

# 行政院國家科學委員會專題研究計畫 成果報告

以維生素 B-6 介入探討非傳統危險因子 (C-反應蛋白、磷酸比哆醛及同半胱胺酸) 對造成類風濕性關節炎病人罹患心血管疾病的影響

計畫類別：個別型計畫

計畫編號：NSC94-2320-B-040-031-

執行期間：94 年 08 月 01 日至 95 年 07 月 31 日

執行單位：中山醫學大學營養學系

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報告類型：精簡報告

報告附件：出席國際會議研究心得報告及發表論文

處理方式：本計畫可公開查詢

中 華 民 國 95 年 10 月 30 日

# 行政院國家科學委員會補助專題研究計畫成果報告

以維生素 B-6 介入探討非傳統危險因子（C-反應蛋白、磷酸吡哆醛及同半胱胺酸）對造成類風濕性關節炎病人罹患心血管疾病的影響

To investigate the effect of non-traditional risk factors (C-reactive protein, pyridoxal 5'-phosphate and homocysteine) on cardiovascular disease morbidity in patients with rheumatoid arthritis by vitamin B-6 intervention

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執行單位：中山醫學大學營養系

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中華民國 95 年 10 月 23 日

## 一、中文摘要

本研究的目的為：(1) 探討類風濕性關節炎(RA)病人的發炎反應指標、免疫功能與心血管疾病發生的關係；(2) 探討RA病患罹患心血管疾病是由於維生素B-6缺乏而獨立造成的，還是間接因維生素B-6缺乏使得同半胱胺酸濃度增加而造成。本研究對象由中山醫學大學附設醫院免疫風濕科募集46位RA病人，依照內皮細胞功能分為2組：內皮細胞功能異常組（13位）與內皮細胞功能正常組（33位）。受試者接受問卷調查、體位測量、臨床生化值、血漿磷酸吡哆醛、血漿同半胱胺酸之濃度、免疫功能的檢測。本研究除發現RA病人維生素B-6攝取不足外，並未發現維生素B-6濃度與發炎或是血脂質濃度的相關性，因此維生素B-6濃度是否與RA病人罹患心血管疾病有關，需深入探討。此外血漿同半胱胺酸之濃度與白血球呈顯著正相關 ( $r=0.354, p<0.05$ )；與三酸甘油酯呈顯著正相關 ( $r=0.356, p<0.05$ )。在血漿同半胱胺酸濃度部分，因此有關RA病人預防心血管疾病，或許應將血漿同半胱胺酸濃度也一併加以評估。

關鍵字：類風濕性關節炎、心血管疾病、維生素B-6、同半胱胺酸

### Abstract

The purposes of this study were: 1) to exam the relationship among inflammation, immune markers and cardiovascular disease (CAD) in RA patients; 2) to investigate the relationship between plasma pyridoxal 5'-phosphate (PLP) and CAD mortality

in RA patients. Patients were recruited from the division of allergy, immunology and rheumatology of Chung Shan Medical University hospital. Patients were identified by endothelial function and divided into 2 groups, endothelial dysfunction group (13 subjects) and normal endothelial function group (33 subjects).

Anthropometry, hematology, plasma PLP, plasma homocysteine and immune function were measured. Except for RA patients having inadequate vitamin B-6 intakes, no correlations among plasma PLP, inflammatory markers and blood lipid profiles were found. It needs further study on the role of vitamin B-6 in relation to the risk of CAD in RA patients. In addition, plasma homocysteine was positively correlated with white blood cell ( $r=0.354, p<0.05$ ) and triacylglycerol ( $r=0.356, p<0.05$ ). Plasma homocysteine should be simultaneously considered in RA patients in order to prevent the mortality of CAD.

