1874-9445/23



RESEARCH ARTICLE

Lifestyle Risk Factors Associated with Stroke in Patients with Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus: A Case-control Study

Alvaro Marcelo Oyarce-Calderón^{1,2} and Jhony A. De La Cruz-Vargas^{1,3,*}

¹Biomedical Sciences Research Institute, Ricardo Palma University, Lima, Peru ²Faculty of Human Medicine "Manuel Huaman Guerrero", Ricardo Palma University, Lima, Peru ³Chair of Lifestyle Medicine, Ricardo Palma University, Lima, Peru

Abstract:

Background:

Distinct lifestyle-related cardiovascular risk factors can be present simultaneously in patients with type 2 diabetes mellitus, thus increasing the odds of developing a stroke.

Objective:

The aim of this study was to establish the risk factors associated with the development of stroke in patients with type 2 diabetes mellitus at the Internal Medicine Services of a referral hospital in Peru.

Methods:

A case-control study with an unpaired design was conducted, evaluating 324 patients diagnosed with type 2 diabetes mellitus, 108 having a confirmed diagnosis through computed tomography scan and 216 patients without such confirmation, at a reference hospital in Peru from 2012 and 2021. Clinical and laboratory parameters related to lifestyle were evaluated. Odds ratios with 95% confidence intervals were obtained. Logistic regression was used for multivariate analysis.

Results:

In the multivariate analysis, being 60 years of age or older: ORa 1.04; 95%CI 1.02-1.07, hypertension: ORa 5.26; 95%CI 2.84-9.74, as well as elevated levels of glycated hemoglobin (HbA1c) levels: ORa 1.11; 95% CI 1.00-1.23 and C- reactive protein (CRP) levels ORa 1.04; 95% CI 1.01-1.06) were significantly associated with stroke risk.

Conclusion:

The risk factors associated with the development of strokes in patients diagnosed with type 2 diabetes mellitus were advanced age (over 60 years), chronic inflammation (elevated CRP levels), inadequate metabolic control (elevated HbA1c levels), and, more conclusively, hypertension. These factors are all related to lifestyle, highlighting the importance of promoting proper management in this population.

Keywords: Type 2 diabetes mellitus, Risk factors, Stroke, CRP, Arterial hypertension, Lifestyle.

Article History Received: March 16, 2023	Revised: May 23, 2023	Accepted: June 13, 2023
--	-----------------------	-------------------------

1. INTRODUCTION

Type 2 diabetes mellitus is a chronic non-communicable disease and represents, like other diseases of this type, a significant burden of morbidity, leading to disability or mortality with devastating consequences for the economies worldwide [1].

As of 2021, there were an estimated 537 million adults affected by this pathology globally; in other words, 10% of the population within this age group. In the United States, the incidence rate is estimated to be around nine new cases per 100 individuals per year, with a higher prevalence among those aged over 65 and above [2]. This proportion becomes even larger when considering low or middle-income countries, where three out of four patients with diabetes live, out of the total worldwide [3]. Specifically, in the Americas, 410,000

^{*} Address correspondence to this author at the Biomedical Sciences Research Institute, Ricardo Palma University, Chair of Lifestyle Medicine, Ricardo Palma University, Lima, Peru; E-mail: jhony.delacruz@urp.edu.pe

deaths were attributed to this pathology during the year 2021 [3]. As a result, it reduces life expectancy by an average of 10 years, with cardiovascular diseases being the leading cause of morbidity and mortality among patients suffering from this pathology [4].

Furthermore, diabetes is known for being a known risk factor for the development of strokes [5]. Indeed, diabetes is associated with several microvascular and macrovascular alterations that often lead to major clinical complications, including strokes [4]. Diabetes is considered a modifiable condition that contributes to the increase in the risk of stroke development. It is even more worrying that mortality in the diabetic population is higher, and the evolution after the event is poorer compared to those without diabetes. In particular, the risk of developing an ischemic stroke is two to three times higher in patients with type 2 diabetes mellitus. This is especially relevant considering the high incidence of stroke, especially of ischemic events, and with a higher proportion in male individuals [6].

The enhanced cardiovascular risk observed in those patients cannot be relieved by the intervention with a single factor for glycemic control but requires multifactorial control of cardiovascular risk factors [4]. Thus, it is crucial to prioritize lifestyle modifications and address other risk factors in order to achieve adequate and effective control [7]. While type 2 diabetes mellitus is a well-defined cardiovascular risk factor, its interaction with other risk factors in relation to stroke risk is the primary reason for focusing on this vulnerable group of patients. This is especially relevant in a population, such as the Peruvian one, where the coexistence of many of these is common, and health often lacks appropriate approaches and treatments, as seen globally [6, 8]. Moreover, there is a lack of substantial evidence regarding lifestyle factors and their association with the development of stroke in Peruvian diabetic patients.

This study was conducted to establish the risk factors associated with the development of a stroke in patients diagnosed with type 2 diabetes mellitus within the internal medicine services of a referral hospital in Peru from 2012 to 2021.

2. MATERIALS AND METHODS

2.1. Study Design

A retrospective study was carried out using an unpaired case-control design.

