

Dietary Behavior of Infertile Women In Korea

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Objective: The purpose of this study was to identify dietary factors related to infertility in Korean women through a case-control study.

Methods: The case group was composed of 236 women who had been diagnosed as infertility in hospital. The control group of 181 healthy women with children were recruited from local immunization centers. Socio-economic status, medical history, dietary intakes using food frequency questionnaire and stress were surveyed by interview. Anthropometric measurements were made and the causes of infertility were identified through medical records. Fasting blood samples were taken from subgroup of the subjects.

Results: The mean age of infertile and control groups was 31.1 and 32.4 years, respectively and the difference was statistically significant. The mean Body Mass Index of infertile women was not significantly different from control women, however, Waist/ Hip Ratio and Triceps Skinfolds Thickness were significantly lower in infertile women than in control women. The dietary intake status was generally satisfactory in both groups. The intakes of energy, protein, fat, carbohydrate, retinol, vitamin B2 and niacin were lower in infertile women than in control women. The infertile women also showed lower intakes of animal foods. No differences were found between two groups in serum concentrations of albumin, hemoglobin, Fe, TIBC, total cholesterol, HDL-cholesterol, LDL-cholesterol, triglyceride, C3, IgA, IL-2, however, infertile women showed higher levels of Zn and IgG. The stress score

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was higher in infertile women.

Conclusions: From the results of this study, dietary factors and nutritional status do not seem to be directly related to infertility. However, the intertile women have lower nutrient intake and lower body fat content than control women. Further researches are needed according to the causes of infertility for long term to establish the relationship between dietary factors and infertility.

Key Words: Infertility, nutrition, dietary behavior, anthropometric values

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                                   10~15%
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                                  35
                                                          236
                                                                             1
   30
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                                                                  2002
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                          30~40%,
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20%,
                   35%,
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2)	2) partigen, Behring Co., Germany)			
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,	Body Mass Index	•	SPSS package	e (Ver 10.0)
[BMI: $WT(kg)/HT(m^3)$] ,	Body Wass mack	•	51 55 package	c (ver 10.0)
WHR (Waist/Hip Ratio	o, -)			t- (in-
, The (, use Inp I use	(TSF, Triceps	dependent 2-samp	ole t-test).	v (
Skin-fold Thickness)	(Lange Skinfold Califer,			-square test)
Cambridge) mm	_		`	,
<i>3</i> /	(Hoechst, Germany)	가		
mm			General Lin	near Model
3)				
			Bonf	Peroni's t-test
	1 ,			
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·	13	1.		
Can-pro 2.0 pro	ogram ¹⁴			31.0 (20-
	· 6 ··	46),	32.4 (22-44)	
4)			able 1).	
12		50%	가	
,	,	가 60%		100-300
, HDL-	, TIBC, ,	가	가	
	C3, IgA, IgG,			
IL-2 .				
	(SYSMEX K-4500,	1-3	(41.9%), 3-5	(26.7%), 5-7
Japan) , TIBC,	,	(13.1%)		7
HDL- ,	,	(39.1%), 1-3	(24.0%), 3-5	(19.6%)
(HITACHI 71	70S, JAPAN)			
•	(Ortho-			
Clinical Diagnosis, Johnso	n & Johnson company)			•
	Atomic absorption			
spectrophotometer(A.A.S.,		7	4.2% ,	65.7%
. LDL-	Fried-			
wald [LDL-	= - HDL-		14.9%	5.0%
-(/5)] ¹⁵		•		20.3%,
	plement 3 (C3), Immuno-	13.3%		
globulin A (IgA) Immun	oglobulin G (IgG)		•	

radial immunodiffusion plate (Nor-

4.8±0.1, 44.1%

 4.4 ± 0.1 57.5%

2.

