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Examining the Shared Attributes of Diabetes Mellitus and Parkinson's Disease: A Literature Review

Sheeban E Tamanna¹ , Tejas S Nayak² , HS Mohammed Sufiyaan Zafar³ , Sanskar Betageri⁴ , Jeetendar N⁵

¹Assistant Professor, Department of AIML, Vidyavardhaka College of Engineering ^{2,3,4,5}Student, Department of AIML, Vidyavardhaka College of Engineering

Abstract

There is a progressive disorder of the brain in Parkinson's Disease (PD), and there seems to be an association, although less clearly defined, with Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus (T2D). There is now mounting evidence that the critical mechanisms common to both diseases include insulin resistance and dysfunction of mitochondria, oxidative stress and chronic inflammation. These can be implied to play a role in the pathogenesis of neuronal damage in PD, particularly dopaminergic neurons.

Such convergent biological mechanisms will be used in this study to create predictive models of Parkinson's disease using machine learning approaches. For instance, this model will focus on markers such as insulin resistance, mitochondrial function, levels of oxidative stress, and inflammation, among others, while calculating the likelihood of Parkinson's. It will classify those at higher risk of neurodegeneration by using clinical data-blood sugar levels, insulin sensitivity, inflammatory protein profiles, oxidative stress markers.

Keywords: Oxidative Stress, Neuroinflammation, Dopaminergic, Amylin aggregation, Pathophysiology, Chronic inflammation, Pathogenesis, Adipose tissue.

1. Introduction

Parkinson's disease (PD) is a chronic neurodegenerative disorder with a majority of factors concerning its major effect on motor activities. It is caused by the death of dopamine-producing neurons in one part of the brain called substantia nigra [2]. Traditionally, PD has been associated with aging [13], but recent studies suggest that metabolic conditions such as Type 2 Diabetes (T2D) play a significant role in both its pathogenesis and progression [4, 5].

T2D is a chronic metabolic disorder characterized by insulin resistance and high blood glucose. This disease has been established to have association with many neurodegenerative diseases, including Parkinson's disease [1, 11].

Figure 1. Healthy Brain vs Parkinson's Disease Brain

There are several common features between PD and T2D at the pathogenetic level, such as impaired mitochondria [2, 10, 20], oxidative stress [2, 3, 6, 10, 12, 19, 20], chronic inflammation [10, 19], and protein misfolding [10], that point to the greater relationship between the two diseases. Such destruction of protective pathways in the brain due to insulin resistance-an integral component of T2D-may exert synergistic effects in hastening the loss of neurons that have a bearing on Parkinson's disease. More importantly, the conditions that are present with T2D, like chronic inflammation and oxidative stress, continue to damage these dopamine-producing neurons in the brain [1, 2, 9, 10, 20], a hallmark of Parkinson's disease.

The common mechanisms operating in these diseases may open up the avenues for predictions in Parkinson's disease by knowledge gained through research in diabetes. Machine learning may be applied on the analyses of clinical and molecular data from the patients with diabetes to provide signs of early development in Parkinson's disease. It could then zoom on markers such as insulin resistance, damaged mitochondrial function, and oxidative stress, thereby putting predictive models to application for individuals at high risk of Parkinson's.

2. Impact of Oxidative Stress

Oxidative stress represents the central commonality linking T2D and PD by way of many environmental, lifestyle, and physiological stressors. Oxidative stress arises as a consequence of an imbalance between the generation of ROS by cells [2] and the mechanism for detoxifying them through antioxidants. The imbalance in this case leads to cellular damage and plays a crucial role in neurodegenerative as well as metabolic diseases. In addition, many factors such as inflammation [10], alcohol consumption [6], tobacco smoking [6, 7, 12, 14], obesity [3], mitochondrial dysfunction [2], high stress, and poor diet may exacerbate oxidative stress. Thus, a direct connection can be made between T2D and PD.

