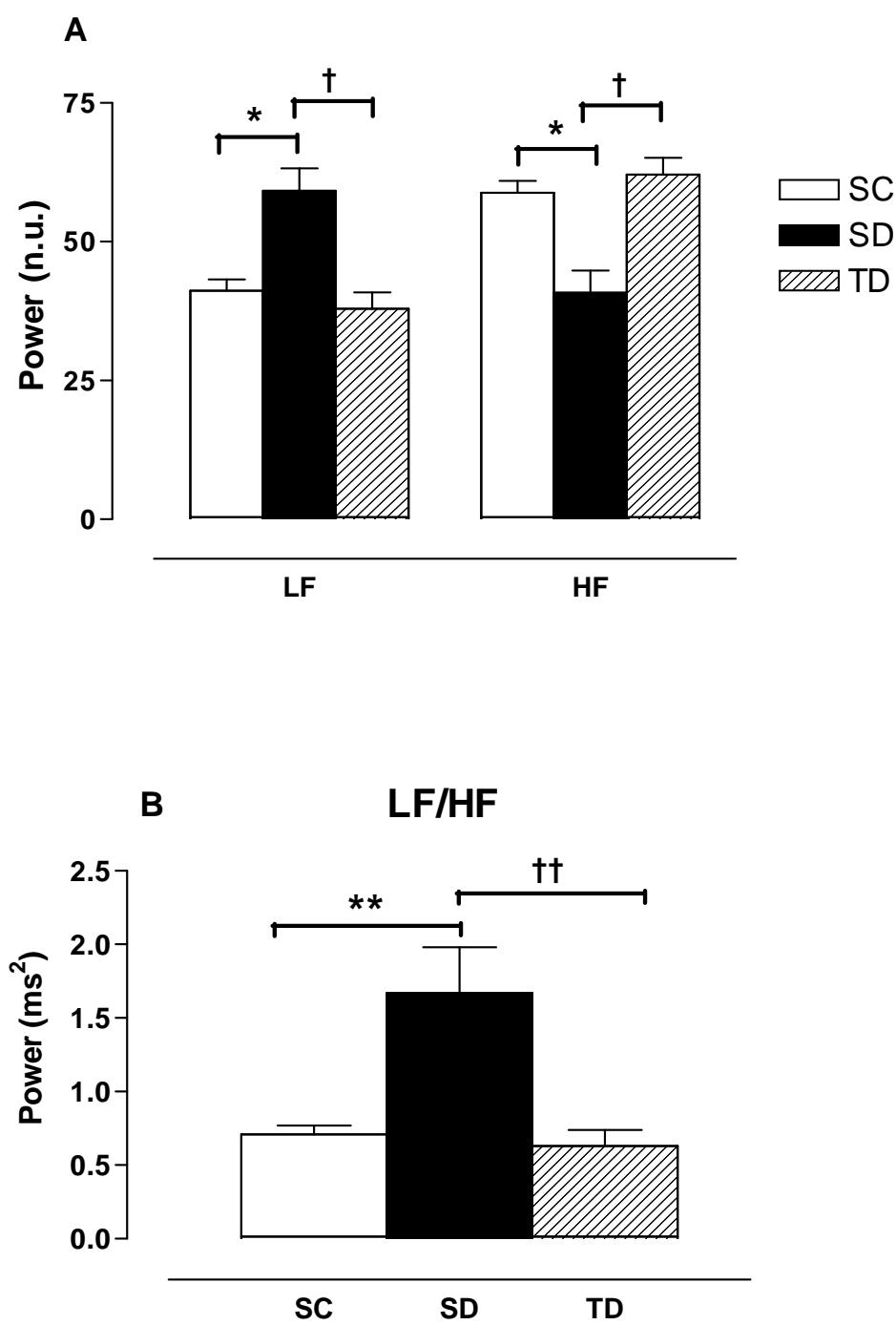
Figure 3

Table 1

Parameters	SC	SD	TD
	(n = 8)	(n = 8)	(n = 8)
SBP (mmHg)	138.1 ± 1.7	171.6 ± 4.1 ***	132.7 ± 3.7†††
DBP (mmHg)	87.8 ± 2.7	102.4 ± 7.8	84.8 ± 5.4
MAP (mmHg)	104.7 ± 5.4	125.1 ± 5.4*	100.7 ± 4.2††
PP (mmHg)	50.1 ± 3.5	68.1 ± 7.7	47.8 ± 4.7
HR (bpm)	361.7 ± 11.3	386.1 ± 24.2	298.4 ± 12††