**Key words:** rheumatoid arthritis, cardiovascular disease, vitamin B-6, homocysteine

## 二、前言

類風濕性關節炎(Rheumatoid arthritis; RA)為全身性自體免疫疾病，至今其詳細致病機轉仍不很明確，嚴重時會侵犯整個關節無法活動。並且可能造成血管炎、心肌瓣膜病變等併發症。其中心血管疾病 (Cardiovascular

disease; CVD) 是造成RA 患者死亡的主要原因之一(Jacobsson et al., 1993; Symmons et al., 1998; Kvalvik et al., 2000)。但是造成RA 病人罹患心血管疾病的主要原因目前尚未非常明瞭。有研究(del Rincon et al., 2000; Koenig, 2001)指出傳統心血管疾病危險因子(例如：抽煙、喝酒、肥胖、高血壓、高血脂、家族史)似乎不是造成RA 病人增加罹患心血管疾病的主要原因。因此探討造成RA 病人罹患心血管疾病的主要危險因子是非常值得研究的課題。

許多證據顯示發炎(inflammation)在動脈硬化疾病的病理學上扮演重要的角色(Ross, 1999)。C-反應蛋白(C-reactive protein, CRP)為發炎反應的重要指標，CRP 濃度會顯著上升並且活化血管內皮細胞；近年來研究指出CRP 是造成動脈硬化的獨立危險因子(Kullo et al., 2000; Danesh et al., 1998)。發炎反應與心血管疾病的關係也已經在RA 病人被觀察到。Wällberg-Jonsson 等人(1999)指出RA 病人的紅血球沉降速率(erythrocyte sedimentation rate, ESR) 為發炎反應的另一指標，與心血管疾病的發生有顯著相關。研究(Hürlimann et al., 2002; Bergholm et al., 2002; Van Doornum et al., 2003) 指出RA 且具有較高發炎反應指標的病人較易出現內皮細胞功能失常(endothelial dysfunction)，而內皮細胞功能失常是動脈粥狀硬化的早期徵狀。因此RA 病人的發炎反應指標與心血管疾病發生的關係應再加以探討。

RA 與許多營養因子異常有關(Feldmann et al., 1996)，其中包含了

維生素B-6 濃度低下(Schumacher et al., 1975; Sanderson et al., 1976; Roubenoff et al., 1997)。Roubenoff 等人(1995)指出RA 病人血漿PLP 濃度顯著低於對照組(46.1 nmol/L vs. 69.3 nmol/L)；並與TNF- $\alpha$ 呈顯著負相關，包括我們的研究(Huang et al., 2004)也都指出低PLP 濃度與CRP 有顯著相關性(Galloway et al., 2000; Friso et al., 2001; Talwar et al., 2003)。許多研究都顯示血漿PLP缺乏是造成動脈粥狀硬化的獨立危險因子之一(Rhinehart & Greenberg, 1949; Ellis & McCully, 1995)。維生素B-6 的缺乏造成動脈血管硬化的可能病理原因已陸續的被提出，其中以維生素B-6 缺乏間接造成血漿同半胱胺酸(homocysteine)濃度的聚積最被廣泛討論。同半胱胺酸代謝途徑包含再甲基化(remethylation)與轉硫作用(trans-sulfuration)，當甲硫胺酸濃度已足夠人體需求時，過剩的甲硫胺酸會促進同半胱胺酸經由胱硫醚 $\beta$ -合成酶(cystathionine  $\beta$ -synthase, CBS)維生素B-6 的依賴型酵素，進行轉硫作用形成半胱胺酸(cysteine; Cys)，因此若維生素B-6 缺乏可能會導致同半胱胺酸蓄積，造成血漿同半胱胺酸濃度上升。研究均證實不論是禁食高同半胱胺酸血症(fasting hyperhomocysteinemia)或甲硫胺酸負荷高半胱胺酸血症(post methionine load hyperhomocysteinemia; PML hyperhomocysteinemia)都是心血管疾病之獨立危險因子(Wilcken & Wilcken, 1976; Bores et al., 1985; Clarke et al., 1991; Stampfer et al., 1992; Boushey et al., 1995; Engbersen et al., 1995)。因此，本研究欲從維生素B-6，發炎反

應，同半胱胺酸與基因等不同危險因子來探討RA病人罹患心血管疾病的相關性。

### 三、目的

1. 探討 RA 病人的發炎反應指標、免疫功能與心血管疾病發生的關係；
2. 探討 RA 病患罹患心血管疾病是由於維生素 B-6 缺乏而獨立造成的，還是間接因維生素 B-6 缺乏使得同半胱胺酸濃度增加而造成。

### 四、方法

#### 受試者

參與本研究的受試者是由中山醫學大學附設醫院免疫風濕科募集 53 位 RA 病人，RA 的診斷是以 American College of Rheumatology criteria for rheumatoid arthritis (Hochberg et al., 1992) 為依據，由醫師加以評估，但因無法順利採血與個人因素，最後共有 46 位受試者（男性 7 位，女性 39 位）完成本研究。研究進行前已取得受試者的同意書。本研究依內皮細胞功能正常與異常分為兩組。