2.2. Selection of Participants

For the cases, patients diagnosed with type 2 diabetes mellitus who were hospitalized in the internal medicine services of a hospital in Peru between 2012 and 2021 were included. Only patients who had the diagnosis of a stroke confirmed through tomography, aged 18 years or older, and with complete medical records were considered. Patients with a diagnosis of type 1 diabetes mellitus, gestational diabetes, and those with incomplete medical records were excluded.

For the controls, patients with a diagnosis of type 2

diabetes mellitus who were hospitalized in the internal medicine services in a hospital in Peru during the same period, without a clinical-radiological diagnosis of a stroke (through computed tomography scan) who were 18 years of age or older and had medical records in which the variables to be evaluated could be accurately determined were considered. Exclusion criteria were medical records of patients not being hospitalized in the specified services during the study period and those not adequately recorded.

Both the case and control groups were selected from the same study population. Controls were randomly selected in an unpaired and simple randomized manner.

2.3. Variables and their Operationalization

The data for both clinical and laboratory variables were taken from the initial evaluations conducted upon hospital admission and recorded in the patients' medical records at the time of the study event.

The variables considered as risk factors were sociodemographic factors (age greater than or equal to 60 years [9] and male or female gender), history of acute myocardial infarction, the presence of chronic kidney disease (CKD) (defined by a glomerular filtration rate of less than 60 ml/min/1.73 m²), elevated levels of glycated hemoglobin (HbA1c) >8% (64 mmol/mol) [10] presence of arterial hypertension (HTN) (defined by more than 140 mmHg systolic blood pressure and/or more than 90 mmHg diastolic blood pressure according to the International Society of Hypertension [11], presence of overweight (Body Mass Index (BMI) between 25 to 29.9 kg/m²), obesity (BMI of 30 or more kg/m²), smoking, dyslipidemias (elevated levels of total cholesterol, triglycerides, LDL, and decreased HDL according to Fredrickson's classification [12]) and elevated levels of Creactive protein (CRP)) defined by more than 10 mg/dl [13].

2.4. Population and Sample

The population consisted of patients hospitalized in the internal medicine services of a hospital in Peru during the 2012-2021 period.

The sample consisted of 324 patients, of which 108 corresponded to cases and 216 to controls. The sample size was calculated using a formula for unpaired case-control studies, with a frequency of exposure among controls of 50%, based on a study by Ohishi [14]. The predicted Odds Ratio for the HTN variable was 1.96 (95% CI 1.097-3.501, P=0.023) [15]. The confidence level was estimated at 95%, and the number of controls per case was set at two. The sampling method was probabilistic.

2.5. Statistical Analysis

A Microsoft Excel database was created to organize the information, and the statistical analysis was performed using SPSS version 26. Initially, a descriptive analysis was conducted to establish the frequency of presentation of each study, which was variable to, at a later stage, perform data analysis using contingency tables to calculate the Odds Ratio with 95% confidence intervals and the evaluation of the risk

Stroke in Patients with Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus

relationship between study variables.

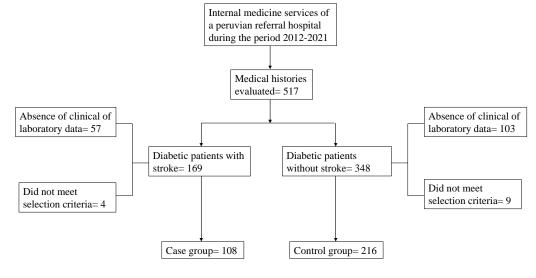
For the bivariate inferential analysis, the Chi-square test was applied to analyze qualitative variables and the presence of stroke, taking into consideration the value of p < 0.05 as statistically significant. Logistic regression was used for multivariate analysis.

3. RESULTS

The population corresponding to patients with a diagnosis of type 2 diabetes mellitus was 7,220, of whom 2.13% had a

record of stroke. From this population, 108 clinical records were randomly selected, taking a ratio of one case for every two controls; 216 of them were randomly selected, as shown in Fig. (1).

In the case of the controls, the average age was 60.1 years, with a standard deviation of 12.8. On the other hand, among the cases, the average age was 66 years, with a standard deviation of 10.7. The presence of obesity was found in 80.6% of the controls, while it was present in almost 1% more of the cases. In addition, HTN was present in 38% more cases in comparison with controls (Table 1).



Proportion 1:2

Fig. (1). Unmatched case-control flowchart.

Table 1. General characteristics of the sample studied.