SBP = systolic blood pressure; DBP = diastolic blood pressure; MAP = mean arterial pressure; PP = pulse pressure; HR= heart rate; SC = Sedentary Control; SD = Sedentary Diabetic; TD = Trained Diabetic. Values are means ± SEM. To evaluate difference between groups, it was used one-way ANOVA followed by Bonferroni post-test. * p<0.05, *** p<0.01 vs SC, †† p<0.01 and ††† p<0.001 vs SD group.

Table 2

Intervals	SC (n = 8)	SD (n = 8)	TD (n = 8)
(ms)			
PR	39 ± 2.3	42 ± 0.6	35 ± 1.8
QRS	36 ± 1	33 ± 2	33 ± 2
QT	57 ± 2	70 ± 2**	62 ± 3
QTc	4.4 ± 0.1	5.1 ± 0.1***	4.6 ± 0.1††

SC = Sedentary Control; SD = Sedentary Diabetic; TD = Trained Diabetic. Values

are means ± SEM. To evaluate difference between groups, it was used one-way ANOVA followed by Bonferroni post-test. **p<0.01, *** p<0.001 vs SC and

††p<0.01 vs SD.

CONCLUSÃO

5 CONCLUSÃO

Este estudo demonstra pela primeira vez, ao nosso conhecimento, que as alterações cardiovasculares envolvidas no diabetes, induzido pela aloxana em ratos, possivelmente envolve comprometimento da sensibilidade barorreflexa e balanço autonômico cardíaco. Tal desbalanço é caracterizado pela retirada vagal a qual produz prolongamento no intervalo QTc. Além disso, demonstra que o exercício resistido é eficaz na melhora do controle glicêmico e reduz os níveis de pressão arterial no diabetes. Também evidencia, pela primeira vez nesse modelo, que as alterações cardiovasculares proporcionadas pelo treinamento físico resistido de intensidade leve no diabetes, possivelmente envolve melhora nos mecanismos de sensibilidade barorreflexa e balanço autonômico cardíaco, o qual caracteriza-se pela predominância parassimpática. Porfim que o treinamento foi capaz de impedir o prolongamento do intervalo QTc.

PERSPECTIVAS

6 PERSPECTIVAS

Investigar se há participação de modulação central autonômica cardíaca sobre a hemodinâmica de ratos diabéticos decorrente do treinamento físico resistido.

Averiguar o envolvimento de estresse oxidativo sobre a melhora da sensibilidade barorreflexa em animais diabéticos submetidos ao treinamento físico resistido.

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ANEXO A



UNIVERSIDADE FEDERAL DE SERGIPE
CENTRO DE CIÊNCIAS BIOLÓGICAS E DA SAÚDE
COMITÊ DE ÉTICA EM PESQUISA COM ANIMAIS (CEPA)

DECLARAÇÃO

Declaro, para os devidos fins, que o Projeto de Pesquisa intitulado “Avaliação dos efeitos do treinamento físico aeróbio e resistido sobre os parâmetros hemodinâmicos, bioquímicos e eletrocardiográficos em ratos diabéticos”, sob coordenação do Prof. Dr. Márcio Roberto Viana Santos, foi aprovado pelo Comitê de Ética em Pesquisa com Animais da Universidade Federal de Sergipe, em reunião realizada dia 13/03/2009.

