

The Pheonix Stroke Case study: Increased risks of the two types of stokesamong adults heavy consumers of Beer , Whisky , Wine and smokers from a non-consumer perspective; One side (1) ischemic and the other side (2)hemorrhagicstroke

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ABSTRACT: *The paper identifies what are the risks of ischemic (IS) and hemorrhagic stroke (HS) among beer, whisky and wine consumers and smokers among adults in the region of Pheonix regions . The gravity of Strokes are generally more severe in patients with HS. Within the first 3 months after stroke, HS is associated with a considerable increase of mortality, which is specifically associated with the hemorrhagic nature of the lesion¹. Factors favoring ischemic strokes vs HS are diabetes, atrial fibrillation, previous myocardial infarction, previous stroke, and intermittent arterial claudication. Smoking and alcohol consumption favored HS, whereas age, sex, and hypertension do not herald stroke type. Compared with ischemic strokes, HS is associated with an overall higher mortality risk. Various studies ¹ showed that high alcohol intake and smoking to be in favor of HS as compared to IS, whereas presence of diabetes, atrial fibrillation, previous myocardial infarction, previous stroke, and intermittent arterial claudication disfavors the likelihood of HS. Some studies have shown that moderate wine drinking reduces stroke but the debate is what is moderate drinking. Therefore it is not conclusive and misleading, misconception to say that wine is beneficial for the body. Alcohol and smoking both are dangers for human body and contribute to stokes.*

KEYWORDS: *ischemic stroke (IS), hemorrhagic stroke (HS), alcohol, smoking, misconception*

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I. INTRODUCTION

A stroke ¹⁹ occurs when the blood supply to part of your brain is interrupted or reduced, preventing brain tissue from getting oxygen and nutrients. Brain cells begin to die in minutes. A stroke isa medical emergency, and prompt treatment is crucial.The threemain types of stroke are: (a) Ischemic stroke. (b) Hemorrhagic stroke. Transient ischemic attack is a warning or “mini-stroke” Ischemicstroke. Infact this is the most common type of stroke. It happens when thebrain’s blood vessels become narrowed or blocked, causing severely reduced blood flow (ischemia). Blocked or narrowed blood vessels are caused by fatty deposits that build up in blood vessels or by blood clots or other debris that travel through your bloodstream and lodge in the blood vessels in your brain. Some initial research shows that COVID-19 infection may be a possible cause of ischemic stroke, but more study is needed. Hemorrhagic stroke occurs when a blood vessel in your brain leaks or ruptures. Brain hemorrhages can result from many conditions that affect your blood vessels. Factors related to hemorrhagicstroke include:• Uncontrolled high blood pressure• Overtreatment with blood thinners (anticoagulants)• Bulges at weak spots in your blood vessel walls (aneurysms)• Trauma (such as a car accident).

Protein deposits in blood vessel walls that lead to weakness in the vessel wall (cerebral amyloid angiopathy) Ischemic stroke leading to hemorrhage. A less common cause of bleeding in the brain is the rupture of an abnormal tangle of thin-walled blood vessels (arteriovenous malformation). A transient ischemic attack (TIA) — sometimes known as a ministroke — is a temporary period of symptoms similar to those you would have in a stroke. A TIA doesn’t cause permanent damage. They are caused by a temporary decrease in blood supply to part of your brain, which may last as little as five minutes. Like an ischemic stroke, a TIA occurs when a clot or debris reduces or blocks blood flow to part of your nervous system. Seek emergency care even if you think you’ve had a TIA because your symptoms got better. It is not possible to tell if you’re having a stroke or TIA based only on your symptoms. If you’ve had a TIA, it means you may have a partially blocked or narrowed artery leading to your brain. Having a TIA increases your risk of having a full-blown stroke later. Comparisons between hemorrhagic (HS) and ischemic stroke (IS) in respect to prognostic determinants are hampered by the disproportionate distribution of the 2 types of stroke, with IS being 10-times more frequent than HS in Western countries. Even in large stroke cohorts absolute numbers of HS are low, rendering statistical validation of differences between the 2 types of stroke difficult. ^{2,3,4}. HS are considered to have a higher mortality risk than IS. Previous studies have linked the excess mortality to the generally more severe strokes in patients with HS, whereas stroke type per se was not considered to be associated with mortality. Numbers in these studies were,

