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# Heart-Type Fatty Acid-Binding Protein, in Early Detection of Acute Myocardial Infarction: Comparison with CK-MB, Troponin I and Myoglobin

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## Abstract

The study aimed to investigate whether heart-type fatty acid binding protein (H-FABP) measurement provides additional diagnostic value to that of conventional cardiac markers in acute myocardial infarction (AMI) within first 6 h after the onset of symptoms. The study included 120 subjects: 60 AMI cases and 60 age and sex matched controls. The cases and controls were further divided into 2 subgroups depending on the time since onset of chest pain as (1) subjects within 3 h and (2) between 3 and 6 h of onset of chest pain. In all the cases and controls, serum H-FABP concentration was measured by Immunoturbidimetric method, serum Troponin I and myoglobin concentrations by Chemiluminescence immunoassay and serum CK-MB concentration by Immuno-inhibition method. The sensitivity, specificity, positive and negative predictive values of H-FABP were significantly greater than CK-MB and myoglobin

but were lesser than Troponin I in patients with suspected AMI in both within 3 h and 3–6 h groups. Receiver operating characteristic curves demonstrated greatest diagnostic ability for Troponin I (AUC = 0.99,  $p < 0.001$ ) followed by H-FABP (AUC = 0.906,  $p < 0.001$ ) within 3 h and 3–6 h after the onset of chest pain. In conclusion, the diagnostic value of H-FABP is greater than CK-MB and myoglobin but slightly lesser than troponin I for the early diagnosis of AMI within first 6 h of chest pain. H-FABP can be used as an additional diagnostic tool for the early diagnosis of AMI along with troponin I.

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