São Cristóvão, 14 de março de 2009

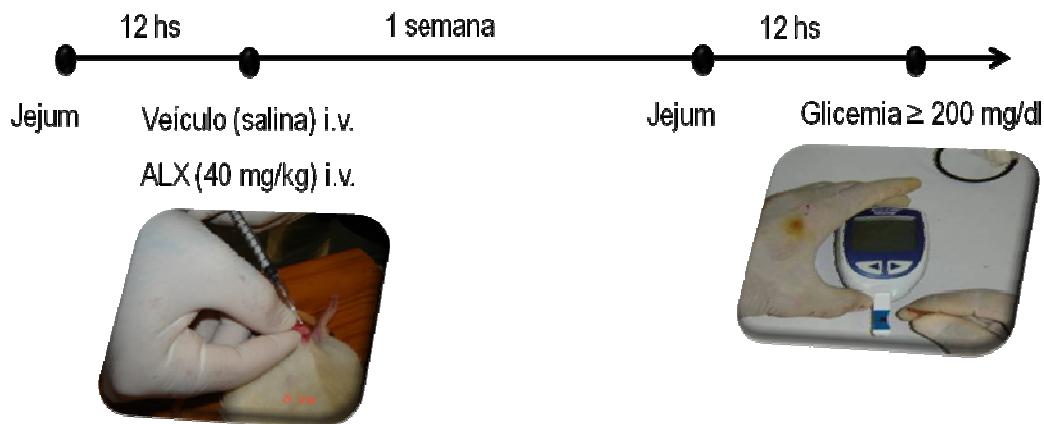
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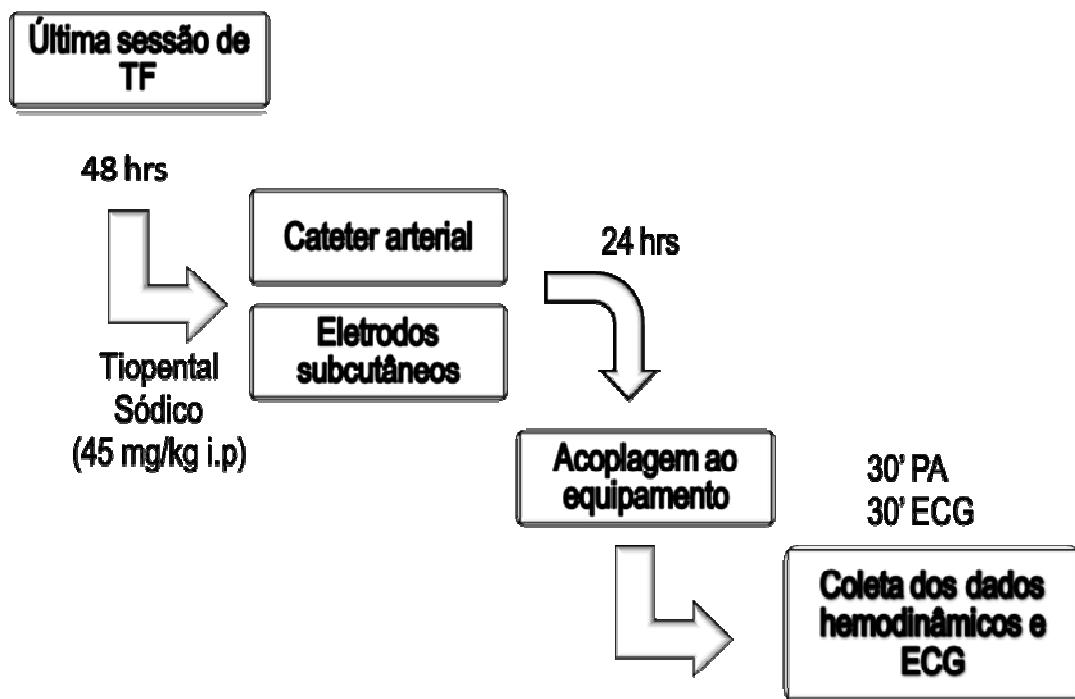
ANEXO B

CRONOLOGIA DOS EXPERIMENTOS

Indução do diabetes:



Coleta dos dados hemodinâmicos:



ANEXO C

Instructions to Authors

Online Manuscript Submission

Hypertension publishes scientific investigation of the highest quality in the broad field of blood pressure regulation and pathophysiology, clinical treatment, and prevention of hypertension. The editors encourage submission of original articles that deal with basic, clinical, and population studies of hypertension and related fields such as nephrology, endocrinology, neuroscience, vascular biology, physiology, pharmacology, cellular and molecular biology, and genetics.

Submitted manuscripts must not contain material previously published, except as an abstract, and must not be under consideration for publication elsewhere, in whole or in part. Manuscripts should conform to "Uniform Requirements for Manuscripts Submitted to Biomedical Journals" (*N Engl J Med.* 1991; 324:424-428). Manuscripts are examined by the editors and are usually sent to expert reviewers. Decisions will generally be communicated within 3 weeks after receipt of the manuscript. Acceptance is based on originality, scientific excellence, and topical balance of the journal.

