

A further review of the genetic and phenotypic nature of diabetes mellitus^{*}

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ABSTRACT

Background: The organs in the body function in coherent organ networks. These organ networks are commonly known as physiological systems. Blood Glucose, Blood Pressure and pH exhibit the characteristics of neurally regulated Physiological Systems. Any medical condition, such as diabetes, has origins which are due to systemic dysfunction. This influences the genetic expression of proteins and the rate at which such expressed proteins subsequently react. Increased levels of acidity influence the levels of available minerals, protein conformation, and hence the rate at which expressed proteins such as insulin and leptin react or function. This is particularly significant in diabetes etiology where a deficiency of insulin and insulin-“resistance” are significant features of type 1 and type 2 diabetes. Proteins such as Insulin absorb and emit light. Moreover, the spectrum and intensity of the bioluminescence emitted from glycated proteins (which are more significantly bioluminescent) influence colour perception. Accordingly, changes to the diabetic’s colour perception can be used as the basis of a cognitive screening technique which is able to quantify the influence of genotype and phenotype. This may have significant advantages over current biomarker techniques which are not able to satisfactorily determine the earliest onset of

diabetes or distinguish between the symptomatic and presymptomatic onset of diabetes. Such methodology, based upon the properties of proteins, *i.e.* effectively, the rate at which proteins are expressed and the rate at which such expressed proteins subsequently react, allows the clinician to quantify genotype and phenotype and may contribute to a greater understanding of the processes responsible for what are commonly known as type 1 and type 2 diabetes. The aim of this article is to highlight the limitations of the current techniques used to diagnose diabetes and to highlight, at least from the theoretical perspective, the significance of the autonomic nervous system and physiological systems; in particular, how changes to colour perception are related to the function and/or stability of the autonomic nervous system; and how such phenomena can be used diagnostically. This article discusses this method—a mathematical model of the autonomic nervous system and physiological systems—which has been incorporated into the prototype technology Virtual Scanning; and in conclusion, illustrates how Diabetes appears to be a problem of acidity and consequently of mineral deficiency. It outlines how genotype and phenotype are both significant factors in the regulation of Blood Glucose, *i.e.* type 1 diabetes is predominantly genetic and is associated with hypoglycaemia whilst type 2 diabetes is due to environmental or phenotypic cause and is associated with hyperglycaemia. Both can occur simultaneously and hence explain why someone with type 2 diabetes may be prescribed insulin, *i.e.* in order to quantify the extent of a pathology such as dia-

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betes mellitus and/or any other common pathology, it appears necessary to quantify the influence of genotype (genetic capacity) and phenotype (physiological demand). Accordingly the categorisation of diabetes as type 1 and type 2 may be misleading.

Keywords: Autonomic Nervous System (ANS); Physiological Systems; Mathematical Modelling; Blood Glucose; Diabetes; Genotype; Phenotype; Sensory Input; Visual Perception; Colour Perception

1. INTRODUCTION

There is nothing in the body's function which cannot be explained by anything other than biochemistry and/or the innate properties of biochemicals or biological systems [1].

1.1. The Concept of Neuroregulation

The human physiology exhibits the characteristics of a neurally regulated system of an extraordinary level of precise control, *i.e.* between homeostatic limits which we recognise as hyper- and hypo-function. Systems or functions which under normal conditions are regulated within clearly defined limits include: the levels of water, body temperature, blood pressure, the intake of food and elimination of wastes, respiration, osmotic pressure, acidity, blood glucose, blood volume, blood cell content, musculoskeletal system and sleep. This system of regulation involves the autonomic nervous system and the network of organs in each of the physiological systems. Most sensory and visceral organs and related muscle groups are influenced by the function of the autonomic nervous system *e.g.* stress and depression influence the visual field, visual contrast, colour perception, heart function, etc.

1.2. The Mechanisms Which Determine the Influence of Sensory Input upon Cellular & Molecular Biology

Sensory input, in particular visual perception, is linked to the stability or instability of the autonomic nervous system (ANS) [2]. It influences the ANS and is converted into electrochemical signals which, when exceeding the body's innate regulatory mechanism and which we recognise as "homeostasis", influences cellular and molecular biology. There is not yet an accepted mechanism which explains this link between sensory input and cellular & molecular biology although it is widely recognised that i) sensory input influences the autonomic nervous system and ii) autonomic dysfunction influences visceral and sensory function. Accordingly, any explanation for changes to cellular and molecular boil-

ogy must take into account the mechanisms and structures which regulate the function of the cells and associated organs. Moreover, as the visceral organs are organised in discreet organ networks (physiological systems) which perform a physiologically significant function, it becomes evident that the ANS and physiological systems must work in a coherent manner regulating key physiological functions *e.g.* blood pressure [3], blood glucose [4], pH [5], sleep [6], posture, temperature, digestion, urination, etc. The original definition of physiological systems has been quietly refined by medical researchers, *i.e.* there are 13 neurally regulated physiological systems which are responsible for all aspects of the body's function [6].