Table 2 43.2%가

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Table 1. General characteristics and health-related habits of the subjects

		Infertile women n=236	Control women n=181	
Age(years)		31.0±0.2 ^{1)**3)}	32.4±0.3	
Education	middle school High school College	3(1.3) ²⁾ 105(44.5) 128(54.2)	2(1.1) 79(43.6) 100(55.3)	x^2 =0.059, d.f.=2, NS ³⁾
Job	House wife Manager, officer, sales and service workers, professor, technician Student Farmer, foreman etc.	148(62.7) 60(25.4) 2(0.8) 1(0.4) 25(10.7)	128(70.7) 34(18.8) 2(1.1) 5(2.8) 12(6.6)	x ² =8.773, d.f.=4, NS
Household monthly income (×10 ³ won)	<1,000 1,000-3,000 3,000-5,000 5,000	12(5.2) 162(69.8) 47(20.3) 11(4.7)	8(4.4) 137(75.7) 33(18.2) 3(1.7)	$x^2=3.670$, d.f.=3, NS
Duration of marriage (years)	<1 1-3 3-5 5-7 7	16(6.8) 99(41.9) 63(26.7) 31(13.1) 27(11.5)	4(2.2) 43(24.0) 35(19.6) 27(15.1) 70(39.1)	x ² =49.731 d.f.=4, P<0.001
Alcohol drinking habit	Present drinker Ex-drinker Non-drinker	101(42.8) 74(31.4) 61(25.8)	96(53.0) 23(12.7) 62(34.3)	x ² =20.044, d.f.=2, p<0.001
Smoking habit	Present smoker Ex-smoker Non smoker	12(5.1) 23(9.8) 201(85.1)	2(1.1) 7(3.9) 172(95.0)	x ² =10.959, d.f.=2, p<0.01
Nutrient suppl	ement user Yes No	48(20.3) 188(79.7)	24(13.3) 157(86.7)	$x^2=3.594$, d.f.=1, NS
Stress scores	5)	4.8±0.1 ^{1)*3)}	4.4±0.1	

¹⁾ Mean±SE
2) n(%)
3) Significantly different by Independent two sample t-test (*: p<0.05, **: p<0.01)
4) NS: not significant at p=0.05 by chi-square test
5) Mean of self-reported score from 0 to 9

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Table 2. Obstetrical characteristics of the subjects

	Infertile women n=236	Control women n=181	
Menarche age(years)†	14.1±0.1 ¹⁾	13.8±0.1	ns ⁵⁾
Menstrual regularity			
Regular	$159(67.4)^{2)}$	140(77.3)	x^2 =5.024, d.f.=1, p<0.05
Irregular			
Contraception trial			
Yes	104(44.1)	104(57.5)	x^2 =7.347, d.f.=1, p<0.01
No	132(55.9)	77(42.5)	
Method used			
Avoiding of ovualatory phase	37(35.9)	46(44.2)	
Oral contraceptive	34(33.0)	14(13.5)	x^2 =28.149, d.f.=3, p<0.001
Intra Uterine Device	5(4.9)	28(26.9)	
Others	27(26.2)	16(15.4)	
Pregnant			
Yes	102(43.2)	181(100)	$x^2=151.433$, d.f.=1, p<0.001
No	134(56.8)	0(0)	_
Abortion			
Yes	102(43.2)	74(41.1)	x^2 =0.186, d.f.=1, NS ³⁾
No			■ =0.180, d.1.=1, INS
the number of abortion†	$1.8\pm0.12^{1)*4}$	1.4 ± 0.1	

Table 3. Anthropometric characteristics of the subjects[†]

	Infertile women n=236	Control women n=181
Present height(cm)	$160.4\pm0.3^{1)}$	159.7 ±0.3
Present weight(kg)	54.4 ± 0.5	54.9 ± 0.5
Present BMI(kg/m²)	21.1 ±0.1	21.5 ± 0.2
Present TSF(mm)	$21.3 \pm 0.4^{**2}$	23.1 ± 0.5
Present WHR	$0.76\pm0.003^{***}$	0.79 ± 0.004
The lowest weight(kg)	47.5 ± 0.3	47.7 ± 0.4
BMI at the lowest weight(kg/m ³)	18.4 ± 0.1	18.7 ± 0.1
The hight of weight(kg)	56.4 ± 0.5	56.6 ± 0.5
BMI at the highest weight(kg/m²)	21.9 ± 0.1	22.1 ± 0.2