however, few. Some risk factors are common for both HS and IS.^{5,6} The association of atrial fibrillation, ischemic heart disease, and diabetes with IS seems well-established in comparative studies, but the relative role of risk factors such as hypertension, smoking, and alcohol consumption remains controversial.⁷⁻¹⁰ An ongoing nationwide Danish stroke registry¹ was established in March 2001, with the aim of registering all patients hospitalized with acute stroke. Knowledge on the relative role of risk factors in hemorrhagic vs ischemic strokes is still inconsistent.

II. DISCUSSION

In the population based case-controlled Perth study¹¹ (n536), hypertension and diabetes favored IS and high alcohol intake favored HS, whereas smoking did not favor either of the stroke subtypes. In another population-based observational study¹² (n1254) increasing age, previous stroke, and diabetes favored IS, whereas ischemic heart disease, atrial fibrillation, hypertension, alcohol intake, and smoking did not favor either of the stroke subtypes. In the hospital-based Copenhagen Stroke Study¹³ (n1000) diabetes and ischemic heart disease favored IS, whereas age, hypertension, alcohol consumption, atrial fibrillation, and smoking were not predictors of stroke type. In the hospital-based Lausanne Stroke registry¹⁰ (n3901) smoking, hypercholesterolemia, migraine, previous transient ischemic attack, atrial fibrillation, and heart disease favored IS, whereas hypertension was the only significant factor related to HS vs IS. A study based on 39 484 patients¹, well-established risk factors and markers of atherosclerotic and occlusive arterial disease such as diabetes, atrial fibrillation, previous myocardial infarction, previous stroke, and intermittent arterial claudication were associated with IS rather than HS, smoking and high alcohol intake favored HS, whereas age, sex, and hypertension did not alter stroke type. It appears that the presence of known risk factors for atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease in particular diabetes, atrial fibrillation, ischemic heart disease, and previous stroke disfavor HS as opposed to IS. Whether the presence of hypertension is in favor of either stroke subtype is unclear. Hypertension is a well-documented risk factor for both IS and HS. Recent studies show, however, that the gradient of the relationship between hypertension and HS is steeper than that for IS.^{14,15} High alcohol intake is a well-established risk factor for HS.¹⁶ Light or moderate drinking seems to have a protective effect on IS,¹⁷ whereas heavy alcohol consumption is associated with elevated risk of IS. We found high alcohol intake to favor HS, but most other studies did not demonstrate any difference between HS and IS in relation to this risk factor. Although we found smoking to be highly in favor of HS as opposed to IS, there is no agreement in the literature regarding the relation between HS and smoking. In the Physicians Health Study,¹⁸ the association of smoking with HS was approximately the same as that with IS. In a systematic review of 14 case-control and 11 cohort studies¹⁶ the relation was weak or not existent.