1.3. The Limitations of Biomarkers

As blood glucose is a neurally regulated system [4], which acts in synchrony with the other neurally regulated physiological systems, single biomarkers cannot therefore be a precise measure of the diabetic state and will be accompanied by a range of inherent limitations *e.g.* cardiovascular disease(s), chronic kidney disease, etc. The results will be influenced by adjacent systems and systemic dysfunction, *i.e.* emergent pathologies in different organs [7]. For example, PoC blood glucose tests have a 20% deviation limit as per ISO15197. Known adverse influences include varying haematocrit levels, oxygen, pH, RBC level, non-glucose sugars, photometric interferences, etc. In addition, any diagnostic indicator must take into account the influence of both genetic and environmental factors.

This illustrates that biomarker type tests suffer from a range of inherent limitations which prevent them being *precise* measures of any medical condition *e.g.* i) there is difficulty distinguishing between a healthy patient and someone with earliest onset of the condition; ii) many pathologies have complex multi-systemic origins; iii) the processes responsible for the onset of disease, in particular of the life-style related pathologies, often remain poorly defined; iv) there may be several pathologies which are implicated in a particular medical condition; v) the condition may have sensory/stress-related origins; etc.

2. DIAGNOSING DIABETES

Diabetes is a condition which has defied the ability of many researchers to develop a *precise* method of determining the earliest onset of the condition, tracking its subsequent development, and ultimately its manifestation as obesity and/or other secondary complications.

Genetic screening defines the genes which influence the expression of diabetic proteins, in particular of pre-pro-insulin/pro-insulin the precursors of insulin, yet this

overlooks that changes to the genetic structures are the inevitable consequence of environmental factors (phenotype) e.g. lack of exercise, poor diet, the consumption of acidified and/or alcoholic beverages, lack of sleep, etc [8]. The genetic profile which influences protein expression in the type 1 diabetic, in particular the levels of insulin, alters according to racial subtype [9,10], the onset of viruses [11,12], vaccine schedules [13-17], and the influence of stress [18]. Moreover, exercise can reverse genetic changes [19] in the type 2 diabetic. Accordingly, it lacks scientific rigor to focus solely upon genotype and disregard the very significant influence of phenotype. The issue is not which genes are involved in regulating blood glucose (and/or any other condition), because these can differ according to circumstances, but instead what are the mechanisms which influence i) changes to genetic structure and/or conformation; ii) the levels of proteins, in particular insulin, which are expressed by the genes; and iii) how these expressed proteins subsequently react in the cellular environment e.g. insulin in its uncoiled and unreactive form is no longer able to perform its biochemical/cellular function.

The accepted explanation for type 1 diabetes is that the body's immune system attacks the pancreatic beta cells and hence influence the genetic expression of the insulin precursor and ultimately the level of insulin; however the fact that viruses [11,12], vaccines [13-17] and racial differences [9,10] are associated with the onset of type 1 diabetes indicates that the problem is associated with the genetic profile. Changes to the genetic structure will steadily decrease (or increase) the expression of the insulin precursor. The presence of a virus or virus-like particles, and the altered spectrum of metabolites, will inevitably stimulate an autoimmune response.

The accepted explanation for type 2 diabetes is that it is a metabolic disorder which is characterised by high levels of blood glucose which cannot be satisfactorily metabolised by insulin *i.e.* that insulin is 'resistant' and hence can no longer perform its cellular function of facilitating the passage of glucose into the cell where it can react with hexokinase. The only logical explanation for this 'resistance' is that the insulin can no longer react with its substrate. If so, what are the biological factors which may be responsible for such dysfunction?