Variables			Cases				Controls			
	Categories	Ν	%	Average	SD	n	%	Average	SD	
	≥60	84	77.8%	66,6	10,7	116	53.7%	60.1	12.8	
Age (years)	<60	24	22.2%	00,0		100	46.3%	00.1	12.8	
Gender	Female	54	50.0%	-	-	80	37.0%	-	-	
Gender	Male	54	50.0%	-	-	136	63.0%	-	-	
BMI	Overweight and obesity	88	81.5%	-	-	174	80.6%	-	-	
BMI	Normal weight	20	18.5%	-	-	42	19.4%	-	-	
Smoking	Yes	22	20.4%	-	-	36	16.7%	-	-	
	No	86	79.6%	-	-	180	83.3%	-	-	
History of acute myocardial infarction	Yes	16	14.8%	-	-	12	5.6%	-	-	
	No	92	85.2%	-	-	204	94.4%	-	-	
Presence of CKD	Yes	21	19.4%	-	-	37	17.1%	-	-	
Γ	No	87	80.6%	-	-	179	82.9%	-	-	
Presence of HTN	Yes	86	79.6%	-	-	89	41.2%	-	-	
Γ	No	22	20.4%	-	-	127	58.8%	-	-	
	≥8% (64 mmol/mol)	77	71.3%		2.5	137	63.4%	9	26	
HbA1c	<8% (64 mmol/mol)	31	28.7%	9.7	2.5	79	36.6%	9	2.6	
$T_{-1} = \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2} \right)$	≥ 200	15	13.9%	150.6	27.5	25	11.6%	155 4	27.2	
Total cholesterol (mg/dl)	<200	93	86.1%	159.6	37.5	191	88.4%	155.4	37.3	

4 The Open Public Health Journal, 2023, Volume 16

(Table 1) contd.....

Variables	Categories	Cases				Controls				
		Ν	%	Average	SD	n	%	Average	SD	
LDLc (mg/dl)	≥100	59	54.6%	98	<u></u>	118	54.6%	97.8	28.6	
	<100	49	45.4%		33.3	98	45.4%	97.8	28.0	
HDLc (mg/dl)	<40	70	64.8%	37.8	9.8	141	65.3%	- 37.3	10.9	
	≥40	38	35.2%		9.0	75	34.7%		10.9	
Triglycerides (mg/dl)	≥150	65	60.2%	151.2	151.2	45.8	114	52.8%	158.1	73.5
	<150	43	39.8%		43.8	102	47.2%	130.1	13.5	
CRP (mg/dl)	≥10	76	70.4%	13.7 1	13.3	104	48.1%	13	10.5	
	<10	32	29.6%	13.7	13.5	112	51.9%	15	10.5	
Total	-	108	-	-	-	216	-	-	-	

Note: SD: standard deviation; n: sample; BMI: Body Mass Index; CKD: Chronic Kidney Disease; HTN: arterial hypertension; HbA1c: glycated hemoglobin; CRP: C-reactive protein; mg/dl: milligrams per deciliter

Table 2. Bivariate analysis.

Variables	Categories	ORc	95% CI		
variables	Categories	OKC	Lower	Upper	р
A == ()	≥60	3.02	1.78	5.11	< 0.001
Age (years)	<60	REF	REF	REF	REF
Gender	Female	1.70	1.07	2.71	0.26
Gender	Male	REF	REF	REF	REF
BMI	Overweight and obesity	1.06	0.59	1.92	0.84
BMI	Normal weight	REF	REF	REF	REF
Smaling	Yes	1.28	0.71	2.31	0.41
Smoking	No	REF	REF	REF	REF
History of Acuto Mycocordial Information	Yes	2.96	1.34	6.50	0.01
History of Acute Myocardial Infarction	No	REF	REF	REF	REF
Presence of CKD	Yes	1.17	0.64	2.11	0.61
Presence of CKD	No	REF	REF	REF	REF
Presence of HTN	Yes	5.58	3.25	9.58	< 0.001
Presence of min	No	REF	REF	REF	REF
HbAlc	≥8% (64 mmol/mol)	1.43	0.87	2.36	0.16
HOATC	<8% (64 mmol/mol)	REF	REF	REF	REF
Total abalactoral (ma/dl)	≥ 200	1.23	0.62	2.45	0.55
Total cholesterol (mg/dl)	<200	REF	REF	REF	REF
$I D I_{\alpha} (m \sigma / d)$	≥100	1.00	0.63	1.59	1.00
LDLc (mg/dl)	<100	REF	REF	REF	REF
IIDI = (m = /d)	<40	0.98	0.60	1.59	0.93
HDLc (mg/dl)	≥40	REF	REF	REF	REF
Trickronides (ma/dl)	≥150	1.35	0.85	2.16	0.21
Triglycerides (mg/dl)	<150	REF	REF	REF	REF
CDD (mg/dl)	≥10	2.56	1.56	4.18	< 0.001
CRP (mg/dl)	<10	REF	REF	REF	REF

Note: REF: Reference; p: p-value; ORc: crude Odds ratio; 95% CI; 95% confidence interval; BMI: Body Mass Index; CKD: Chronic Kidney Disease; HTN: arterial hypertension; HbA1c: glycated hemoglobin; CRP: C-reactive protein; mg/dl: milligrams per deciliter

Table 3. Multivariate analysis.

Variables	Catagorias	ORa	95%CI for a		
v ai fables	Categories	UKa	Lower	Upper	р
Age (years)	≥60	1.04	1.02	1.07	< 0.001
	<60	REF	REF	REF	REF
Carden	Female	1.36	0.79	2.37	0.27
Gender	Male	REF	REF	REF	REF

(Table) contd.....