Chronic inflammation is a paramount factor prevalent in both T2D and PD. T2D creates a low-grade inflammatory response due to insulin resistance. Tissue from the adipose tissue releases pro-inflammatory cytokines, such as tumor necrosis factor-alpha (TNF- α) and interleukin-6 (IL-6) [1]. These cytokines increase the production of ROS, leading to oxidative stress. Neuroinflammation in PD arises through the activation of microglia within the brain. When activated due to damage to neurons, microglia initiate the release of pro-inflammatory cytokines, increasing the level of oxidative stress [2]. Thus, the oxidative stress both lesions produce connects the two diseases because oxidative damage that devastates pancreatic beta cells in T2D and dopaminergic neurons in PD.

Alcohol-induced oxidative stress is well documented. Alcohol metabolism within the body releases ROS and causes dysfunction of antioxidant defense systems, leading to multiplicity in tissue oxidative damage, thereby including the liver, brain, and pancreas. In T2D, alcohol consumption may exacerbate insulin resistance and hyperglycemia and add more oxidative burden on cells. Alcohol-induced oxidative stress may further exacerbate neuronal damage in PD, especially in areas of the brain that have control over motor activity [9]. Chronic alcoholism can therefore increase the metabolic and neurodegenerative events associated with the disease, thus deepening the nexus between T2D and PD through oxidative damage [7].

Figure 3. Oxidative Stress

Tobacco smoking is one of the most important sources of oxidative stress because it is characterized by high free radicals contained within cigarette smoke. Systemic inflammation and blood vessel damage are increased in smokers; mitochondrial dysfunction contributes to increased oxidative stress [3, 7]. Smoking exacerbates insulin resistance and risk for complications, including cardiovascular disease and neuropathy,

in T2D. Neurotoxic effects of smoking in PD may enhance further loss of dopaminergic neurons. Another common aggravating factor for both diseases is the oxidative stress from smoking the tobacco and continues to tie T2D and PD through a common mechanism of cellular injury.

Obesity increases the risk for both T2D and PD since obesity creates oxidative stress and inflammation. Obesity causes the overabundance of adipose tissue that secretes adipokines and inflammatory cytokines, therefore enhancing the production of ROS. It is connected not only to the insulin resistance found in T2D but also contributes to neurodegeneration in PD through increased neuroinflammation and oxidative damage [9]. High demand in the metabolic process in obese individuals further produces mitochondrial stress and dysfunction, leading to an increase in oxidative stress [3].

The production of ROS is generally regarded as the mitochondria and their dysfunction has been held as a significant link between T2D and PD. T2D, due to insulin resistance, particularly impairs mitochondrial function and decreases the energy-providing ability in the cell while increasing the production of ROS. Mitochondrial dysfunction also features the hallmark of PD as impaired dynamics of mitochondria is believed to accelerate the death of dopaminergic neurons. Such accumulation of ROS due to mitochondrial dysfunction affects cellular constituents of the brain and peripheral tissues, causing impairment in lipids, proteins, and DNA, sending back a feedback loop of oxidative stress and cellular damage in both diseases [2].

The chronic psychological stress greatly contributes to oxidative stress as cortisol levels increase; it abolishes normal metabolic processes. High levels of stress may promote the overproduction of ROS and damage antioxidant defenses. Stress will further impair the existing insulin resistance in T2D and worsen neurodegeneration via mechanisms of neuroinflammation and oxidative stress in PD. The effects of stress on both diseases highlight the way oxidative stress, related to factors of lifestyle and psychological origin, can connect metabolic conditions with neurodegenerative ones [3, 6].

Poor diet can cause oxidative stress. This can occur because of a diet highly dependent on processed foods, sugars, and unhealthy fats as excessive nutrients favor the production of ROSs. T2D involves direct

influence on the diets in terms of blood glucose levels that increase the activity of ROS, thus leading to oxidative damage. Poor dietary intake is also associated with obesity being the cause of significant oxidative stress and inflammation. A nutrient-deficient diet may exacerbate neuronal injury by removing the essential antioxidant along with depriving the brain of such and making neurons more susceptible to oxidative injury, in PD. The relationship between poor diet, oxidative stress, and progression of T2D and PD illustrates that nutritional management is indeed playing a significant role in controlling both these diseases [3].