Address new and revised manuscripts and correspondence to the editorial office:

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Journal Categories/Article Types	Revised Manuscripts	Costs to Authors
Online Submissions	Tips for Submitting Online	Policies

General	Guidelines for Digital Images	Forms
Instructions for Preparing Manuscripts		
Guidelines for Clinical Trials	How to Format Digital Images	Permission to Reprint
New Manuscripts	Online/Data Supplements	Author Rights & Permissions

Journal Categories

Original Scientific Communications. These are regular (original manuscripts) scientific contributions. Manuscripts should **not exceed 6000 words** including title page, abstract, references, legends, tables, and figures. (Please note that a single bar graph is approximately 150 words, and table with 3 columns and 10 rows is approximately 100 words.) In exceptional circumstances, the editors may consider manuscripts longer than 6000 words when design complexity or research requires a greater length. For preparation, see "General Instructions."

Brief Reviews. Brief Reviews are generally invited by the Editors and are definitive summaries of areas that are important to research in hypertension and related areas. Reviews should briefly, but comprehensively, review the literature on a specified topic. The topic should be timely and sufficiently focused to allow a comprehensive review **without exceeding 6000 words**, including title page, abstract, references, legends, and tables, and figures. (Please note that a single bar graph is approximately 150 words, and table with 3 columns and 10 rows is approximately 100 words.) In special circumstances, reviews may exceed these page limits and specific guidelines will be provided at the time that the review is invited. The author should discuss controversies that have been resolved or that remain, the future of the field both technically and conceptually, and define major unresolved questions. All Brief Reviews, whether invited or not, will undergo peer review.

Hypertension Grand Rounds. These articles are invited reviews that take a case-based approach, including topics related to diagnosis, prevention, and treatment of hypertension. The case presentation will be followed by a discussion of scientific and practical clinical issues related to the case. Where applicable, a discussion of future research necessary for resolving unanswered questions will be included. The topic should be timely and sufficiently focused to allow a comprehensive review **without exceeding 6000 words**, including title page, case presentation, references, legends, tables, and figures . (Please note that a single bar graph is approximately 150 words, and table with

3 columns and 10 rows is approximately 100 words.) In special circumstances, reviews may exceed these page limits and specific guidelines will be provided at the time that the review is invited. Hypertension Grand Rounds, whether invited or not, will undergo peer review.

Hypertension Highlights. These articles are intended to highlight, provide further perspective, and enhance the overall significance of recent studies published in *Hypertension* that contribute to our understanding of hypertension and related areas. Hypertension Highlights should be **approximately 3000 words** and review progress that has occurred during the past 2-3 years in a focused area of hypertension research. Figures that effectively illustrate and summarize key points are encouraged. References should generally be restricted to those published in *Hypertension* during the last 2-3 years.

Editorial Commentaries. These articles are invited brief commentaries on articles that appear in *Hypertension* or on topics of particular importance to the readers of the journal. They should be approximately **1500 words**, describe controversial issues, and review questions that remain to be addressed. Use of a figure to illustrate key points is encouraged. References are limited to 10 and generally should be restricted to recent years. Editorial Commentaries are generally invited by the editors, but whether invited or not, they will undergo peer review.

Tutorials. These are similar to Brief Reviews but are presented at a level commensurate with their use as a teaching tool. Schematic diagrams and figures are encouraged wherever possible to illustrate important scientific or technical points. Elements of Editorial Commentaries can also be integrated into the tutorial at the author's discretion. The topic should be timely and sufficiently focused to allow a comprehensive review **without exceeding 6000 words**, including title page, abstract, references, legends, and tables, and figures. (Please note that a single bar graph is approximately 150 words, and table with 3 columns and 10 rows is approximately 100 words.) In special circumstances, Tutorials may exceed these page limits and specific guidelines will be provided at the time that the review is invited. The author should discuss controversies that have been resolved or that remain, the future of the field both technically and conceptually, and define major unresolved questions. Tutorials, whether invited or not, will undergo peer review.

Letters to the Editor. Letters to the Editor express views about articles published in *Hypertension*. Letters should be no longer than **500 words** and should relate to an article published in *Hypertension*, within the preceding three months. References are limited to 5. Authors of the article cited in the letter will be invited to reply, as appropriate, and the reply must be signed by all authors of the original publication.