Yes	ORa 0.81	Lower	TT	р
	0.81		Upper	•
No	0.01	0.39	1.66	0.565
INO	REF	REF	REF	REF
Yes	1.99	0.84	4.76	0.120
No	REF	REF	REF	REF
Yes	1.31	0.66	2.59	0.435
No	REF	REF	REF	REF
Yes	2.02	0.81	5.04	0.131
No	REF	REF	REF	REF
Yes	0.84	0.40	1.75	0.642
No	REF	REF	REF	REF
Yes	5.26	2.84	9.74	< 0.001
No	REF	REF	REF	REF
.8% (64 mmol/mol)	1.11	1.00	1.23	0.050
8% (64 mmol/mol)	REF	REF	REF	REF
≥200	1.01	1.00	1.02	0.104
<200	REF	REF	REF	REF
≥100	1.00	0.98	1.01	0.636
<100	REF	REF	REF	REF
<40	0.98	0.95	1.01	0.286
≥40	REF	REF	REF	REF
≥150	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.048
<150	REF	REF	REF	REF
≥10	1.04	1.01	1.06	0.002
<10	REF	REF	REF	REF
8	$\begin{tabular}{ c c c c } \hline No & \\ \hline Yes & \\ \hline No & \\ \hline (64 mmol/mol) & \\ \hline 200 & \\ \hline 2100 & \\ \hline 2100 & \\ \hline 2100 & \\ \hline 2150 & \\ \hline 2150 & \\ \hline 210 &$	No REF Yes 1.31 No REF Yes 2.02 No REF Yes 0.84 No REF Yes 0.84 No REF Yes 5.26 No REF % (64 mmol/mol) 1.11 % (64 mmol/mol) REF ≥ 200 1.01 <200	No REF REF Yes 1.31 0.66 No REF REF Yes 2.02 0.81 No REF REF Yes 0.84 0.40 No REF REF Yes 0.84 0.40 No REF REF Yes 5.26 2.84 No REF REF Yes 5.26 2.84 No REF REF Ves 5.26 2.84 No REF REF Ves 5.26 2.84 No REF REF Ves 5.26 2.84 No REF REF So(64 mmol/mol) 1.11 1.00 <200	No REF REF REF Yes 1.31 0.66 2.59 No REF REF REF Yes 2.02 0.81 5.04 No REF REF REF Yes 2.02 0.81 5.04 No REF REF REF Yes 0.84 0.40 1.75 No REF REF REF Yes 5.26 2.84 9.74 No REF REF REF 200 1.01 1.00<

Note: REF: Reference; p: p-value; ORc: crude Odds ratio; 95% CI; 95% confidence interval; mg/dl: milligrams per deciliter; BMI: Body Mass Index; CKD: Chronic Kidney Disease; HTN: arterial hypertension; HbA1c: glycated hemoglobin; CRP: C-reactive protein.

In the bivariate analysis, it was found that being 60 years of age or older (ORc 1.05; 95%CI 1.03-1.07; p =0.001), history of acute myocardial infarction (ORc 2.96; 95%CI 1.35-6.50; p=0.01), presence of HTN (ORc 5.58; 95%CI 3.25-9.58; p <=0.001) and elevated CRP levels (ORc 1.03; 95%CI 1.01-1.05; p =0.001) showed a significant association (Table 2).

Subsequently, in the multivariate analysis using logistic regression, the following variables were found to show statistical significance: age equal to or greater than 60 years (ORa 1.04; 95%CI 1.02-1.07; p = 0.001), presence of HTN (ORa 5.26; 95%CI 2.84-9.74; p = 0.001), elevated glycated hemoglobin levels (ORa 1.11; 95%CI 1.00-1.23; p = 0.05) and elevated CRP (ORa 1.11; 95%CI 1.00-1.23; p = 0.05). 05) and CRP (ORa 1.04; 95%CI 1.01-1.06; p = 0.002) (Table **3**).

4. DISCUSSION

The present investigation contributes to the existing national evidence, as well as to research in other developing countries concerning the factors linked to cardiovascular disease development in individuals with diabetes, with a particular focus on lifestyle-related factors. The findings reveal that at 60 years of age or older, the presence of arterial hypertension, and elevated CRP and HbA1c levels were significantly associated with the development of stroke in diabetic patients in a public referral hospital in Peru.

Strokes have negative consequences at the individual, family, and social levels and represent a major public health

problem in both developed and developing countries [7]. Thus, in Latin America, both the incidence of type 2 diabetes mellitus and stroke are high [6, 16]. This indicates the need to emphasize prevention, especially in the diabetic population. In this sense, the importance of analyzing and determining risk factors would provide evidence for their recognition and control in clinical practice.

Improving stroke outcomes in people with diabetes requires not only drug therapy approaches but also the adoption of beneficial lifestyle practices [4] and control of risk conditions, taking into account that the presence of one or more of them increases the risk of the development of this neurological complication [17, 18].

4.1. Aging

According to the data analyzed, 60 years of age or older was identified as a risk factor for developing strokes in diabetic patients. This is supported by another case-control study conducted in the general population, which found that being 60 years of age or older carried the same risk [19]. Thus, it can be stated that older age is generally associated with a higher risk of strokes in the general population without type 2 diabetes mellitus. In diabetic patients, this age difference is attenuated, suggesting that the risk of strokes in people with diabetes may extend even to individuals younger than 60 years, as found by Yen [20].

