

Association of lean mass with bone mineral density in young, recently diagnosed, HIV-infected patients

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BACKGROUND

Low peak bone mass (PBM), the amount of bone at the end of skeletal maturation, is of paramount importance for a worse bone health in the future. However, the causes of a low PBM could be different in HIV-infected patients, by considering time of HIV infection or use of combination antiretroviral therapy (cART). Our objective was to evaluate the role of lean mass in young, otherwise healthy HIV-infected patients who started cART early after the diagnosis.

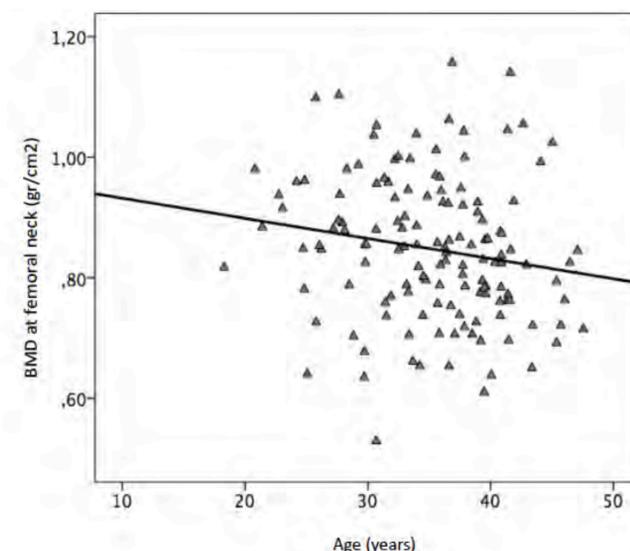
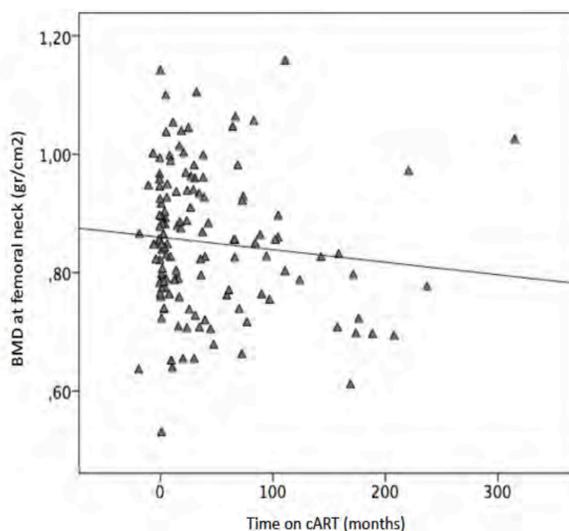
METHODS

Cross-sectional study of HIV-infected patients younger than 40 years of age (EC 039/14; NCT02116751). A Dual X-ray Absorptiometry (DXA) was performed at diagnosis or early after cART initiation. Bone mineral density (BMD) and Z and T scores were recorded for the lumbar spine (L1–L4) and femoral neck. Demographic and HIV-related factors were correlated with fat and lean mass.