III. FINDINGS

A meta-analysis of observational studies showed that moderately intense physical activity had a protective effect for total, ischemic, and hemorrhagic stroke.²⁰ Some studies²¹ showed that vigorous physical activity was not strongly associated with a lower stroke risk. In our study, a single type or combination of occupational and leisure time physical activity was associated with a decreased risk of stroke.²² Some research has indicated that smoking is an independent risk factor for both ischemic^{23,24} and hemorrhagic stroke.²⁵ Two meta-analyses of cohort studies suggest that fruit and vegetable consumption decreases stroke risk.^{26,27} Our results provide evidence that vegetable consumption decreases stroke risk. The association between alcohol consumption and stroke risk has been described as J-shaped in most studies, with the lowest risk among those consuming light to moderate amount of alcohol.²⁸ In the Health Professionals Follow-up Study and the Nurses' Health Study, Chiuve et al²⁹ found a J-shaped association with a lower risk of ischemic and hemorrhagic stroke among light drinkers. In our study, we merged the groups of people with light to moderate alcohol intake as a healthy lifestyle for alcohol consumption because we found that alcohol drinking had a J-shaped association with ischemic stroke risk. Thus far, only a few studies have assessed the association of combined lifestyle factors and stroke risk. Hypertension, DM, and hyperlipidemia have been found to be important vascular risk factors for ischemic stroke.³⁰ The EPIC Potsdam Study²⁹ indicated that almost 60% of ischemic stroke risk could be attributed to hypertension, DM, hypercholesterolemia, smoking, and heavy alcohol consumption. It could be hypothesized that the protective effects of a healthy lifestyle on stroke may have a direct biological basis and also partly mediate through its effect on those vascular risk factors of stroke. For example, an individual HLF, such as physical activity, has a favorable effect on blood pressure, lipid profile, insulin sensitivity, and body weight.

IV. CONCLUSION

Numerous epidemiological studies have established an association between chronic alcohol consumption and hypertension independent of other risk factors such as obesity and smoking, and their results have been summarized previously^{31,32,33}. This association has been observed with alcohol consumption in

excess of two drinks per day and described in white, black, and Asian men and women who reported daily intake of three or more drinks. Women may be less susceptible than men to alcohol-induced hypertension, however. Chronic alcohol consumption has been verified as the cause of hypertension in two controlled trials. In the first study, the blood pressure of 16 hypertensive men, who drank 4 pints of beer on average, dropped significantly when alcohol was withdrawn for 4 days³⁴. In the second study, 20 hypertensive subjects (10 who reported consuming less than 2 drinks per day and 10 who reported consuming 2 to 6 drinks per day) showed significant blood pressure reductions after abstinence³⁵. Intervention studies also showed that consumption of three to eight alcoholic beverages per day by subjects whose blood pressure was within or above the normal range (i.e., normotensive and hypertensive subjects, respectively) increased blood pressure and that either total abstinence from alcohol or a reduction to less than one drink per day resulted in a short-term drop in blood pressure. Heavy alcohol consumption, on the other hand, has precipitated ischemic strokes caused by blood clots (i.e., nonatherosclerotic, or embolic, ischemic strokes)³⁶. The increase in embolic stroke in heavy drinkers has been attributed to atrial fibrillation and cardiomyopathy, because both of these conditions can predispose a person to either the formation of blood clots or the propagation of existing clots that could ultimately dislodge and block blood flow to the brain (Qureshi et al. 1995). Regarding the less common hemorrhagic type of stroke, alcohol also has been associated with an increased risk of bleeding within the cerebrum (i.e., intracerebral hemorrhage) and, less frequently, within the space surrounding the entire brain and spinal cord (i.e., the subarachnoid space). A research suggested that chronic heavy drinkers have at least twice the risk of intracerebral hemorrhage of nondrinkers. In another study, intracerebral hemorrhage was associated with alcohol abuse in 28 percent of the cases³⁷. Alcohol-induced intracerebral hemorrhage was more pronounced in hypertensive than normotensive subjects³⁸, indicating that alcohol-induced hypertension may predispose a drinker to this type of stroke. Hypertension also could play a role in alcohol-induced subarachnoid hemorrhage. Both chronic heavy drinkers and binge drinkers are at an increased risk for subarachnoid hemorrhage. One study attributed 12 percent of subarachnoid hemorrhage cases to recent heavy drinking³⁹. Other research suggested that such cases could be precipitated by a transient increase in blood pressure. Smoking also is an important risk factor for subarachnoid hemorrhage³⁹ and the combined effects of heavy drinking and smoking may be devastating.

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