Furthermore, in a review article evaluating the epidemiology of neurological pathology in diabetic patients, it

was stated that the risk of developing it is higher for men between the fifth and sixth decade of their life and women during their sixth decade, which aligns with the results of this study [21].

The pathophysiological mechanism of aging may be due to the alterations suffered by the cerebral circulation in the elderly population (such as increased arterial stiffness and endothelial dysfunction), which increases susceptibility to vascular insufficiency and ischemic injury [22, 23]. Additionally, diabetes promotes a state of cellular senescence that can lead to lipotoxicity and tissue dysfunction, as well as chronic inflammation and degradation of the cellular matrix, which is directly linked to atherosclerosis [24].

4.2. Hypertension

It is essential to highlight that in this study, the presence of arterial hypertension was the factor that increased the risk of developing a stroke in diabetic patients by more than 5 times. Likewise, a cross-sectional study with more than 11,000 diabetic individuals found a similar result (OR 2.82; 95%CI 0.29-17.3) [25]. Furthermore, Berenguer *et al.* [19] found that HTN is associated with the development of such neurological pathology in the general population (OR 6.6; 95% CI 3.05-14.41).

Lifestyle is strongly related to blood pressure values due to several factors: high salt intake, smoking, reduced physical activity, and an inadequate diet that can lead to overweight, obesity, and of course, type 2 diabetes mellitus [26, 27].

Additionally, it has been suggested that HTN plays a leading role in the promotion of oxidative stress *via* the production of reactive oxygen species, the dysfunction of baroreceptors, making them less sensitive to their excitatory stimuli (the increase in blood pressure), thus promoting inflammation, *via* molecules such as CRP, interleukins 1 and 6, leukocyte esterase and intracellular adhesion molecule-1, and thus leading to functional changes of the cerebral vasculature, which generate hypoperfusion and eventually, ischemia [28].

Among the vascular changes associated with hypertension is the deterioration of cerebral blood flow autoregulation, a mechanism that normally allows cerebral blood flow to maintain a stable perfusion pressure despite variations in systemic pressure. In addition, one of the most important consequences of HTN is its effect on cerebral arteries and arterioles, leading to vascular remodeling, increasing their tone and decreasing their lumen, which increases the severity and extent of the penumbra zone during a stroke [29].

On the other hand, HTN provides potent vasoconstrictor stimuli, such as angiotensin II, which acts *via* its AT1 receptors and causes deleterious effects at different levels; endothelin-1, which, added to the nitric oxide deficit, also induced by HTN, promotes an intense increase in vascular tone; and the activation of endothelial calcium channels and in vascular smooth muscle [29].

4.3. Chronic Inflammation

The presence of elevated C-reactive protein levels in diabetic patients slightly increases the risk of developing a

stroke. This is supported by the findings of a case-control study, where elevated CRP levels were found to increase the risk of developing a stroke in diabetic patients (OR 2.61; 95%CI 2.31-6.42) and in patients without such pathology (OR 2.41; 95%CI 1.93-4.21) [30]. This is in addition to the findings of The Emerging Risks Factors Collaboration consortium, which analyzed over 130 prospective studies [31] and concluded that elevated CRP levels had a relative risk (RR) of 1.46 for the development of ischemic stroke.

Precisely, the role of inflammation lies in its behavior as a precipitating factor of increased blood viscosity, an atherogenic factor in all its phases, both by CRP and by tumor necrosis factor-alpha and interleukin 6 [32]. In response to these stressors, the vascular endothelium produces cell adhesion proteins that facilitate leukocyte adhesion, while tissue macrophages increase the release of cytokines. These molecules will then stimulate the migration of muscle cells from the adventitia to the other arterial layers to form the fibrous cap of the atheromatous plaque, the elementary lesion of atherosclerosis [33].

4.4. Inadequate Metabolic Control

Elevated HbA1c levels were found to be a risk factor in diabetic patients for the development of strokes in diabetic patients [34]. In the same sense, a cross-sectional analytical study in hospitalized diabetic patients found that individuals with elevated HbA1c levels were six times more likely to develop such a neurological event in diabetic patients (OR 6.29; 95%CI 1.71-23) [35]. In addition, a meta-analysis and systematic review concluded that increased levels of this molecule were associated with the development of the event in patients with the same endocrine pathology (HR 1.19; 95%CI 0.87-1.62) [10]. Likewise, it was found in a cohort study with more than 270,000 diabetic patients. It was found that HbA1c above its target values was the strongest predictor for the development of strokes in diabetic patients [36].

HbA1c is used as an assessment of glycemic control from 8 to 12 weeks before measurement [37]. Therefore, its elevation increases the risk of developing both microvascular and macrovascular complications related to diabetes mellitus [35]. This is relatively frequent since, for instance, in the United States [38] and some Latin American countries [39], these increased HbA1c levels are present in more than 20% of the diabetic population.

