

# Prevalence of anti-GAD and IA2 autoantibodies in a French cohort of patients with diabetes eligible for bariatric surgery

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# Table 1 Patients' clinical characteristics.

	Case 1	Case 2	Case3
Gender	Female	Male	Female
Age (years)	51	71	61
Family history of diabetes	None	Type 2 diabetes (mother)	None
Body mass index (kg/m <sup>2</sup> )	20.7 kg/m <sup>2</sup>	32 kg/m <sup>2</sup>	25.9 kg/m <sup>2</sup>
Tumour	Non-small-cell lung adenocarcinoma	Non-small-cell lung adenocarcinoma	Non-small-cell lung
			adenocarcinoma
Metastasis	Cerebral	Cerebral, mediastinal	Adrenal
First-line therapy	Cisplatin + vinorelbine	Cisplatin + pemetrexed	Carboplatin + vinorelbine
Immunotherapy	Nivolumab	Nivolumab	Nivolumab
Time between initiation of immunotherapy and diabetes	2 months	7 months	2 months
Clinical symptoms at onset of diabetes	Confusion	Polyuria, acute renal failure	Polyuria, polydipsia, abdominal pain, vomiting
рH	6.96	-	7.35
PCO2/PO2 (mmHg)	9.4 mmHg/136 mmHg	-	29.9 mmHg/69 mmHg
Bicarbonate (mmol/L)	2	-	17
Anion gap	46	-	48
Plasma ketone (mmol/L)	6	0	> 6
Lipase (IU/L) <sup>a</sup>	265	136	Not done
Glycaemia (mmol/L)	68	44	77.8
HbA <sub>1c</sub> (%)	8	13.7	9.3
C-peptide $(\mu g/L)^{b}$	< 0.010	2	0.0443
Diabetes antibodies	Anti-GAD: 428 cpm ( $<$ 90 cpm)	Anti-GAD: 38 cpm ( $<$ 90 cpm)	Anti-GAD: 77 cpm ( $<$ 90 cpm)
	Anti-ZnT8: 2 cpm (< 150 cpm)	Anti-ZnT8: 79 cpm (< 150 cpm)	Anti-ZnT8: 96 cpm (< 150 cpm)
	Anti-IA-2: 4 cpm (< 55 cpm)	Anti-IA-2: 13 cpm (< 55 cpm)	Anti-IA-2: 26 cpm (< 55 cpm)
Human leucocyte antigen (HLA)	DRB1*01:02; 04:01	DRB1*04:02; 13:01	DRB1*01:02; 04:05
	DQB1*03:02; 05:01	DQB1*03:02; 06:03	DQB1*03:02; 05:01
Evolution	Suspension nivolumab, carboplatin, pemetrexed	Nivolumab ongoing	Nivolumab ongoing
Insulin therapy	Basal-bolus: 48 IU/day	Basal-bolus: 46 IU/day	Basal-bolus: 30 IU/day

GAD: glutamic acid decarboxylase; ZnT8: zinc transporter 8; IA-2: islet antigen 2.

<sup>a</sup> Reference range 7-60 IU/L.

<sup>b</sup> Reference range 0.01–4.2 μg/L

decompensation. Collectively, our data suggest the importance of not only monitoring glucose levels during follow-up of immunotherapy, but also of checking the patient's metabolic status before starting PD-1 inhibitor therapy.

#### **Disclosure of interest**

The authors declare that they have no competing interest.

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# Prevalence of anti-GAD and IA2 autoantibodies in a French cohort of patients with diabetes eligible for bariatric surgery

LADA (Latent Auto-immune Diabetes of Adulthood) is typically defined by age of onset > 30 years, with insulin independence for at least 6 months, and positivity for at least one auto-antibody [1]. The initial insulin independence often leads to misdiagnosis of type 2 diabetes. Diabetes-associated antibodies identify patients who should be monitored for evolution to insulin-dependency. In Caucasian populations with apparent type 2 diabetes, 5-12% of cases have LADA [2,3]. Patients with high glutamate decarboxylase (GAD) antibodies presented typically with younger age, lower body mass index (BMI) and lower prevalence of metabolic

### Table 1

Clinical and biological data in our prospective cohort of patients with type 2 diabetes and severe obesity with a project of bariatric surgery