3. Insulin Resistance - A Major Factor

Resistance to insulin establishes a direct link between the metabolic dysfunction of T2D and neurodegeneration of PD, since it triggers a chain of physiological events that actually underlie the pathogenesis of these two different diseases. These lifestyle factors, such as obesity [3, 9], inflammation [2, 9, 10, 20] , physical inactivity, unhealthy diets [3], hormonal imbalances, chronic stress [3, 6] oxidative stress [2, 6, 9, 10, 12, 19, 20], and mitochondrial dysfunction [1, 2, 6, 10], not only exacerbate insulin resistance but also accelerate the cellular and systemic dysfunctions related to T2D and PD [18].

Obesity is one of the most common causes of insulin resistance and is pathologically linked to both Type-2-diabetes and Parkinson's disease through inflammation. Excess adipose tissue acts as an endocrine organ, with visceral fat promoting the production of pro-inflammatory cytokines, including TNF-α, IL-6, and CRP. These inflammatory mediators disrupt insulin signaling pathways and result in insulin resistance. Continual release of these cytokines in T2D increases the blood glucose level deteriorates the insulin sensitivity, and sets in the vicious cycle of metabolic disorder [8]. Neuroinflammation [2, 10] in PD is triggered through the activation of microglia which are regarded as the immune cells of the brain and secretes inflammatory molecules that damage the dopaminergic neurons [1, 2, 10]. Also, the cause of inflammation [1, 2, 7, 10, 19, 20] due to obesity is not only linked with pathogenesis but also accelerates

neurodegeneration within the brain, thus providing a significant interlink between metabolic and neurodegenerative disorders.

Physical inactivity significantly potentiates and exacerbates insulin resistance, particularly, and makes a significant contribution toward risk factors associated with both T2D and PD. Regular physical activity improves the insulin sensitivity due to an increased uptake of glucose in skeletal muscles and its improvement in mitochondrial function. Whereas sedentary behavior reduces glucose utilization by the body in an efficient way. It also raises blood glucose and insulin resistance. T2D Also, inactivity enhances the deposition of fats in the visceral area in patients with PD that further enhances the effects of insulin resistance. The pathology of PD is also enhanced by lack of exercise because exercise decreases the neuroprotective nature and functions of exercise, including improved mitochondrial function and oxidative stress reduction around the brain and increased blood flow. In this regard, inactivity perpetuates the cycle of inactivity to worsen the insulin resistance and accelerate the neurodegenerative processes central to PD [20].

Poor Nutrition and High Blood Sugar Levels: Refined sugars, unhealthy fats, and processed foods lead to insulin resistance; therefore, a diet causing T2D is definitely linked to PD. The high intake of simple carbohydrates and sugars causes frequent increased glucose levels in blood and leads to a process where eventually, insulin receptors become desensitized. This leads to chronic activation of the insulin pathway, ending in insulin resistance in T2D. Poor nutrition in the setting of PD enhances oxidative stress and inflammation, leading to an increase in neuron injury. In contrast, nutrient-poor diets devoid of antioxidants[3], vitamins, and essential fatty acids do not provide the brain with the necessary nutrients for neuronal health; hence, acceleration of dopaminergic neuron degeneration [1, 2] ensues.

Hormonal imbalance, including cortisol, leptin, and adiponectin, play a key role in the development of insulin resistance and links Type-2-diabetes and Parkinson's disease. It also causes insulin resistance and hampers the action of insulin to reduce blood glucose through the induction of gluconeogenesis, that is, glucose synthesis in the liver, and also by enhancing the inhibitory effects of insulin on glycogen synthesis. The hormone regulating hunger and fat storage, leptin, also becomes disrupted through obesity-induced imbalances leading to leptin resistance, thereby further augmenting insulin resistance. For example, adiponectin is an insulin-sensitizing hormone. Levels of this hormone are often low in obese individuals as well as those afflicted with T2D, further complicating insulin resistance. These hormonal imbalances contribute to the metabolic dysfunction characteristic of T2D but also contribute to neuroinflammation [7, 10] and oxidative stress in the brain, factors involved in the progression of PD. Hormonal imbalances that disrupt insulin signaling and influence inflammatory processes also represent a link between T2D and PD [16, 20].