On the other hand, the variables studied that did not reach significance after multivariate analysis were dyslipidemia, history of acute myocardial infarction, presence of CKD, overweight, obesity, and smoking. The lack of significance in the case of smoking may be attributed to the fact that stroke had the lowest percentage of events attributable to smoking in the population of the region studied [40]. Regarding the lack of significant association of obesity, it may be because diabetic patients with normal weight could be metabolically obese (*i.e.*, the result of the interaction between hyperinsulinemia, insulin resistance and dyslipidemia) or have insufficient insulin secretion as a result of the progression of the disease, which can lead to catabolism [41].

5. LIMITATIONS

This study was limited by the fact that it was carried out with data from a single institution. In addition, given that the study was retrospective, it was impossible to study other variables, such as weight loss or gain. Nevertheless, the sample studied corresponds to that of a national reference hospital, thus providing evidence that should be supported by multicenter or prospective studies.

CONCLUSION

The risk factors associated with the development of strokes in patients with a type 2 diabetes mellitus diagnosis were advanced age (over 60 years), chronic inflammation (increased CRP levels), inappropriate metabolic control (elevated HbA1c levels) and, particularly, hypertension. Therefore, it is recommended to include the evaluation of these lifestyle factors in clinical practice, as well as to consider their importance in the prevention and treatment of stroke in diabetic patients.

As previously mentioned, there is a need for additional national evidence regarding lifestyle-related factors, as they play a crucial role in the preventive approach to chronic noncommunicable diseases. We consider that future research should focus on the study of each risk factor in detail, with particular emphasis on unhealthy habits, since there is limited evidence within the regional context.

AUTHORS' CONTRIBUTIONS

All authors made substantial contributions to the conception and design of the study. Alvaro Oyarce-Calderón and Jhony A. De La Cruz-Vargas conducted the material preparation, data collection, and data analysis. The first draft of the manuscript was written by Alvaro Oyarce-Calderón. All authors read and approved the final manuscript.

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

CKD	=	Chronic kidney disease
HbA1c	=	Glycated hemoglobin
HTN	=	Arterial hypertension
BMI	=	Body mass index
CRP	=	C-reactive protein
RR	=	Relative risk
CKD	=	Chronic kidney disease
ORc	=	Crude odds ratio
CI	=	Confidence interval

ETHICS APPROVAL AND CONSENT TO PARTICIPATE

The development of this study was endorsed by the ethics committee of a Peruvian National Hospital (by letter No 0208-2021-DG-HNDM) and by a Peruvian University (by electronic communication No 2373-2021-FMH-D).

HUMAN AND ANIMAL RIGHTS

The standards for research involving human subjects complied with the principles established in the Declaration of

Helsinki, ensuring the confidentiality and privacy of the collected data at all times. In addition, all participants provided informed consent prior to their inclusion in the study. This research did not involve the use of animals.

CONSENT FOR PUBLICATION

Informed consent was obtained from all participants.

STANDARDS OF REPORTING

STROBE guidelines were followed.

AVAILABILITY OF DATA AND MATERIALS

The data supporting the findings of the article are available from the Institutional Repository of Ricardo Palma University at https://hdl.handle.net/20.500.14138/6215.

The dataset(s) supporting the conclusions of this article is(are) available at the following link: https://docs.google.com/spread sheets/d/1vLmCWTXh2QuRS9dDlKmvvdcoTo06dGVu/edit?u sp=share_link&ouid=102636949378428760472&rtpof=true&s d=true

FUNDING

None.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The authors declare no conflict of interest, financial or otherwise.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Declared none.

REFERENCES

- Regional office for the Eastern Mediterranean 2020. Available from:https://apps.who.int/iris/handle/10665/340097
- [2] Estimates of diabetes and its burden in the United States 2020. Available
- from:https://www.cdc.gov/diabetes/pdfs/data/statistics/NDSR_2020_S panish-508.pdf
- [3] International Diabetes Federation. 2022. Available from:https://diabetesatlas.org/
- [4] Lăcătuşu CM, Grigorescu ED, Stătescu C, Sascău RA, Onofriescu A, Mihai BM. Association of antihyperglycemic therapy with risk of atrial fibrillation and stroke in diabetic patients. Medicina (Kaunas) 2019; 55(9): 592.

[http://dx.doi.org/10.3390/medicina55090592] [PMID: 31540142]

- [5] Thammasarn K, Loahasiriwong W, Mahato RK, Sornlom K. Spatial association between sociodemographic, environmental factors and prevalence of stroke among diabetes and hypertension patients in Thailand. Open Public Health J 2022; 15(1): e187494452210191. [http://dx.doi.org/10.2174/18749445-v15-e2210191]
- Bernabé-Ortiz A, Carrillo-Larco RM. Incidence rate of stroke in Peru. Rev Peru Med Exp Salud Publica 2021; 38(3): 399-405.
 [http://dx.doi.org/10.17843/rpmesp.2021.383.7804]
 [PMID: 34932741]
- [7] Chen R, Övbiagele B, Feng W. Diabetes and stroke: Epidemiology, pathophysiology, pharmaceuticals and outcomes. Am J Med Sci 2016; 351(4): 380-6.
- [http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.amjms.2016.01.011] [PMID: 27079344]
- [8] Shou J, Zhou L, Zhu S, Zhang X. Diabetes is an independent risk factor for stroke recurrence in stroke patients: A meta-analysis. J Stroke Cerebrovasc Dis 2015; 24(9): 1961-8. [http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.jstrokecerebrovasdis.2015.04.004] [PMID:

26166420] Wong W. Jiang D. Sun H. et al. Provolance, incidence, and mortality.

