

1 Comparison of multifrequency bioimpedance measured lean mass to that
2 calculated from anthropometric measurements in patients with chronic kidney
3 disease

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45

46 Abstract

47

48 Patients with chronic kidney disease (CKD) are at increased risk of sarcopenia.

49 Previous studies have proposed equations to estimate muscle mass based on

50 triceps skin fold thickness and mid upper arm circumference, with or without

51 adjustment for hand grip strength (HGS). We wished to evaluate their

52 usefulness compared to multifrequency segmental bioimpedance (MFBI)

53 measured appendicular lean mass (ALM). We audited 160 CKD patients attending

54 outpatient clinics, 65.6% male, median age 73 (62-81.5) years. We calculated

55 muscle mass using six proposed equations based on anthropometric

56 measurements. These equations over estimated muscle mass compared to

57 MFBI with a mean bias ranging from 3.4 to 35.9 kg. Apart from one equation,

58 there was a systematic bias, with bias increasing with increasing fat mass

59 (ranging from $r=0.17$, $p=0.044$ to $r=0.65$, $p<0.001$). For CKD patients we found

60 that most of the previously proposed equations based on anthropometric

61 equations over-estimated muscle mass compared to MFBI.

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65 Body

66 Patients with chronic kidney disease (CKD) are at increased risk of

67 muscle loss due to multiple factors, including dietary restrictions, metabolic

68 acidosis, inflammation, urinary protein losses and vitamin D deficiency [1].

69 Pathological loss of muscle mass, termed sarcopenia is associated with increased

70 mortality. Thus, rapid low-cost screening tests are required to detect
71 sarcopenia to allow for early intervention.

72 Several equations are used to estimate skeletal muscle mass based on
73 anthropometric measurements of height, weight, and either triceps skin fold
74 thickness (TSF), mid upper arm circumference (MUAC), mid arm muscle
75 circumference (MAMC), or hand grip strength (HGS). These models differ in
76 validating anthropometric estimates of muscle mass by computerized axial
77 tomography (CT) [2], magnetic resonance (MRI) [3] or dual-energy X-ray
78 absorptiometry (DXA) [4,5] imaging. None of these imaging techniques are
79 routinely available for patients attending out-patient clinics. Whereas,
80 multifrequency bioelectrical impedance (MFBI) devices are now available for
81 clinic use. Previous studies have validated MFBI measurements of muscle mass
82 with DXA in dialysis patients [6,7]. Over time definitions of body composition
83 have changed with the introduction of newer imaging techniques, and so we
84 wished to retrospectively compare appendicular lean mass (ALM) and the
85 equivalent skeletal muscle mass estimated from anthropometric measurements
86 and HGS.

87 A single observer made anthropometric measurements in CKD patients
88 attending outpatient clinics. MUAC and TSF were determined using a non-
89 stretch tape measure and the Harpenden skinfold calliper (HSB-BI, Baty
90 International Ltd, West Sussex, UK). The midpoint of the left upper arm
91 between the lateral acromion and distal olecranon was marked with the left arm
92 bent at 90 °, and MUAC measured to the nearest 0.1 cm. TSF was measured by

93 vertically pulling out the skinfold one inch above the midpoint and calliper jaws
94 applied in the centre of the standard mid-point, and the mean of three
95 recordings taken. Corrected mid-upper arm muscle area (CMUAMA) was derived
96 from MUAC and TSF [2]. HGS was measured using the grip-D strength
97 dynamometer (Takei Scientific Instruments Co, Nigata, Japan). Patients were
98 instructed to use the strength gauge, and measurements made according to the
99 manufacturer's recommendations with patients asked to make three maximal
100 voluntary exertions with the dominant (stronger) arm, with the maximum value
101 recorded.

102 MFBIAs were made with an 8 electrode multi-frequency segmental
103 bioimpedance device (InBody 720, Seoul, South Korea) using a standardised
104 protocol [6,7]. The bioimpedance machine was regularly serviced and calibrated.
105 Our retrospective audit complied with the UK National Health Service (NHS)
106 guidelines for clinical audit and service development with all patient data
107 anonymised and complied with UK National Institute for Clinical Excellence
108 (NICE) best practices,
109 www.nice.org.uk/media/796/23/bestpracticeclinicalaudit.pdf.