	Negative GAD	Positive GAD	P value
Baseline data	and IA2 group	and/or IA2 group	
Patients n (%)	185 (89.8%)	21 (10.2%)	
Age years (mean $\pm$ SD)	$52.6 \pm 6.4$	$45.6 \pm 13.3$	P = 0.02
BMI kg/m <sup>2</sup> (mean $\pm$ SD)	$52.0 \pm 0.4$ 44.6 ± 6.3	$45.0 \pm 15.5$ $45.3 \pm 9.5$	P = 0.02 NS
$HbA_{1c}$	44.0±0.5	45.5±5.5	113
% (mean ± SD)	$7.7\pm0.6$	$7.1 \pm 1.3$	NS
mmol/mol (mean $\pm$ SD)	$58.6 \pm 16.7$	$54.0 \pm 14.4$	115
Diabetes duration years (mean $\pm$ SD)	8.7±8.9	$54.0 \pm 14.4$ $5.0 \pm 4.5$	NS
Freatment	0.7 ± 0.5	5.0 ± 1.5	115
Diet only $n$ (%)	6 (3)	3 (14)	NS
Dral anti-diabetic drugs $n$ (%)	68 (36)	5 (23)	NS
GLP-1 receptor agonists $n$ (%)	84 (45)	10 (47)	NS
nsulin n (%)	61 (33)	4 (19)	NS
Data in patients post-bariatric surgery			
Patients n	73	7	
Age yrs (mean $\pm$ SD)	$50.4 \pm 9.6$	$43.1\pm11.4$	Ν
$BMI \text{ kg/m}^2 (\text{mean} \pm SD)$	$44.4 \pm 6.1$	$42.0\pm2.3$	١
Bariatric procedure n (%)			
Gastric bypass $n$ (%)	51 (27)	3 (14)	
Sleeve gastrectomy n (%)	21 (30)	3 (14)	
Gastric Band n (%)	1 (0)	0 (0)	
EndoBarrier n (%)	0 (0)	1 (0)	
HbA <sub>1c</sub>			
% (mean $\pm$ SD)	$7.5 \pm 1.5$	$7.7 \pm 1.1$	1
mmol/mol (mean $\pm$ SD)	$58.4 \pm 16.6$	$61.0\pm11.9$	
Diabetes duration years (mean $\pm$ SD)	$\textbf{7.7} \pm \textbf{8.4}$	$4.7\pm3.5$	I
Treatment			
Diet only <i>n</i> (%)	2 (3)	0 (0)	I
Oral anti-diabetics drugs $n$ (%)	34 (46)	3 (43)	1
GLP-1 receptor agonists n (%)	23 (31)	2 (29)	I
Insulin n (%)	20 (27)	3 (43)	1
Data at 1 year postoperatively			
Patients n	55/73	7/7	
BMI kg/m <sup>2</sup> (mean $\pm$ SD)	$32.4\pm4.8$	$32.0\pm2.9$	1
HbA <sub>1c</sub>	50.11	6.2 + 1.5	
% (mean $\pm$ SD)	5.9±1.1	6.3 ± 1.5	1
mmol/mol (mean $\pm$ SD)	$41.0\pm11.4$	$45.0\pm7.1$	
Freatment	24 (61)	2 (12)	
Diet only $n$ (%)	34 (61)	3 (43)	1
Oral anti-diabetics drugs $n$ (%)	9 (16)	1 (14)	1
GLP-1 receptor agonists $n$ (%)	5 (9) 8 (14)	1 (14)	1
Insulin $n$ (%)	8 (14)	2 (28)	I
Diabetes remission $(n)$	42 (78)	E (71)	
HbA <sub>1c</sub> < 6.5% $n$ (%)	43 (78)	5 (71)	]
HbA <sub>1c</sub> $<$ 5.7% with diet only $n$ (%)	20 (36)	3 (42)	I

Mean are presented with standard deviation (SD). Statistical analyses were performed with R comparing the two groups of patients using Wilcoxon test for continuous variables and Fisher exact tests for categorical variables.

\* *P* value is considered significant < 0.05. NS means that *P* value is considered non significant.

syndrome, higher levels of HbA1c, lower C-peptide levels and a higher frequency of other diabetes-related autoantibodies.

Bariatric surgery has become a worldwide treatment for obesity and its complications such as type 2 diabetes. After surgery, a majority of patients achieve diabetes remission, but this remission rate decreases drastically with time and predicting the chance and durability of this remission is one of the emerging issues. In the Ad-DIAREM algorithm that aims to predict remission until 5 years [4], patients with diabetes who relapsed at 5 years exhibited more poorly-controlled type 2 diabetes at baseline based on HbA1c; diabetes-associated antibodies and C-peptide levels were not reported; interestingly, C-peptide has been demonstrated as a good predictor [5]. Moreover, a "novel" subtype of type 2 diabetes refractory to bariatric surgery has been described, with at least one case presenting high GAD antibodies suggestive of LADA [6]. Emerging data suggest that the development of diabetes in islet autoantibody–positive individuals may also involve factors such as obesity and genetic variants associated with type 2 diabetes. Obesity and its inflammatory and metabolic consequences might interact with the immune system amplifying the autoimmune response [7]. Finally, the presence of factors shared by both forms of diabetes contributes to disease heterogeneity challenging diagnostic classification especially in patients in whom bariatric surgery is proposed to cure the diabetes. Actually none guidelines are proposed concerning screening for LADA before bariatric surgery. Here we report the results of systematic screening for anti-GAD and anti-IA2 antibodies in a cohort of patients with severe obesity eligible for bariatric surgery and presenting with apparent type 2 diabetes.