#### 體位測量

測量受試者的血壓、身高與體重。並計算受試者的身體質量指數

【BMI；Body mass index = 體重 (kg) ÷ 身高<sup>2</sup> (m<sup>2</sup>)】

#### 臨床資料

受試者的基本資料(性別、年齡等)、病情診斷、用藥情況及病史將從醫療門診紀錄與詢問受試者本身取得。臨床評估問卷包含：1)關節的僵直(tender joint count, 28-joint count)；

2) 腫脹(swollen joint count, 50-joint count)程度；及 3)病人的疾病活動力，是以疾病活動指數 (Disease Activity Score; DAS 28) 測量。

#### 內皮細胞功能測量

由於內皮細胞功能異常為動脈粥狀硬化早期的主要表徵之一，因此本研究以超音波進行非侵入性檢測，評估肱動脈之血管擴張(Flow-mediated dilation; FMD)。FMD > 10% 為內皮細胞功能正常；FMD < 10% 為內皮細胞功能異常。

#### 飲食記錄

本研究以 24 小時飲食回憶法 (24-h diet recall) 記錄所有受試者的飲食攝取。病人飲食紀錄安排在門診之前紀錄。營養素攝取量是利用御廚皇營養師專業軟體來計算分析計算營養素之攝取情形。

#### 甲硫胺酸負荷

受試者於空腹抽血後進行甲硫胺酸負荷試驗。受試者於空腹抽血後口服 100 mg/kg body weight 的 L-甲硫胺酸，經過 2 小時後再抽取受試者 6mL 的全血。

#### 臨床血液生化值

採集所有受試者空腹禁食至少 8 小時後血液，來進行 WBC、total lymphocyte counts、hematocrit、hemoglobin、albumin、total cholesterol、total triglycerides、low-density lipoprotein cholesterol (LDL-C)、high-density lipoprotein cholesterol (HDL-C)、creatinine、BUN、EALT and EAST、serum hs-CRP 與 ESR 的分析。以上血液生化值分析是委由

中山醫學大學附設醫院檢驗科進行。

### 血漿磷酸吡哆醛濃度

參考 Talwar 等人(2003)的方法，以高效能液相層析法(HPLC)分析血漿 PLP 之濃度。

### 血漿同半胱胺酸之濃度

方法參考 Araki 及 Sako(1987)，以 HPLC 來測量血漿中同半胱胺酸的含量。

### 免疫功能指標

測定淋巴球細胞亞群分布包含 CD3、CD19、CD4 與 CD8 利用流式細胞儀 (flow cytometry) 加以分析。

### 5-MTHFR 基因多型性分析

方法參考 Anderson 等人 (1997) 分析 genotyping。

### 統計分析

所有的統計分析是以 SigmaStat statistical software (version 2.03; Jandel Scientific, San Rafael, CA)的統計軟體執行。以 Student *t*-test 比較內皮細胞功能正常組及內皮細胞功能異常組基本資料，營養素攝取量、血液生化值、血漿 PLP、禁食血漿同半胱胺酸、甲硫胺酸負荷同半胱胺酸、發炎反應、免疫功能與基因多型性分佈的差異性。以 Pearson correlation coefficients 分析維生素 B<sub>6</sub>、血漿同半胱胺酸、血脂質濃度、發炎反應及免疫功能之相關性。統計結果以  $p \leq 0.05$  代表具有統計上的意義。

### 五、結果

內皮細胞功能異常組與內皮細胞

功能正常組的基本資料、體位測量，臨床疼痛評估與基因型列於 Table 1。包含 13 位內皮細胞功能異常組年齡分布範圍在 46-73 歲；33 位內皮細胞功能正常組分布範圍在 33-70 歲。

內皮細胞功能異常組與內皮細胞功能正常組的營養素攝取情形、血漿 PLP 濃度與血漿同半胱胺酸濃度列於 Table 2。結果顯示在營養素攝取部分兩組間並無統計差異，不過兩組的維生素 B-6 攝取量皆低於台灣地區國人膳食營養素參考攝取量 (Dietary Reference Intakes, DRIs, 行政院衛生署, 2002) (1.5-1.6 mg/d)。此外，雖然兩組間的血漿同半胱胺酸濃度無統計上的差異，但內皮細胞功能異常組的血漿同半胱胺酸濃度 13.8  $\mu\text{mol/L}$  已超過 Rasmussen 等人 (1996) 所提出以 12  $\mu\text{mol/L}$  做為血漿同半胱胺酸濃度的切點。

