

## Nitrate Nitrite

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=ABSTRACT=

### Usefulness of total nitrate and nitrite in vaginal secretions as a predictor of premature delivery

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**Objective :** This study is directed to determine whether the concentrations of nitrate and nitrite, metabolites of nitric oxide, in vaginal secretions could be used to predict a premature delivery.

**Method :** A total of 60 pregnant women from March, 2000 to February, 2001 received continuous prenatal care and underwent delivery in our hospital was enrolled in the study. Gestational age was ranged between 20 and 37 weeks. Those patients were divided into four groups according to clinical parameters such as preterm labor, premature rupture of membranes and premature delivery. Specimens were obtained by thorough washing of vagina with 5 mL sterile physiologic sodium chloride solution for determination of nitric oxide metabolites. The total nitrate and nitrite concentration was determined by treatment with nitrate reductase followed by the Griess reaction.

**Results :** Subjects were divide into four groups (group I, no preterm labor and term delivery {n=19} ; group II, preterm labor and term delivery {n=12} ; group III, preterm labor and consequent premature delivery {n=6} ; Group IV, preterm labor with premature rupture of membranes and consequent premature delivery {n=23} ). Total nitrate and nitrite concentrations in group II-IV ( $62.2 \pm 50.3 \mu\text{mol/L}$  in group II,  $113.3 \pm 77.0 \mu\text{mol/L}$  in group III,  $101.9 \pm 72.4 \mu\text{mol/L}$  in group IV) were significantly higher than the concentration in Group I ( $9.4 \pm 11.9 \mu\text{mol/L}$ ). From the receiver operating characteristic curve in the prediction of premature delivery, we set  $27.6 \mu\text{mol/L}$  as a cut-off value in this study. Sensitivity, specificity, positive predictive value, and negative predictive value were 71.9%, 78.6%, 79.3%, and 71.0%, respectively.

**Conclusion :** Patients with premature delivery do have increased nitric oxide metabolites in vaginal secretions. These results suggest that nitric oxide may be involved in the initiation of cervical ripening and used as a predictor of premature delivery.

**Key Words :** Nitric oxide, Nitrate, Nitrite, Premature delivery

(mediator)

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\* 2000  
\* 2001

nitric oxide (NO)가 , ,  
<sup>1,2</sup> NO L-arginine  
 nitric oxide synthase (NOS)  
 L-citrulline  
 NO nitrite nitrate peroxynitrite 2)  
<sup>3</sup>  
 prostaglandin (PG) E<sub>2</sub> NO  
 donor (ripening) 가 ,<sup>4</sup>  
 (chorioamnionitis)  
 lipopolysaccharide (LPS) 가 가  
 NO (metabolite) nitrate  
 nitrite가 (serum) 가  
<sup>5</sup>  
 NO nitrite nitrate

1.  
 2000 3 2001 2 1  
 가 60  
 ,  
 37  
 ,  
 가  
 (group I, n=19) ,  
 (group II, n=12),  
 (group III, n=6),  
 가  
 (group IV, n=23)  
 (dilatation)  
 (effacement)

(posterior fornix) pooling  
 nitrazine fern

2.  
 1)  
 5 cc

15 10,000 g  
 (supernatant) -70  
 NO assay kit (R&D system, USA)  
 10,000 g  
 (supernatant) reaction buffer  
 2 100 µL  
 reaction buffer 100 µL 10,000  
 molecular weight filter Sodium  
 nitrite nitrite nitrate curve

3) (endogenous) nitrite  
 Blank well 200 µL reaction buffer, zero standard  
 well 50 µL reaction buffer, well nitrite  
 standard 50 µL well  
 50 µL reaction buffer 가 , blank well  
 well 50 µL Griess reagent I  
 Griess reagent II 가  
 10  
 96-well microplate microplate reader  
 540 nm

4) Nitrate reduction  
 Blank well 200 µL reaction buffer, zero standard  
 well 50 µL reaction buffer, well nitrate  
 standard 50 µL well  
 25 µL NADH 가 well  
 25 µL nitrate reductase 가 37  
 30 incubation blank well  
 well 50 µL Griess reagent I Griess  
 reagent II 가 10  
 가  
 nitrite nitrate  
 nitrate

3.  
 SPSS 9.0  
 nitrate nitrite one way analysis of variance  
 (ANOVA), (clinical parameter)  
 student's t-test p 0.05  
 Receiver operating curve  
 nitrate nitrite  
 (cut-off value)