RESULTS

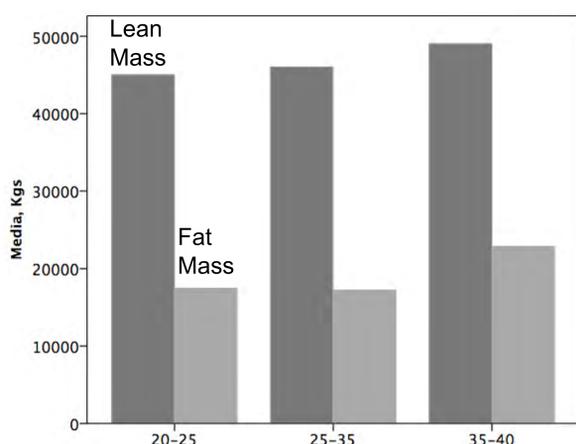
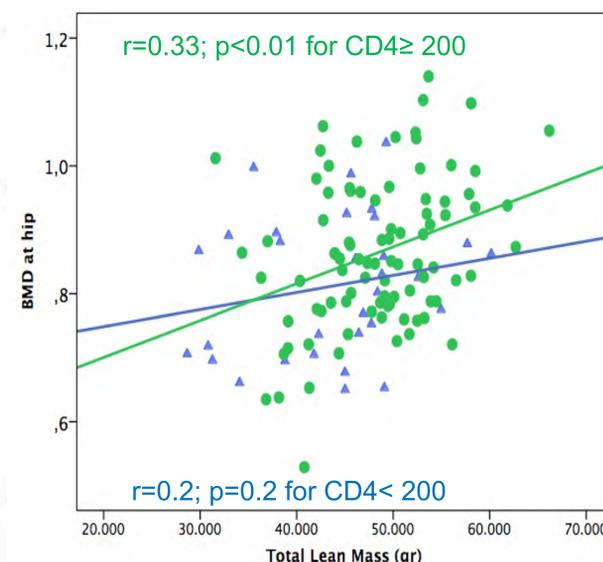
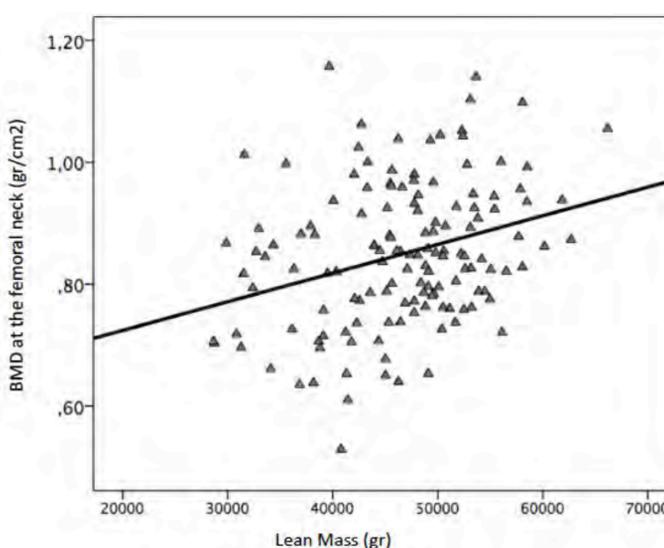
N= 151 patients

Mean age (years, range)	35.3 (18-40)
Younger than 30 yrs (%)	20%
Sex male, n (%)	129 (85%)
Risk practices for HIV infection, n (%)	
IDUs	13 (9%)
MSM	103 (68%)
HCV coinfection, n (%)	9 (6%)
Mean BMI (kg/m ²)	24.2 (17.7-31.8)
Nadir CD4+ count (cells/mL)	337 (196-430)
HIV RNA level pre-cART (log copies/ml)	4,78 (4,3-5,3)
Time of HIV diagnosis (months, IQR)	41.3 (11-97)
Time on cART at DXA (months, IQR)	9 (0-52)
No TAR at DXA	52 (34%)
cART	
TDF+PI	13%
TDF+Non Nucleoside	58%
No TDF	29%
Mean eGFR (ml/min/1.73 m ²)	102,2 (57-155)
Mean 25-hydroxyvitamin D (ng/ml)	27 (6,4-67,2)
Mean PTH (pg/ml)	48,9 (15,2-130)
Total Fat (Kgs)	18.37 (13.1-22.2)
Total lean mass (kgs)	46.36 (42-51.7)
DXA	
BMD femoral neck (gr/cm ²)	0.847 (0.53-1.16)
BMD lumbar spine L1-L4	0.969 (0.26-1.32)
Femoral neck	
Osteopenia	38%
Osteoporosis	1%
Z score < -2	2%
Spine	
Osteopenia	39%
Osteoporosis	9%
Z score < -2	16%



BMD at hip was significantly correlated with age ($r=-0.21$), BMI ($r=0.25$), nadir CD4+ ($r=0.22$) and with lean mass in all the body areas (lean mass to height squared ratio; $r=0.32$; $p<0.01$) but not with fat mass, whereas BMD in spine was correlated only with lean mass ($r=0.22$), and not with age ($p=0.059$), CD4+ nadir, BMI ($p=0.16$), or rest of variables.

Of note, in patients with a recent diagnosis who had not initiated cART, the strongest correlation was observed between BMD at hip and lean mass ($r=0.41$; $p<0.01$), with a trend for CD4+ count nadir ($r=0.28$; $p=0.06$). Moreover, the importance of lean mass was different in patients with a CD4 count nadir above or below 200 cells/mL.



CONCLUSIONS

In young, recently diagnosed HIV-infected patients, lean mass is one of the most important factors determining the peak bone mass, more important than time of HIV infection or nadir CD4+ count.