Oxidative stress relates to insulin resistance in this case. In Type-2-Diabetes, the regulation of ROS increases [2], which leads to further destruction of cellular elements such as proteins, lipids, and DNA, to impair the effectiveness of insulin signaling. Consequently, oxidative damage to β-cells in the pancreas reduces the secretion of insulin, making hyperglycemia [3, 16] worse and thereby raising insulin resistance. Oxidative stress damages the dopaminergic neurons, thereby favouring their degeneration. Insulin resistance adds to it as it is known to restrict the managing capability of glucose in the brain, which results in energy deficiency in the neurons and makes them more susceptible to oxidative damage. This way, oxidative stress represents both the cause and effect of insulin resistance that links T2D with PD via common pathways of cellular injury [2].

Figure 6. How Insulin resistance links the two diseases

Mitochondrial dysfunction [1, 2, 10, 20] is a significant cause of insulin resistance, thus connecting the deregulation of metabolism in T2D with neurodegenerative mechanisms connected to PD [1, 2]. Indeed, it is primarily responsible for energy production as powerhouses, and their malfunction results in reduced ATP and increased ROS generation. In T2D, insulin's resistance to action in the cell impairs the function of mitochondria and triggers metabolically inefficient use of glucose in the cell, further increasing oxidative stress. This mitochondrial dysfunction not only worsens the pre-existing state of insulin resistance but also contributes to the loss of pancreatic β-cell function and a reduction in insulin secretion. Central to the neuronal death seen in PD, mitochondrial dysfunction allows oxidative stress [12] to become debilitating in the absence of adequate energy reserves because reduced mitochondrial dynamics compromise the neuronal energy supply and enhance sensitivity to oxidative stress. The shared mitochondrial dysfunction underlines the deep relationship between T2D and PD, pointing towards insulin resistance as an essential mediator [2].

4. Risk due to Mitochondrial Dysfunction

Mitochondrial dysfunction thus provides an important bridge connecting T2D with PD and is fueled by aging, chronic inflammation [5][10], and nutrient deficiencies. The mitochondrion is the cell's power generator, and it produces energy for the cell through oxidative phosphorylation [20]. Affected function of the mitochondrion causes cells to suffer energy deficits, oxidative stress increases, and impaired cellular repair mechanisms occur. These are some of the issues at the heart of the pathophysiology of T2D and PD, where metabolic and neurodegenerative processes are inextricably interwoven. Exacerbation by aging, inflammation, and poor nutrition creates a joint pathway of cellular injury that links these two diseases previously thought so radically disparate.

Aging is a prime cause of mitochondrial decay and is the major risk factor for both T2D and PD [9, 12, 15, 17]. Mitochondrial energy production efficiency declines with age in an organism. The loss has been characteristic of DNA integrity, ATP and also in the ROS generation. In T2D, at the time of aging mitochondrial dysfunction, it causes a decline in the number of insulin sensitivities accompanied by the biological capacity for glucose metabolism leading to the development of insulin resistance. For example, in the pancreas, mitochondrial stress caused by insulin-producing β-cells partially compromises its function, resulting in a loss of insulin secretion and chronic hyperglycemia [3, 16].

Figure 7. Neuron death in substantia nigra of the brain

Mitochondrial dysfunction triggers dopaminergic neuron death in the substantia nigra area. These neurons are most susceptible to mitochondrial decay because they need high energy demand to maintain their functions. The hallmark of PD is neuronal apoptosis, which occurs due to mitochondrial dysfunction in impaired energy metabolism. Although T2D and PD are age-related disorders [9, 12, 15, 17], the common mitochondrial decline in an aging population provides a strong foundation for linking both diseases together. Mitochondrial degeneration associated with aging aggravates an energy crisis in cells that worsen the condition of metabolic malfunction in T2D and neurodegeneration in PD .

