ABSTRACTS OF RESEARCH PAPERS

RP 13

Serum Creatinine Measurement: Do We Need to Change to an Enzymatic Assay?

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Introduction

The Jaffe and enzymatic methods are two widely used methods for serum creatinine measurement. Jaffe method is susceptible to interference by non-creatinine chromogens such as protein, glucose, ascorbic acid, cephalosporins and ketones. Although, enzymatic method is less prone to interferences, it is considerably more expensive.

Methods

In this study, assay performance of Jaffe and enzymatic methods were compared using routine 426 samples at a tertiary care hospital in Sri Lanka.

Results

Creatinine level in routine specimens ranged from $30-1017 \mu mol/L$. Two methods had a good correlation ($r^2=0.95$). Jaffe method gave higher results than enzymatic method with a mean bias of 5.9 µmol/L. According to Bland-Altman plots, difference between the two methods was significant at higher creatinine levels with a positive bias in Jaffe method compared to enzymatic assay. The average total protein, bilirubin and glucose concentrations in the routine samples were 72.8 g/L, 12.46 µmol/L and 111.28 mg/dL respectively. According to the bias plots, both positive and negative biases were seen with lower glucose values (<100 mg/dL) while mainly positive biases were seen with higher glucose values (>200 mg/dL). The biases were evenly distributed among different levels of protein and bilirubin in the routine samples. However, all values had a clinically acceptable percentage bias (<18.2%) with an average of 17.5% when outliers were excluded.

Conclusions

The results of the above comparison study indicate that Jaffe method can produce comparable results to enzymatic method with clinically insignificant level of bias. Therefore, decision of changing into an enzymatic method from Jaffe method requires detailed risk-benefit assessment.

Keywords

Serum creatinine, Jaffe method, enzymatic method