110 Patient demographics of the 160 CKD patients are reported in table 1.
111 ALM measured with MFBIAs was significantly lower compared to all models
112 (Kruskal Wallis $p < 0.001$), apart from total body muscle mass estimated by the
113 equation proposed by Lee et al [4]. We then compared estimates of muscle mass
114 by Bland Altman (Figure 1). Apart from the Lee equation (Figure 1b), all other
115 models not only over estimated muscle mass, but demonstrated a systematic

116 bias, with increasing difference as muscle mass increased (Figure 1a, 1c,
117 1d,1e,1f). Analysing the differences between ALM and muscle mass derived from
118 anthropometric equations: the median difference between MFBIAs measured
119 ALM and Lee equation 2.2 (-0.13 to 2.88) kg was significantly less compared to
120 the differences with the other equations; Heymsfeld 37.7 (35-40.6), Tian 23.4
121 (18.8-25.7), Noori 29.3 (26.6-31.8), Noori HGS 30.4 (27.5-32), all $p < 0.001$, and
122 Tian HGS 22 (18.7-24.6), $p = 0.01$.

123 There was no association with estimated glomerular filtration rate, ratio
124 of extracellular to total body water (ECW/TBW) or age, but as fat mass
125 increased, then the difference between MFBIAs-ALM and anthropometric
126 derived estimates of muscle mass increased for the models using TSF and
127 MUAMC (Spearman correlation: Heymsfield [2]; $r = 0.17$, $p = 0.044$; Lee [3] $r = 0.26$,
128 $p = 0.000$; Noori [4] $r = 0.63$, $p < 0.001$; Tian [5] $r = 0.27$, $p = 0.000$), and also for those
129 models using HGS (Noori [4] $r = 0.65$, $p < 0.001$; Tian [5] $r = 0.51$, $p < 0.001$).

130 Our results would suggest that apart from the equation proposed by Lee
131 et al [3], based on MRI measurements of muscle mass, the other models used to
132 estimate muscle mass all appear to significantly over estimate muscle mass, and
133 as fat mass increased then the difference between MFBIAs measured ALM and
134 these anthropometric estimates of muscle mass rose. MRI is better at
135 estimating fat content than CT, as demonstrated by Figueroa-Bonaparte et al
136 using different radiofrequency pulse sequences then MRI can estimate
137 intracellular fat content due to different precession frequencies of hydrogen in
138 fat molecules compared to water [9]. As muscle from CKD patients contains

139 more intra and extracellular fat [1], then CT scanning will over estimate muscle
140 mass compared to MRI [9].

141 Whereas the equations proposed by Heymsfield [3] and Lee [4] were
142 derived from healthy non-obese patients, those proposed by Tian [5] were based
143 on patents with CKD, and Noori studied haemodialysis patients [4]. Both sets of
144 equations appear to over-estimate muscle mass compared to MFBIA and MRI,
145 with increasing bias with increasing muscle. All imaging techniques will over-
146 estimate muscle mass when patients are volume overloaded, due to the increased
147 water content of muscle [10]. In the study reported by Tian et al, then the mean
148 ratio of ECW/TBW was 0.45 (normal 0.36-0.4) [5], much higher than in our
149 cohort, with >90% of patients having no recorded signs of ECW excess. As their
150 patients had greater ECW then muscle mass would be over-estimated. Although
151 Noori et al did not provide any estimate of volume status, their patients were
152 recruited from eight dialysis centres, with DXA imaging on a non-dialysis day, so
153 patients would be most likely over-hydrated. As such body composition studies
154 should report hydration status.

155 Our retrospective audit in patients with CKD demonstrates that the
156 majority of previously reported equations estimating muscle mass based on
157 anthropometric measurements of TSF and MUAC, appear to over-estimate
158 muscle mass compared to segmental MFBIA, with bias increasing with increasing
159 fat mass. Whereas ALM estimated anthropometric equations based on MRI
160 scanning, which can exclude intracellular fat, most closely correlated with
161 segmental MFBIA measured ALM.

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Figure 1. Bland Altman graphs comparing multifrequency segmental bioimpedance

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appendicular lean mass (ALM) and muscle mass estimated by Helmsfield et al [2]

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(Figure 1a); skeletal muscle mass estimated by Lee et al [3] Figure 1b; lean body

207 mass estimated by Noori et al [4] Figure 1c; lean body mass estimated by Tian et
208 al [5] figure 1d; and anthropomorphic equations including an adjustment for hand
209 grip strength: Noori et al [4] Figure 1e, and Tian et al [5] figure 1f. Graphs show
210 mean bias and 95% limits of agreement (LA).

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