Chronic inflammation is a common characteristic feature of both T2D and PD [10], and it is crucial in worsening the mitochondrial dysfunction [1, 2, 6, 10, 17]. Inflammation leads to an immune activation, causing the release of different pro-inflammatory cytokines, including TNF-α and IL-6, that adversely and directly affect the mitochondria. In T2D, chronic low-grade inflammation, generally as a result of obesity or other metabolic disorders, causes mitochondrial stress and reduced efficiency in insulin-responsive tissues such as muscle, liver, and fat. It leads to compromised glucose uptake due to secondary insulin resistance caused by this vicious cycle. Oxidative stress, as a product of mitochondrial decay, feeds into this system in which both pathways interlink and enhance each other.

In PD, neuroinflammation caused by activated microglial cells in the brain leads to mitochondrial damage in neurons. Microglia release ROS and nitric oxide (NO), which alter mitochondrial function and impair ATP production leading to death of neurons. This is particularly destructive in the dopaminergic neurons of the substantia nigra where mitochondrial dysfunction accelerates loss of neurons and further intensifies the motor symptoms. In T2D and PD, inflammation-induced mitochondrial damage not only impairs

cellular energy production but also enhances ROS generation within an accelerating cycle of oxidative stress, inflammation, and further mitochondrial degradation. Critical to the linkages between metabolic impairment in T2D and neurodegeneration in PD are the inflammatory responses that establish mitochondrial dysfunction [2, 7, 10, 12, 20].

Nutrient deficiencies are among the main contributors to mitochondrial dysfunction, linking T2D-which is a metabolic disorder-to PD and many neurodegenerative diseases. Vitamins and minerals, as well as essential fatty acids, are elements of optimal mitochondrial functioning, and deficiency in them leads to defective production of energy and makes the system even more susceptible to oxidative damage. In T2D, it has been reported that an inappropriate diet without some of the essential nutrients like B vitamins, vitamin D, magnesium, and omega-3 fatty acids worsens the mitochondrial dysfunction. B vitamins, especially B12 and B6, play a central role in mitochondrial energy metabolism and homocysteine detoxification that can damage the mitochondrial DNA if accumulated. This impairs glucose metabolism contributing to insulin resistance when such deficiencies occur. Similarities in this regard exist between PD, where nutrient deficiencies exacerbate mitochondrial dysfunction in neurons. The brain is dependent on nutrients like coenzyme Q10, vitamin E, and omega-3 fatty acids for the maintenance of mitochondrial integrity, particularly in the context of fighting oxidative stress. A deficiency of these nutrients accelerates the degeneration of dopaminergic neurons by impairing mitochondrial respiration and increasing oxidative damage. For example, coenzyme Q10 forms an integral part of the electron transport chain. A deficiency causes a decrease in ATP production as well as the formation of ROS in neurons, and this is how neurons degenerate. Moreover, omega-3 fatty acids are neuroprotective with a potential to maintain mitochondrial membrane integrity and reduce inflammation; thus, their deficiency may be associated with an increased risk of neurodegenerative diseases like PD. Malnutrition will not only lead to mitochondrial dysfunction but also exacerbate the metabolic and neurodegenerative features seen in both T2D and PD. Connecting nutrition deficiencies with mitochondrial dysfunction and cellular energy failure shares the important role that diet and nutrition play in the cross-over pathophysiology of T2D and PD. Nutrient deficiency supplementation through diet or supplementation can serve to alleviate the impacts of mitochondrial decline, thereby slowing the rate of metabolic and neurodegenerative disease [2].

5. Other Contributing Factors

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6. Methodology

Our survey of recent literature gives us a good idea of the causal association between Type-2 Diabetes and Parkinson's Disease. In our research, we aim to investigate these common attributes using machine learning techniques to normalize the patterns caused by these attributes, thereby enhancing the prediction of diagnostic outcomes for Parkinson's Disease.