內皮細胞功能異常組與內皮細胞功能正常組的臨床血液生化值列於 Table 3。

內皮細胞功能異常組與內皮細胞功能正常組的免疫功能與發炎指標 Table 4。

所有受試者維生素 B<sub>6</sub> 營養指標與免疫功能、發炎反應及血漿同半胱胺酸濃度之相關性列於 Table 5。

### 六、討論

本研究結果顯示，內皮細胞功能異常組的 Hs-CRP 相較於內皮細胞功能正常組有較高的現象，但無統計差異。過去文獻也證實 Hs-CRP 為發炎反應的重要指標，近年許多研究更是指 Hs-CRP 是造成動脈硬化的獨立危險因子(Kullo et al., 2000; Danesh et al.,

1998)。此外研究(Hürlimann et al., 2002; Bergholm et al., 2002; Van Doornum et al., 2003)也與本研究有相似結果,認為RA且具有較高發炎反應指標的病人較易出現內皮細胞功能異常情形,在未來,Hs-CRP或許可用來做為RA病人罹患動脈硬化的預測指標。

許多研究證實RA與維生素B-6濃度低下(Schumacher et al., 1975; Sanderson et al., 1976; Roubenoff et al., 1997)有關,但在本研究中除發現RA病人維生素B-6攝取不足外,並未發現維生素B-6濃度與發炎或是血脂質濃度的相關性,因此維生素B-6濃度是否與RA病人罹患心血管疾病有關,未來還需要更深入去探討。

在血漿同半胱胺酸濃度部分, Granholm (1999)認為高同半胱胺酸血症可能會對發炎反應造成影響。Pearson等人(2003)認為心血管疾病為慢性發炎疾病,因為血管會受到氧化型LDL、同半胱胺酸或細菌感染受損,而造成發炎反應,本研究也證實RA病人血漿同半胱胺酸濃度與白血球呈現正相關。此外本研究也發現血漿同半胱胺酸濃度與三酸甘油酯呈現正相關,許多研究也發現血清膽固醇、低密度脂蛋白與三酸甘油酯濃度會增加血漿同半胱胺酸濃度(Kang et al., 1986; Wu et al., 1994),因此有關RA病人預防心血管疾病,血漿同半胱胺酸濃度也應一併加以評估。

## 七、計劃成果自評

受試者的取得尚屬順利,原因為參與本研究計畫的醫生全力支持與協助。此外,此研究計畫成果未來將發表於SCI期刊。

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**Table 1. Characteristics, anthropometric measurements of subjects <sup>1</sup>**

	<b>Endothelial dysfunction (<i>n</i> = 13)</b>	<b>Normal endothelial function (<i>n</i> = 33)</b>
<b>Gender (Male/Female)</b>	4/9	3/30
<b>Age (y)</b>	57.3 ± 8.4	52.2 ± 8.6
<b>Height (cm)</b>	158.8 ± 5.3	157.4 ± 6.8
<b>Weight (kg)</b>	63.6 ± 7.8	59.4 ± 8.8
<b>BMI (kg/m<sup>2</sup>)</b>	25.1 ± 2.1	24.0 ± 3.6
<b>MAC (mm)</b>	28.6 ± 3.5	27.1 ± 3.2
<b>TSF (mm)</b>	19.2 ± 7.8	23.2 ± 7.3
<b>Systolic blood pressure (mmHg)</b>	133.4 ± 18.5	110.3 ± 15.5*
<b>Diastolic blood pressure (mmHg)</b>	81.9 ± 13.1	67.2 ± 11.8*
<b>Number of painful joints</b>	14.7 ± 22.4	7.1 ± 7.1
<b>Number of swollen joints</b>	7.1 ± 14.3	2.2 ± 3.0
<b>Disease Activity Score 28</b>	3.8 ± 1.5	4.0 ± 1.0
<b>MTHFR C677T genotypes</b>		
<b>CC (<i>n</i>)</b>	6	24
<b>CT (<i>n</i>)</b>	7	9
<b>TT (<i>n</i>)</b>	0	0

1. Values are means ± SD. BMI, Body mass index ; MAC, mid-arm muscle circumference; TSF, triceps skinfold thickness; MTHFR, methylenetetrahydrofolate reductase.