[|] Mean±SE | n(%) | NS : not significant at p<0.05 by chi-square test | Significantly different by Bonferoni's t-test in General linear model(p<0.05) | ns : Not significant by Bonferoni's t-test in General linear model | displayed by age |

Mean±SE
significantly different by Bonferroni's t-test in General Linear Model (**: p<0.01, ***: p<0.001)
†: All anthropometric datas are adjusted by age

(24.2%), (30.1%),

> 30.5 (19.1%), (14.4%) (38.1%) 가

Table 4. Daily nutrient intakes of the subjects

	Infertile women (n=235)	Control women (n=179)
Energy(kcal)	2201.0 ±55.9 ^{1)*2)}	2416.0±64.2
Protein(g)	$89.6 \pm 2.8^*$	99.0±3.3
Fat(g)	$54.1 \pm 2.0^*$	62.1 ± 2.3
Carbohydrate(g)	$342.4\pm7.9^*$	368.9 ± 9.1
Calcium(mg)	756.8 ± 27.4	798.2 ± 31.5
Phosphorus(mg)	1313.3 ±41.1	1427.5 ±47.1
Iron(mg)	19.2 ± 0.6	20.8 ± 0.7
Sodium(mg)	5024.7 ± 179.5	5338.4 ± 206.1
Potassium(mg)	3770.8 ± 130.1	4061.9 ± 149.4
VitaminA(μg RE)	1293.2 ±78.7	1332.8 ± 90.3
Retinol(µg)	189.2±11.3**	244.2±12.9
arotine(µg)	4266.9 ± 174.6	4525.1 ± 200.5
VitaminB1(mg)	1.6 ± 0.05	1.8 ± 0.05
VitaminB2(mg)	$1.7 \pm 0.05^*$	1.9 ± 0.07
VitaminB6(mg)	2.4 ± 0.08	2.6 ± 0.10
VitaminB12(μg)	$1.7 \pm 0.1^{**}$	1.3 ± 0.1
Folic acid(µg)	378.0 ± 13.6	410.0 ± 15.6
Niacin(mg)	$20.9 \pm 0.7^{**}$	24.0 ± 0.8
VitaminC(mg)	203.4 ± 9.0	208.7 ± 10.3
VitaminE(mg E)	13.5 ± 0.5	14.7 ± 0.6
Cholesterol(mg)	376.6 ± 14.6	404.1 ± 16.7
Energy distribution		
%Carbohydrate	63.0 ± 0.4	62.0 ± 0.5
%Protin	15.9 ± 0.1	16.1 ± 0.1
%Fat	21.5 ±0.3	22.3 ± 0.4

 $[\]stackrel{1)}{\text{Mean}\pm\text{SE}}$ Meanthy different by Bonferroni's t-test in General Linear Model (*: p<0.05, **: p<0.01)

International Obesity Task 3.

Force (IOFT)가 가 BMI

 $(BMI < 18.5 kg/m^2),$ (BMI 18.5 ~ 22.9kg/m²),

18.2%,

24.9%

(BMI 23kg/m²) (Table 3).

(20-29 :