Our methodology incorporates the following stages in the entire process to ensure the exhaustive and reliable analysis. Initially, we map the set of attributes associated with Type-2 Diabetes and Parkinson's Disease and elaborate on the mutual relationships. Subsequently, we gather suitable datasets, preprocess them, carry out data normalization, find the outliers, and eliminate the missing values for soundness of

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data. Then we use pattern analysis in order to find underlying correlations such as temporal patterns, frequency distributions and other characteristics. We'll make use of data analysis and machine learning techniques such as logistic regression, decision trees, SVM and neural networks to infer the relationship between Type-2 Diabetes and Parkinson's Disease. For each we will check accuracy, sensitivity, specificity, and how computationally efficient it performs in order to find which model best predicts the relationship between these diseases.

As of present, there have been few works where Machine Learning has been incorporated into this particular topic. We aim to implement the above techniques with a proper data pipeline architecture and a live model in the backend which gives the analysis of the risk of PD due to T2D as an output. We will test these models and explore more advanced machine learning methodologies, including ensemble methods, feature selection techniques, and hyperparameter tuning, to further enhance the model's predictive power. We also want to apply deep learning techniques for feature extraction and dimensionality reduction to gain a more granular understanding of complex interactions between attributes.

We will test the optimizations of algorithms for computational costs, accuracy rates, and whether they can process data in real-time. Methods like transfer learning and real-time augmentation of data based on its evolution of trends and clinical findings will also be used. This comparative analysis across techniques enables us to choose the best model corresponding to accuracy, efficiency, and applicability. This process will contribute to an interlinking causal relationship between Type-2 Diabetes and Parkinson's Disease so that further research and practical applications can be brought forth in the clinical diagnostic field. This methodology allows us to lay a foundation for really robust and efficient predictive models that adapt to the complexity of medical data, which improves early detection and intervention for these interconnected diseases.

7. Conclusion

The paper involves an intricate interplay of Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus (T2D) and Parkinson's Disease (PD) through shared mechanisms involving oxidative stress, insulin resistance, mitochondrial dysfunction, and chronic inflammation, leading to cellular damage in both. T2D, a chronic metabolic disorder, affects glucose metabolism but also causes systemic oxidative stress and inflammation, contributing not only to neurodegenerative changes in PD. These metabolic stressors worsen the loss of dopamine-producing neurons in PD, thus establishing a biological link between the two diseases.

This link can also be viewed in the context of insulin resistance, the hallmark of T2D, that also affects brain insulin signaling important for the survival and function of neurons. It leads to progressive neuronal damage typical for PD. Further, dysfunction of mitochondria—a common feature of T2D due to insulin resistance—generates more ROS, causing an increase in oxidative stress and neuroinflammation, which are significant contributors to the pathology of PD.

In a scenario where these are commonplace routes of biological pathways, one study suggests the implementation of machine learning to review the biochemical and clinical data available for the T2D patients to predict how soon the early PD might develop. Crucial markers in this predictive model now form the inputs, such as insulin sensitivity, oxidative levels of stress, and pro-inflammatory cytokines, through which risk can be easily identified early on for the neuro-degenerative progress. The study advocates the establishment of a predictive framework in the form of logistic regression, decision trees, and neural networks with data processing techniques to enhance diagnostic accuracy for early intervention strategies.

It is in this regard that the paper further underlines how the gap could be addressed between the management of metabolic and neurodegenerative diseases by employing predictive models with the support of the data-driven approach to reorient healthcare systems in dealing with the risk of PD in T2D patients. Focusing on machine learning allows scalable, adaptable models in conducting real-time analysis to promise practical applications in clinical settings. This methodology extends our understanding of T2D and PD but also prepares the way for integrative care strategies that could reduce the advancement of disease through the proactive management of metabolic health, thus moving toward more preventive, personalized medicine in handling complex interwoven disorders such as T2D and PD.

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