\* Values are significantly different between endothelial dysfunction group and normal endothelial function group;  $p < 0.05$ .

**Table 2. Nutrient intakes, biochemical indicators of vitamin B-6 and homocysteine of subjects <sup>1</sup>**

<b>Characteristics</b>	<b>Endothelial dysfunction (n = 13)</b>	<b>Normal endothelial function (n = 33)</b>
<b>Energy</b> (kcal)	1667.4 ± 737.0	1636.0 ± 595.7
<b>Protein</b> (g)	61.8 ± 26.1	57.8 ± 26.0
<b>Protein</b> (% Total energy)	15.6 ± 4.0	14.0 ± 3.0
<b>Fat</b> (g)	54.1 ± 28.5	52.5 ± 28.1
<b>Fat</b> (% Total energy)	28.7 ± 12.0	28.3 ± 10.0
<b>Carbohydrate</b> (g)	234.4 ± 121.0	235.4 ± 91.7
<b>Carbohydrate</b> (% Total energy)	56.0 ± 13.1	58.5 ± 11.2
<b>Vitamin B-6 intake</b> (mg/d)	1.0 ± 0.5	1.1 ± 0.6
<b>Plasma PLP</b> (nmol/L) (normal: >20 nmol/L)	65.0 ± 47.9	52.5 ± 57.1
<b>Fasting plasma hcy</b> (µmol/L) (normal: <12 µmol/L)	13.8 ± 8.2	9.7 ± 3.2
<b>PML plasma hcy</b> (µmol/L)	29.7 ± 15.0	25.3 ± 8.4
<b>Δ Hcy</b> (µmol/L)	15.9 ± 11.0	15.5 ± 7.0

1. Values are means ± SD. PLP, pyridoxal 5'-phosphate; PML plasma Hcy, post methionine load homocysteine, Δ hcy is PML plasma hcy - fasting plasma hcy.

**Table 3. Hematological measurements of subjects <sup>1</sup>**

Variables	Endothelial dysfunction ( <i>n</i> = 13)	Normal endothelial function ( <i>n</i> = 33)
<b>Hemoglobin</b> (normal: 11-18 g/dL)	12.9 ± 1.4	12.5 ± 1.5
<b>Hematocrit</b> (normal: 38-47%)	39.6 ± 3.8	38.9 ± 4.2
<b>Albumin</b> (normal: 3.5-5.0g/dL)	4.3 ± 0.3	4.3 ± 0.3
<b>BUN</b> (normal :5-25 mg/dL)	16.5 ± 5.7	14.1 ± 5.3
<b>Creatinine</b> (normal: 0.7-1.4 mg/dL)	1.0 ± 0.2	0.9 ± 0.3
<b>GOT</b> (normal: 13-38 IU/L)	20.3 ± 4.8	24.6 ± 15.4
<b>GPT</b> (normal:3-37 IU/L)	19.2 ± 10.7	22.6 ± 23.4
<b>Blood glucose</b> (normal: 60-110 mg/dL)	105.4 ± 12.1	97.8 ± 10.2*
<b>Total cholesterol</b> (15-190 mg/ dL)	182.1 ± 19.5	186.5 ± 48.0
<b>HDL</b> (26-75 mg/dL)	56.6 ± 10.9	59.3 ± 15.4
<b>LDL</b> (53-160 mg/dL)	114.0 ± 16.7	114.0 ± 43.9
<b>Total cholesterol/HDL ratio</b>	3.4 ± 0.9	3.2 ± 1.2
<b>Triacylglycerol (mg/dL)</b> (110-200 mg/dL)	103.0 ± 38.9	97.2 ± 39.7

<sup>1</sup>Values are means ± SD. BUN, blood urea nitrogen; GOT, glutamate oxaloacetate transaminase; GPT, glutamate pyruvate transaminase; HDL, high density lipoprotein; LDL, low density lipoprotein.

\* Values are significantly different between endothelial dysfunction group and normal endothelial function group; *p* < 0.05.