Preliminary or circumscribed novel findings of unusual interest may also be submitted as a Letter to the Editor and should be no longer than **1000 words**. Authors must double-space text and references, provide a brief title, and obtain signatures from all authors on a copyright transfer agreement for all Letters to the Editor. Letters and replies are reviewed by the Editors and may be edited, and they will appear online only.

Manuscript Submissions

Online Submissions: A formal online submission module is available and is the preferred mode of submission to *Hypertension*. To submit your **original or revised** manuscript online, please go to <http://submit-hyper.ahajournals.org> and follow the detailed instructions located on our submission website. If you have any questions about the online submission process, please feel free to contact the Editorial Office at hypertension@physiology.umsmmed.edu. If you do not receive confirmation of submission within three days, please contact the Editorial Office. The following items should be uploaded at the time of submission:

1. A cover letter that includes a statement of submission: "All authors have read and approved the submission of the manuscript; the manuscript has not been published and is not being considered for publication elsewhere, in whole or in part, in any language, except as an abstract." The cover letter may include the names of six to eight potential reviewers, with address, email address, and fax number, who are experts in the area of research and who do not have a conflict of interest. It is especially helpful to suggest three to four members of the Editorial Board.
2. [Authorship Responsibility and Copyright Transfer Agreement](#)
3. Acknowledgment release signatures, if applicable
4. One copy of any potentially overlapping work that is in preparation, has been previously submitted or published, or is in-press, if applicable
5. One copy of any article currently in-press, which is cited in the References, if applicable
6. One copy of any abstracts published or submitted for publication, if applicable
7. All sources of support must be cited
8. All potential conflicts of interest related to the manuscript must be stated [Conflict of Interest Disclosure Questionnaire](#)

If you are unable to upload the items above, please fax them to the *Hypertension* Editorial Office within 48 hours after completion of online manuscript submission.

General Instructions for New Submissions

- Manuscripts must be typed, double-spaced using a 12-point font, including references, figure legends, and tables, on one side of the page only.
- Leave 1-inch margins on all sides. Do not use proportional spacing or justified margins.
- Number every page except the title page, including figures, tables, and references. Cite each figure and table in text in numerical order.
- Assemble manuscripts in this order:
 1. Title page
 2. Abstract
 3. Text, including Introduction, Methods, Results, Discussion, and Perspectives
 4. Acknowledgments
 5. Source(s) of Funding
 6. Conflict(s) of Interest/Disclosure(s)
 7. References
 8. Figure Legends
 9. Tables

10. Figures

- Cite each reference in text in numerical order and list in the References section. In-text reference numbers may be repeated but not omitted.
- Use SI units of measure in all manuscripts. For example, molar (M) should be changed to mol/L; mg/dL to mmol/L; and cm to mm. Units of measure previously reported as percentages (ie, hematocrit) are expressed as a decimal fraction. Measurements currently not converted to SI units in biomedical applications are blood and oxygen pressures, enzyme activity, H⁺ concentration, temperature, and volume. The SI unit should be used in text, followed by the conventionally used measurement in parentheses.
- For style, consult the [ed 9th Style, of Manual Association Medical American](#), [Baltimore, MD, Williams & Wilkins, 1998. \(NOTE: The use of et al. in the author listing of references is not allowed.\)](#)
- [Please provide sex-specific and/or racial/ethnic-specific data, when appropriate, in describing outcomes of epidemiologic analyses or clinical trials; or specifically state that no sex-based or racial/ethnic-based differences were present. See the Uniform Requirements](#) for more details.
- Consult current issues of *Hypertension* for examples of format.

Guidelines for Clinical Trials

- In accordance with the [Clinical Trial Registration Statement from the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors \(ICMJE\)](#) (*Circulation*. 2005;111:1337-1338.), all clinical trials submitted for publication in Hypertension must be registered in a public trials registry at or before the onset of participant enrollment. This requirement applies to all clinical trials that begin enrollment after July 1, 2005.
- Research is considered to be a clinical trial if it involves prospective assignment of human subjects to an intervention or comparison group to study the relation between a medical intervention and a health outcome. Studies that are designed for other purposes, such as to study pharmacokinetics or major toxicity studies (e.g., phase 1 trials) are exempt.
- The registry must be accessible to the public at no charge, searchable, open to all prospective registrants, and managed by a not-for-profit organization. The registry must include the following information: a unique identifying number, a statement of the intervention(s), study hypothesis, definition of primary and secondary outcome measurements, eligibility criteria, target number of subjects, funding source, contact information for the principal investigator, and key dates (registration date, start date, and completion date). The registries listed below are approved by the ICMJE:
 1. [United States National Library of Medicine](#)
 2. [International Standard Randomized Controlled Trial Number \(ISRCTN\)](#)
 3. [University Hospital Medical Information Network \(UMIN\)](#)
 4. [Australian Clinical Trials Registry \(ACTR\)](#)
 5. [Netherlands Trial Register](#)