160.6cm, 54.3kg)¹⁶ 17.8%, 12.1%,

가 . BMI 21.1kg/m², 21.5kg/m²

가

BMI BMI

4. 가 $TSF \; (p\!\!<\!\!0.01) \quad WHR \; (p\!\!<\!\!0.001)$

Table 5. Daily food intake by food groups of the subjects

Infertile	Control
women	women
(n=234)	(n=179)
$253.2 \pm 9.31)*2$	287.2 ± 10.7
85.5 ± 5.8	87.1 ± 6.6
$16.3 \pm 1.9**$	26.4 ± 2.2
3.0 ± 0.3	2.5 ± 0.4
220.9 ± 16.3	202.6 ± 18.7
265.9 ± 14.1	271.0 ± 16.1
19.2 ± 2.0	19.3 ± 2.2
10.9 ± 3.7	21.9 ± 4.3
557.9 ± 38.8	562.7 ± 44.5
2.0 ± 0.5	2.3 ± 0.6
0.5 ± 0.1	0.4 ± 0.1
1435.2 ± 55.9	1481.6 ± 64.0
$103.5 \pm 8.1*$	131.2 ± 9.3
$23.0\pm2.7**$	33.9 ± 3.1
68.0 ± 4.9	72.8 ± 5.6
19.9 ± 1.5	21.6 ± 1.7
111.6 ± 7.7	127.5 ± 8.8
0.2 ± 0.1	0.4 ± 0.1
326.2±15.3**	387.3 ± 17.5
1764.5 ±63.1	1869.0 ± 72.4
80.2 ± 0.5	78.6 ± 0.6
19.7 ± 0.5	21.3 ± 0.6
	women (n=234) 253.2±9.31)*2) 85.5±5.8 16.3±1.9** 3.0±0.3 220.9±16.3 265.9±14.1 19.2±2.0 10.9±3.7 557.9±38.8 2.0±0.5 0.5±0.1 1435.2±55.9 103.5±8.1* 23.0±2.7** 68.0±4.9 19.9±1.5 111.6±7.7 0.2±0.1 326.2±15.3** 1764.5±63.1 80.2±0.5

 $^{^{1)}}$ mean $\pm SE$ $^{2)}$ significantly different by Bonferroni's t-test in General Linear Model (*: p<0.05, **: p<0.01)

Table 6. Serum profiles of the subjects

	Infertile women (n=55)	Control women (n=53)	Normal range ⁴⁾
Albumin(g/dl)(n=55, n=53)	4.3 ±0.02 ¹⁾	4.3 ±0.02	3.5-5.0
Hemoglobin(g/dl)(n=55, n=53)	12.7 ± 0.1	12.4 ± 0.1	12-16
$TIBC^{3}(\mu g/dl)(n=55, n=53)$	330.6 ± 6.1	347.7 ± 6.3	250-450
Zinc(µg/dl)(n=33, n=33)	914.73 ±45.1**2)	686.45 ± 45.0	70
Fe(\(\mu g\)/dl)(n=49, n=49)	100.51 ± 6.3	83.95 ± 6.3	115-165
Total serum cholesterol(mg/dl)(n=55, n=53)	171.9 ± 3.4	179.1 ±3.5	240
HDL-cholesterol(mg/dl)(n=55, n=53)	56.0 ± 1.8	59.9 ± 1.9	30-80
LDL-cholesterol(mg/dl)(n=55, n=53)	96.1 ±3.2	100.8 ± 3.4	130
Triglycreride(mg/dl)(n=55, n=53)	99.1 ±9.3	91.3 ±9.7	200
C3(mg/dl)(n=55, n=53)	60.8 ± 2.1	60.0 ± 2.2	90-180
IgA(mg/dl)(n=55, n=53)	241.8 ±11.1	228.5 ± 11.5	70-400
IgG(mg/dl)(n=55, n=53)	1362.8 ±35.3**	1213.8 ±36.7	700-1600
IL-2(pg/ml)(n=52, n=49)	11.60 ± 1.3	11.20 ± 1.3	-

, HDL-, LDL-(p<0.05), 가 (p<0.05), (p<0.05), (p<0.05), (p<0.01) (p<0.01), B_2 (p<0.05), (Table 6). (Table 4). B_{12} (p<0.01) IgA IgG , ,가 , IgG . C3 (Table5). . Il-2 가

5.

, TIBC, 4.3mg/dl

¹⁾ Mean±SE
2) significantly different by Bonferoni's t-test(** :p<0.01)
3) TIBC: Total Iron Binding Capacity
4) Green Cross Reference Lab.(2001. 01. 01)

Rich-Edwards ⁹ 2527 1 (17) 가 가 74% . 가 72.3% 30-39 42.8% 2001 . 2201.0kcal, 2416.0kcal 73.7% 30-49 (17) 14.9% (2183.0kcal) 5.4% 24 2001 . 23 5.1% 2001 3.6% 가 24 가 가 가 . 가 가 가 가 가 ²¹ 1872 가 52.8%, 25.4%, 12.3%, 9.5%, 11.3% 45.6 가 가 가) 가 가 TSF WHR

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