From January 2013 to December 2018, we screened the 206 consecutive adult patients admitted with type 2 diabetes and  $BMI \ge 35 \text{ kg/m}^2$  for a project of bariatric surgery in our

Nutrition Department (located in Ambroise Paré Hospital, Boulogne-Billancourt, France then, from September 2016, in Georges Pompidou European Hospital, Paris, France). Patients with known type 1 diabetes were excluded. Clinical and biological data were prospectively collected. Antibodies against GAD and IA-2 protein were measured by ELISA (threshold < 10UI/ml [Euroimmun]). Statistical analyses were performed with R (Wilcoxon and Fisher exact tests). This study was submitted to the local CERAPHP.5 ethic committee.

Positivity for at least one antibody (GAD or IA2) was observed in 21 patients of the 206 (10%) of patients. Patients with GAD or IA2 antibodies were significantly younger than those with negative antibodies (Table 1). No difference was observed for diabetes duration, HbA1c or BMI levels between patients with or without antibodies. Among the 206 patients eligible for bariatric surgery, only 80 patients have been operated, including 7 patients with autoimmunity. There were no differences between patients with type 2 diabetes and those with positive antibodies either preoperatively or at 1 year postoperatively (Table 1). Interestingly, 3 of the 7 operated patients with positive autoimmune markers achieved complete diabetes remission with an HbA1c under 5.7% without any anti-diabetic treatment; 2 of the 7 achieved partial diabetes remission with HbA1c under 6.5% with either GLP-1 receptor agonist and/or oral anti-diabetic drugs. The last 2 of the 7 operated patients improved diabetes control with bariatric procedure achieving an HbA1c at 8.4% and 8.5% with GLP-1 receptor agonist and insulin respectively. Three of the 7 antibodypositive patients required insulin before surgery, and among them, only one was able to cease insulin after an EndoBarrier procedure (duodenal-ieiunal bypass liner). The patient with the highest level of GAD never required any insulin before or after bariatric surgery.

We report a prevalence of specific beta-cells autoimmunity of 10% in this population of severe obese patients eligible for bariatric surgery, comparable to general population of type 2 patients. No major differences between type 2 diabetes and autoimmune phenotypes were observed in our cohort, possibly due to the relatively small size of our group (n = 21). In the fraction of our cohort who were operated on, diabetes remission at one year was similar in both groups. Longer follow up is required to determine whether auto-immunity predicts a lower chance of diabetes remission off insulin treatment. Bariatric surgery might extend the duration of insulin independence in patients with positive antibodies.

#### **Disclosure of interest**

The authors declare that they have no competing interest.

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Claire Carette (C.C.) is the guarantor taking responsibility for the contents of this article. C.M. and C.C. collected the data and wrote the first draft of the manuscript. J.Z. performed the GAD and IA2 titrations. A.A.B. and C.R.L. undertook the statistical analysis. All the authors contribute to the manuscript final redaction.

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# Association between increased carotid intima-media thickness and higher serum C-terminal telopeptide of type 1 collagen levels in post-menopausal women with type 2 diabetes

Accumulating evidence suggests that patients with low bone mineral density (BMD) have an increased risk of developing cardiovascular disease and that both conditions share common cardiometabolic risk factors [for example, diabetes, obesity, chronic kidney disease (CKD), smoking, chronic inflammation] [1,2]. Inconclusive preliminary data also suggest a significant association between subclinical atherosclerosis and either low BMD [3,4] or abnormal levels of some indirect bone turnover biomarkers in patients with or without type 2 diabetes mellitus (T2DM) [5–7].

Our exploratory cross-sectional study recruited 83 Italian postmenopausal women with non-insulin-treated T2DM [mean  $\pm$  standard deviation (SD) age: 71.5  $\pm$  8 years, diabetes duration: 12.9  $\pm$  9 years, body mass index (BMI): 29.6  $\pm$  4 kg/m<sup>2</sup>,

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