[9] Wang W, Jiang B, Sun H, et al. Prevalence, incidence, and mortality of stroke in China: Results from a nationwide population-based survey of 480 687 adults. Circulation 2017; 135(8): 759-71.

[http://dx.doi.org/10.1161/CIRCULATIONAHA.116.025250] [PMID: 28052979]

- [10] Mitsios JP, Ekinci EI, Mitsios GP, Churilov L, Thijs V. Relationship between glycated hemoglobin and stroke risk: A systematic review and meta analysis. J Am Heart Assoc 2018; 7(11): e007858. [http://dx.doi.org/10.1161/JAHA.117.007858] [PMID: 29773578]
- [11] Unger T, Borghi C, Charchar F, et al. International Society of Hypertension global hypertension practice guidelines. Hypertension 2020; 75(6): 1334-57.
 [http://dx.doi.org/10.1161/HYPERTENSIONAHA.120.15026]
 [PMID: 32370572]
- [12] Soca PEM. Dyslipidemias. Rev Cuba Inf Cienc Salud 2009; 20(6): 265-73.
- [13] Wang G, Jing J, Li J, et al. Association of elevated hs-CRP and multiple infarctions with outcomes of minor stroke or TIA: subgroup analysis of CHANCE randomised clinical trial. Stroke Vasc Neurol 2021; 6(1): 80-6.
- [http://dx.doi.org/10.1136/svn-2020-000369] [PMID: 32958697]
 [14] Ohishi M. Hypertension with diabetes mellitus: Physiology and pathology. Hypertens Res 2018; 41(6): 389-93.
- [http://dx.doi.org/10.1038/s41440-018-0034-4] [PMID: 29556093] [15] Homoud B, Alhakami A, Almalki M, *et al.* The association of diabetes
- with ischemic stroke and transient ischemic attacks in a tertiary center in Saudi Arabia. Ann Saudi Med 2020; 40(6): 449-55. [http://dx.doi.org/10.5144/0256-4947.2020.449] [PMID: 33307739]
- [16] Carrillo-Larco RM, Bernabé-Ortiz A. Type 2 diabetes mellitus in Peru: A systematic review on the prevalence and incidence in the general population. Rev Peru Med Exp Salud Publica 2019; 36(1): 26-36. [http://dx.doi.org/10.17843/rpmesp.2019.361.4027] [PMID: 31116335]
- He C, Wang W, Chen Q, *et al.* Factors associated with stroke among patients with type 2 diabetes mellitus in China: A propensity score matched study. Acta Diabetol 2021; 58(11): 1513-23.
 [http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s00592-021-01758-y] [PMID: 34125293]
- [18] Huang Y, Li J, Zhu X, *et al.* Relationship between healthy lifestyle behaviors and cardiovascular risk factors in Chinese patients with type 2 diabetes mellitus: A subanalysis of the CCMR-3B STUDY. Acta Diabetol 2017; 54(6): 569-79.
- [http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s00592-017-0981-2] [PMID: 28341960]
 [19] Berenguer L, Pérez A. Risk factors for cerebrovascular accidents during a biennium. Medisan (Santiago De Cuba) 2016; 20(5): 621.
- [20] Yen FS, Lo YR, Hwu CM, Hsu CC. Early-onset type 2 diabetes <60 years and risk of vascular complications. Diabetes Res Clin Pract 2021; 182: 109129.
- [http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.diabres.2021.109129] [PMID: 34762996]
 [21] Bell DSH, Goncalves E. Stroke in the patient with diabetes (part 1) Epidemiology, etiology, therapy and prognosis. Diabetes Res Clin Pract 2020; 164: 108193.
- [http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.diabres.2020.108193] [PMID: 32442554]
 [22] Reddy HP. A study of age as a risk factor in ischemic stroke of elderly. Int J Res Med Sci 2019; 7(5): 1553.
- [http://dx.doi.org/10.18203/2320-6012.ijrms20191634]
 [23] Felipe Salech M, Rafael Jara L, Luis Michea A. Cambios fisiológicos asociados al envejecimiento. Rev Med Clin Las Condes 2012; 23(1): 19-29.

[http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S0716-8640(12)70269-9]

- [24] Shakeri H, Lemmens K, Gevaert AB, De Meyer GRY, Segers VFM. Cellular senescence links aging and diabetes in cardiovascular disease. Am J Physiol Heart Circ Physiol 2018; 315(3): H448-62. [http://dx.doi.org/10.1152/ajpheart.00287.2018] [PMID: 29750567]
- [25] Lu S, Bao MY, Miao SM, et al. Prevalence of hypertension, diabetes, and dyslipidemia, and their additive effects on myocardial infarction and stroke: A cross-sectional study in Nanjing, China. Ann Transl Med 2019; 7(18): 436.
- [http://dx.doi.org/10.21037/atm.2019.09.04] [PMID: 31700872]
 [26] Bruno CM, Amaradio MD, Pricoco G, Marino E, Bruno F. Lifestyle and hypertension: An evidence-based review. J Hypertens Manag

2018; 4: 30.

