**ABSTRACT**

Brain-derived neurotrophic factor (BDNF) is a neurotrophic molecule with impact on microvasculature and also with complex psychosomatic connections. The aim of our study was to evaluate its associations with 24-hour brachial and central hemodynamic parameters and arterial stiffness in untreated patients who were studied because of elevated office blood pressure. Mobil-O-Graph was used to measure the 24-hour brachial and central parameters. Serum BDNF was measured with ELISA, depression and anxiety were evaluated with questionnaires (Beck Depression Inventory and Hamilton Anxiety Scale, respectively). 73 patients were involved into the study. The average serum BDNF level was 28610 ± 7965 pg/ml. SeBDNF was correlated with daytime augmentation index ($Aix, r = 0.234, p = 0.046$). A borderline correlation was found with 24-hour total peripheral resistance ($r = 0.227, p = 0.053$). In multiple linear regression model the association between $Aix$ and BDNF remained significant after the adjustment for age, depression and anxiety ($B = 0.243, p = 0.034$), but was attenuated after further adjustment for total vascular resistance ($B = 0.186, p = 0.106$). In conclusions, the impact of BDNF on microvasculature can have physiological importance as through the mediation of total vascular resistance it can influence pulse wave reflection.

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