Clinical trials maybe listed with Other registries, but these registries must meet the above-mentioned requirements.

- The authors will be requested to provide the exact URL and unique identification number for the trial registration at the time of submission. This information will be published in a footnote on the first page of the article.

- Clinical trial reports should also comply with the Consolidated Standards of Reporting Trials ([CONSORT](#)) and include a flow diagram presenting the enrollment, intervention allocation, follow-up, and data analysis with number of subjects for each. Please also refer specifically to the CONSORT Checklist of items to include when reporting a randomized clinical trial.

General Instructions for Revised Manuscripts

- In the top right-hand corner, indicate the manuscript number followed by R1 to denote a first revision.
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- Revisions not received within three months will be administratively withdrawn. For further consideration the manuscript must be resubmitted de novo. At the editors' discretion, and in cases where substantial new data are required, extensions may be granted for revisions. In such cases, every effort will be made to retain the original reviewers.
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GenBank Submissions, National Center for Biotechnology Information, 8600 Rockville Pike, Building 38A, Room 8N-805, Bethesda, MD 20894, Tel: (301) 496-2475

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European Bioinformatics Institute, Hinxton Hall, Hinxton, Cambridge CB10 1SD, UK, Tel.: 44-1223-494401; Fax: 44-1223-494472; e-mail: support@ebi.ac.uk

3. [DNA Data Bank of Japan](#)

Center for Information Biology, National Institute of Genetics, Mishima, Shizuoka, 411, Japan, Tel.: 81-559-81-6853; Fax: 81-559-81-6849

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- **Guidelines for Human Phenotype-Genotype Association or Linkage Studies:**
 - A. Reporting issues.
 1. Report process for selecting genes and SNPs.
 2. Report Hardy-Weinberg statistics or p-values and method of calculating same.
 3. Refer to existing public domain websites for the Human Gene Ontology name and the rs number for SNPs.
 - <http://www.gene.ucl.ac.uk/nomenclature>
 - <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/projects/SNP>
 - <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/entrez/query.fcgi?db=Snp>
 4. Describe genotyping methods. If numerous primers have been used, please include them in an online supplement.
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 2. The sample size is adequate to detect a SNP or haplotype with a modest effect. For genotype-trait associations, provide an estimate of the effect size that could be detected with power 0.80 or higher with the allele frequency and sample size reported.
 3. Since multiple statistical testing methods are frequently used in genotyping-phenotyping studies, please include specifics of the primary model(s) tested. Non-essential secondary models may be published as electronic data supplements. Clinically relevant confounders should be included in multivariable models or residuals.
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 1. Identifying plausible candidate genes under the linkage peak.
 2. Follow-up fine mapping to narrow the region of linkage, and/or genotyping some of the candidate genes under the linkage peak.
 3. Replication data from another sample.

Guidelines for Studies on Diagnostic Tests: For information regarding the Standards for Reporting of Diagnostic Accuracy (STARD) go to [Clinical Chemistry.2003;49:7-18.](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC1403333/) or [Ann of Intern Med. 2003;138:W1-W12.](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC1403333/)

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"Perspectives". Authors should include a brief (<250) "Perspectives" section at the end of the Discussion Section. The "Perspectives" section should be clearly labeled with a separate heading. The purpose of "Perspectives" is to indicate the broad implications of the study, and to permit reasonable speculation on the overall importance and future directions of the work. Such perspectives should not replace the conclusions drawn from the study and should be limited to one paragraph. This section should, however, replace the "In summary..." paragraph that is often placed at the end of the discussion.

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Define acronyms and abbreviations in a separate listing.

(Please note that a table with 3 columns and 10 rows is approximately 100 words.)

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18 February 2010

PhD Marcio R V Santos

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