[http://dx.doi.org/10.23937/2474-3690/1510030]

- [27] Valenzuela PL, Carrera-Bastos P, Gálvez BG, et al. Lifestyle interventions for the prevention and treatment of hypertension. Nat Rev Cardiol 2021; 18(4): 251-75.
- [http://dx.doi.org/10.1038/s41569-020-00437-9] [PMID: 33037326] [28] Yonata A, Pratama ASP. Hypertension as a precipitating factor for
- stroke. J Majority 2016; 5(3): 17-21.
 [29] Cipolla MJ, Liebeskind DS, Chan SL. The importance of comorbidities in ischemic stroke: Impact of hypertension on the cerebral circulation. J Cereb Blood Flow Metab 2018; 38(12): 2129-49.

[http://dx.doi.org/10.1177/0271678X18800589] [PMID: 30198826]

- [30] Chehaibi K, Trabelsi I, Mahdouani K, Slimane MN. Correlation of oxidative stress parameters and inflammatory markers in ischemic stroke patients. J Stroke Cerebrovasc Dis 2016; 25(11): 2585-93. [http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.jstrokecerebrovasdis.2016.06.042] [PMID: 27474112]
- Kaptoge S, Di Angelantonio E, Lowe G, et al. C-reactive protein concentration and risk of coronary heart disease, stroke, and mortality: An individual participant meta-analysis. Lancet 2010; 375(9709): 132-40.
 [http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(09)61717-7]

[http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6/36(09)61/1/-/] [PMID: 20031199]

- [32] Alikiaii B, Heidari Z, Bagherniya M, Askari G, Sathyapalan T, Sahebkar A. The effect of statins on C-reactive protein in stroke patients: A systematic review of clinical trials 2021; 2021: 7104934. [http://dx.doi.org/10.1155/2021/7104934]
- [33] Totan M, Antonescu E, Catana MG, et al. C-reactive protein-A predictable biomarker in ischemic stroke. Revista de Chimie 2019; 70(6): 2290-3.

[http://dx.doi.org/10.37358/RC.19.6.7325]
 [34] Braga JR, Avezum A, Ferreira SRG, Forti A. Management of diabetes mellitus and associated cardiovascular risk factors in Brazil -The

- Brazilian study on the practice of diabetes care. Diabetol Metab Syndr 2013; 5(1): 46. [http://dx.doi.org/10.1186/1758-5996-5-46] [PMID: 23972112]
- [35] Figueroa CL, Suárez FC, Ochoa AF, Rengifo LJ, Isaza JR. Glycosylated hemoglobin and cardiovascular events in diabetic patients from a university hospital. Acta Med Colomb 2018; 43(2): 74-80.

[http://dx.doi.org/10.36104/amc.2018.970]

[36] Rawshani A, Rawshani A, Franzén S, *et al.* Risk Factors, Mortality, and Cardiovascular Outcomes in Patients with Type 2 Diabetes. N Engl J Med 2018; 379(7): 633-44.

[http://dx.doi.org/10.1056/NEJMoa1800256] [PMID: 30110583]

- [37] National Diabetes Statistics Report. Estimates of diabetes and its burden in the United States. 2020. Available from:https://www.cdc.gov/diabetes/pdfs/data/statistics/national-diabete s-statistics-report.pdf
- [38] Nathan D. The clinical information value of the glycosylated hemoglobin assay. N Engl J Med 1984; 310(6): 341-6. [http://dx.doi.org/10.1056/NEJM198402093100602] [PMID: 6690962]
- [39] Vargas-Uricoechea H, Casas-Figueroa LÁ. Epidemiology of diabetes mellitus in South America: The Colombian experience. Clin Investig Arterioscler 2016; 28(5): 245-56. [http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.arteri.2015.12.002] [PMID: 26949070]
- Bardach AE, Caporale JE, Alcaraz A, *et al.* Burden of disease due to smoking and potential impact of the increase in cigarette prices in Peru. Rev Peru Med Exp Salud Publica 2016; 33(4): 651-61.
 [http://dx.doi.org/10.17843/rpmesp.2016.334.2548]
 [PMID: 28327833]
- [41] Li W, Katzmarzyk PT, Horswell R, *et al.* Body mass index and stroke risk among patients with type 2 diabetes mellitus. Stroke 2015; 46(1): 164-9.
 [http://dx.doi.org/10.1161/STROKEAHA.114.006718] [PMID:

[http://dx.doi.org/10.1101/STKOKEARA.114.000/18] [PMID. 25468880]

© 2023 The Author(s). Published by Bentham Science Publisher.



This is an open access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International Public License (CC-BY 4.0), a copy of which is available at: https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/legalcode. This license permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited.