

⁴ Serviço de Hepatologia. Hospital Universitário Clementino Fraga Filho. Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro, Brasil.
⁵ Faculdade de Medicina. Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro, Brasil.

Introduction and Objectives: Pulse Wave Velocity (PWV) and ultrasound analysis of the carotid and femoral arteries (CA/FA) may offer a more accurate estimation of the cardiovascular risk (CVR) than traditional scores beyond the Coronary Calcium Score. The aim was to evaluate the impact of PWV and Doppler examinations of the CA/FA as modifiers of CVR in MASLD-patients in whom traditional scores were calculated.

Patients and Methods: This was a sectional study in MASLD-outpatients without clinical atherosclerotic disease. The AHA/ACC, Framingham and PREVENT scores were calculated, with a value $\geq 20\%$ considered high-risk. PWV index (patient-PWV/median PWV of the National CVR standard) was assessed (Arteris® AOP), and if ≥ 1 was considered as high-risk. CA/FA Doppler (Affiniti-70, Philips, USA) identified atherosclerotic plaques. The prevalence of high-risk patients was first calculated according to each score and reassessed after PWV and Doppler of CA/FA.

Results: One hundred fifty-three patients were evaluated between Oct-2023 and Mar-2025 (78% women, 60.2 ± 9.4 yrs., 68% obese, 79% SAH, 67% T2DM, 77% dyslipidemia). Regarding overall scores, 32% of patients were classified as high risk (Prevent 15%, AHA/ACC 18%, Framingham 26%). Notably, a high PWV-index was observed in 33%, and 76% had atherosclerotic plaques, characterizing established atherosclerotic disease. The risk reclassification by the PWV-index occurred in 21%, 25%, and 28%, and by the Doppler 53%, 60%, and 62%, respectively, for the Framingham, AHA/ACC, and Prevent scores.

Conclusions: Patients with MASLD have a high prevalence of subclinical atherosclerosis. Traditional scores underestimated CVR, highlighting the need for additional methods for better risk stratification.

Conflict of interest: None

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CHANGES IN BODY COMPOSITION AND HEPATIC ELASTOGRAPHY VALUES IN PATIENTS WITH METABOLIC DYSFUNCTION-ASSOCIATED STEATOTIC LIVER DISEASE AT A MEDICAL CENTER IN CARTAGENA – COLOMBIA, DURING THE PERIOD FROM OCTOBER 2023 TO JANUARY 2025

Arturo Jose Viera Oliveros¹, Ismael Yepes Barreto², Yohana Poveda Salinas², Fernando García del Risco¹

¹ Universidad de Cartagena, Colombia.

² Gastropack, Colombia.

Introduction and Objectives: Metabolic dysfunction-associated steatotic liver disease (MASLD) is characterized by the accumulation of triglycerides in the liver, linked to cardiometabolic risk factors. Its global prevalence exceeds 30%, rising in parallel with overweight and type 2 diabetes. Visceral fat is associated with systemic inflammation and hepatic fat accumulation. Although elastography is useful for assessing disease progression, its high cost and limited availability necessitate the

exploration of alternative tools. The use of body composition parameters has been proposed as potential predictors of disease progression.

To determine the relationship between changes in body composition and hepatic elastography values in patients with liver disease associated with metabolic dysfunction.

Materials and Methods: This was an analytical, observational, and prospective study. Patients over 18 years old with a previous diagnosis of steatotic liver disease were included. All underwent elastography and bioelectrical impedance analysis at baseline and after one year to assess progression risk factors. The patients signed the informed consent.

Results: A total of 88 patients were included, 52.3% of whom were women. Initial elastography readings averaged 9.2 kPa; the controlled attenuation parameter (CAP) was 269 dB/m. Factors associated with elevated liver stiffness included type 2 diabetes, chronic kidney disease, AST, APRI, and FIB-4 scores. During follow-up, smoking, alcohol consumption, CAP, and changes in body fat were linked to disease progression. In multivariate analysis, only smoking and baseline CAP were independent predictors.

Conclusions: Smoking and baseline CAP were significantly associated with the risk of MASLD progression, suggesting their potential utility in guiding timely interventions.

Conflict of interest: None

Variable	b	IC 95%	p-value
Female sex	-0,209	(-3,681 - 0,535)	0,14
Arterial hypertension	-0,099	(-2,916 - 1,415)	0,49
Overweight	0,084	(-2,205 - 4,037)	0,558
Prediabetes/Type 2 diabetes mellitus	0,069	(-1,629 - 2,672)	0,628
Smoking	0,483	(2,2 - 7,2)	<0,001
Alcohol consumption	0,311	(0,002 - 0,032)	0,026
Changes in BMI	0,18	(-0,272 - 1,173)	0,216
Changes in waist circumference	0,047	(-0,060 - 0,083)	0,754
CAP	0,346	(0,005 - 0,041)	0,013
Changes in CAP	0,265	(-0,001 - 0,033)	0,06
Changes in body fat mass	0,274	(-0,013 - 0,634)	0,06
Changes in skeletal muscle mass	-0,1	(-1,423 - 0,696)	0,493
Changes in body fat percentage	0,345	(0,089 - 0,799)	0,015
Changes in waist-to-hip ratio	0,051	(-19,025 - 26,984)	0,729
Changes in visceral fat	0,217	(-0,147 - 1,066)	0,134

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PLANT-DERIVED MONOTERPENE SYNERGIZES WITH SORAFENIB TO SUPPRESS DRUG-TRIGGERED HEPATOCELLULAR CARCINOMA IN ANIMALS

Amr Amin¹

¹ University of Sharjah, United Arab Emirates.

Introduction and Objectives: Sorafenib (SB), while established as a first-line multikinase inhibitor for advanced hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC), demonstrates constrained clinical utility due to significant adverse effects and the emergence of drug resistance. To potentially enhance its therapeutic profile, we explored combination therapy with natural compounds. Previous investigations from our group identified safranal (SF), a major bioactive monoterpene constituent of saffron, as exhibiting notable anti-HCC properties.

This study aimed to investigate potential synergistic interactions between SB and SF that might improve HCC treatment outcomes.

Materials and Methods: We employed a chemically-induced cirrhotic HCC rat model to evaluate both SF monotherapy and SB-SF