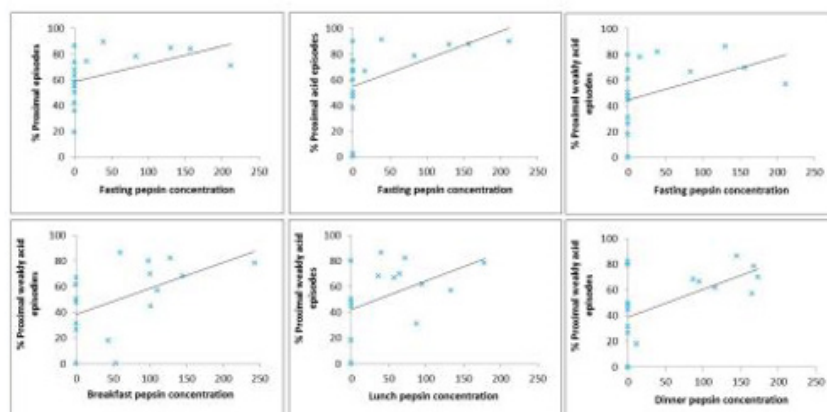


49 SALIVARY PEPSIN DETECTION AS A GASTROESOPHAGEAL REFLUX DISEASE MARKER IN A PEDIATRIC POPULATION. *Andres Bodas¹, Ana Garrido¹, Julio Perez de la Serna², Arantxa Recio¹, Raquel Vecino¹, Antonio Ruiz de Leon². ¹Pediatrics Gastroenterology, Hospital Clinico San Carlos, Madrid, Madrid, Spain; ²Gastroenterology, Hospital Clinico San Carlos, Madrid, Madrid, Spain*

Background/Objectives: Current diagnostic methods for gastroesophageal reflux disease (GORD) are invasive. Peptest allows the detection of salivary pepsin, which is believed to be a GORD marker. The aim is to establish test sensitivity and specificity, predictive value and its validation in a pediatric population.

Material/Methods: 18 controls and 18 patients with suspected GORD were studied. Cut-off value for pepsin positivity was 16ng/mL. In addition, patients underwent MII-pH monitoring (multichannel intraluminal impedance ph monitoring) and were divided in two groups: normal and abnormal results in MII-pH monitoring. Results of peptest and MII-pH monitoring between the two populations were compared.

Results: Up to 1/3 of controls had pepsin in saliva at low concentrations. Symptomatic patients had higher pepsin prevalence and concentration than controls (98,7(21,75-144,85)ng/mL). Having at least one positive test had 88,9% sensivity and 37,5% specificity and increased the likelihood of GORD from 52,9% to 61,53%. Moreover, there was a positive correlation between pepsin concentration and the episodes that reach the proximal esophagus.



Conclusions: According with the technique used in this study, peptest seems to have good sensivity, albeit not enough specificity to avoid invasive tests. However, given the fact that peptest is related to episodes that reach proximal esophagus, it might be useful in the diagnosis of GORD with atypical symptoms.