**Table 4. Immune responses and inflammation of subjects<sup>1</sup>**

Variables	Endothelial dysfunction ( <i>n</i> = 13)	Normal endothelial function ( <i>n</i> = 33)
<b>White blood cell</b> (/mm <sup>3</sup> )	6830.0 ± 2182.6	5254.2 ± 1750.1*
<b>Neutrophil</b> (%)	60.4 ± 10.8	58.2 ± 9.8
<b>Neutrophil</b> (/mm <sup>3</sup> )	4246.4 ± 1918.2	3146.0 ± 1311.0*
<b>Lymphocyte</b> (%)	31.1 ± 10.6	32.8 ± 9.2
<b>Lymphocyte</b> (10 <sup>3</sup> /mm <sup>3</sup> )	2026.5 ± 825.9	1692.1 ± 667.3
<b>T cell (CD3)</b> (%)	67.9 ± 8.9	67.1 ± 10.8
<b>T cell (CD3)</b> (cells/μL)	1361.3 ± 518.9	1147.6 ± 575.6
<b>B cell (CD19)</b> (%)	12.0 ± 4.8	10.3 ± 4.7
<b>B cell (CD19)</b> (cells/μL)	270.4 ± 271.8	184.8 ± 146.2
<b>T helper cell (CD4)</b> (%)	46.0 ± 12.8	45.0 ± 11.0
<b>T helper cell (CD4)</b> (cells/μL)	949.2 ± 539.4	776.0 ± 416.3
<b>T suppressor cell (CD8)</b> (%)	19.6 ± 8.5	18.4 ± 4.1
<b>T suppressor (CD8)</b> (cells/μL)	372.0 ± 141.3	313.8 ± 191.5
<b>T helper/suppressor ratio (CD4/CD8)</b>	2.9 ± 1.8	2.6 ± 1.0
<b>ESR</b> (mm/hr)	21.5 ± 10.7	22.6 ± 18.3
<b>Rheumatoid factor</b> (IU/mL)	76.8 ± 112.1	39.3 ± 65.3
<b>Hs-CRP</b> (mg/dL)	0.7 ± 1.2	0.3 ± 0.4

<sup>1</sup>Values are means ± SD. ESR, erythrocyte sedimentation rate; Hs-CRP, high sensitive C-reactive protein.

\* Values are significantly different between endothelial dysfunction group and normal endothelial function group; *p* < 0.05.

**Table 6. Correlation coefficients among vitamin B<sub>6</sub> status indicators and indicators of immune responses, inflammation, blood lipid concentrations and plasma homocysteine of subjects <sup>1</sup>**

Indicators	Vitamin B <sub>6</sub> intake (mg/d)	Plasma Pyridoxal 5'-phosphate (nmol/L)	Plasma Hcy ( $\mu$ mol/L)
<b>WBC (/mm<sup>3</sup>)</b>	-0.0938	-0.111	0.354 <sup>+</sup>
<b>Neutrophil (%)</b>	0.0891	-0.004	0.138
<b>Total lymphocyte count (%)</b>	-0.156	-0.064	-0.112
<b>T lymphocyte (CD3) (cells/<math>\mu</math>L)</b>	-0.250	-0.098	0.207
<b>B lymphocyte (CD19) (cells/<math>\mu</math>L)</b>	-0.276	-0.004	0.214
<b>T helper (CD4) (cells/<math>\mu</math>L)</b>	-0.281	-0.061	0.244
<b>T suppressor (CD8) (cells/<math>\mu</math>L)</b>	-0.071	-0.193	0.145
<b>CD4/CD8 ratio</b>	-0.239	0.125	0.185
<b>Hs-CRP (mg/dL)</b>	0.001	-0.115	0.091
<b>Rheumatoid factor (IU/mL)</b>	0.046	-0.178	0.361
<b>ESR (mm/hr)</b>	0.253	-0.186	0.010
<b>Total cholesterol (mg/dL)</b>	-0.103	-0.150	0.086
<b>HDL (mg/dL)</b>	0.042	-0.132	-0.264
<b>LDL (mg/dL)</b>	-0.012	-0.106	0.175
<b>Triacylglycerol (mg/dL)</b>	-0.233	-0.003	0.356 <sup>+</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Pearson correlation coefficients (*r*) between measures for all subjects. WBC, white blood cell; hs-CRP, high sensitive C-reactive protein; Hcy, homocysteine; PLP, pyridoxal 5'-phosphate;

<sup>+</sup> *p* < 0.05