2.1. Fasting Glucose and Oral Glucose Tolerance

The current tests for diabetes: mainly Fasting Glucose (FG), Oral Glucose Tolerance (OGTT), and HbA1c; allow the clinician to assess the prevalence of the condition however such tests lack precision and specificity. Although such tests are used widely and are the recognised ways of determining the onset of diabetes they do not consider the need to characterise a disease in terms of its

basic constituents *i.e.* of insulin expressed (genotype) and the rate at which the insulin reacts and/or performs its cellular function (non-genetic/phenotype). They do not enable the clinician to determine the onset of the disease from its presymptomatic origins or to satisfactorily distinguish between the diabetic and non-diabetic states. The number of people with diabetes continues to rise therefore the basic understanding of the condition, the ways to reduce the number of people with diabetes and better diagnose and manage the condition, need to be improved.

2.2. Glycated Haemoglobin

The earlier diabetic tests which determine glucose metabolism have been largely superseded by the HbA1c test. It illustrates an essential principle *i.e.* the need to measure protein levels, in this case haemoglobin, in addition to the prevailing level of glycation. This illustrates that measurement of both the level of key proteins (genotype) and their rate of reaction (phenotype) is significant. Such test is based upon the assumption that haemoglobin is an appropriate protein and that glycated haemoglobin can be used as an accurate measure of the degree of onset of the diabetic process yet haemoglobin plays little or no part in diabetes etiology! It is an indirect marker. Although insulin and/or glycated insulin would appear to be a more appropriate marker there is no record of it having been evaluated.

The HbA1c test suffers from a number of inherent limitations e.g.

- i) it is not adequately able to determine the onset of diabetes at an early stage *i.e.* distinguishing between a healthy patient and a diabetic;
- ii) it is insufficiently sensitive. The test confirms the symptomatic onset of the condition and is unable to monitor the development of the condition from its earliest presymptomatic onset.
- iii) a number of known interferences e.g. associated with iron metabolism, pH, Red Blood Cell Count, etc;
- iv) the measurement of upper levels of HbA1c may have inaccuracies *i.e.* the rate of degradation of HbA1c will vary according to circumstances. It cannot continue to rise indefinitely;
- v) test results may vary between clinicians and organisations;
- vi) the limits can be expected to differ between racial subtypes, age, and gender;
- vii) diabetes has genetic and phenotypic characteristics [51].

2.3. The Significance of Changes to Colour Perception

The measurement of glycated proteins is intriguing because glycated proteins e.g. albumin, LDL cholesterol,

insulin and haemoglobin; are visually active *i.e.* they absorb and emit light (see **Figure 1**).

This phenomenon has been commercially adapted. Techniques to measure the bioluminescence of body fluids e.g. of the skin, blood or eye; have been patented and/or developed as a means of diagnosing diabetes. The spectrum and intensity of this bioluminescence serves as a biomarker of protein expression and the rate at which proteins subsequently react [20]. It is a phenomena which is consistent with reaction kinetics.

Altered perception of colour is a widely recognised phenomena and is associated with the emergence of most pathologies and is also a noted side-effect of medication *i.e.* all changes to the body's physiology, all emergent pathologies, and all drugs are linked to changes of colour perception. It is not unique to diabetes. This phenomena is widely studied and used in syntonometric optometry, optometry (orthoscopies), diabetic retinopathy, and other specialist areas of medical research. There have been patented techniques which have sought, unsuccessfully, to use this basic phenomena in medical devices to diagnose the onset or regression of diabetes. Until recently this altered colour perception [21] in the diabetic patient was considered to be due to diabetic retinopathy although there is not a substantiated scientific justification for this conclusion. More recent articles have illustrated that such changes to colour perception in the diabetic occur prior to the onset of diabetic retinopathy [22-25] however changes to colour perception must have a biochemical basis. There can be no other explanation. If such changes occur before the onset of diabetic retinopathy it is probable that it occurs from the earliest onset of the diabetic condition.

Many, if not all, proteins are known to be visually active. Often protein analogues and metabolites e.g. the glycated forms of insulin, haemoglobin, albumin, LDL Cholesterol, etc; will have greater bioluminescence than the base protein. Accordingly any influences upon protein function e.g. by drugs, medication, impaired function or disease; will influence protein function and, ultimately, their bioluminescence and the diabetic's colour perception. Any and every biochemical change or pathology which influences the genetic expression of opsins [26] or their biochemical function must directly or indirectly influence colour perception to some extent *i.e.* there must be secondary influences upon visual perception which have pathological origins. Such changes to colour perception can serve as a biomarker for the condition.

Note 1: Light influences the function of a wide range

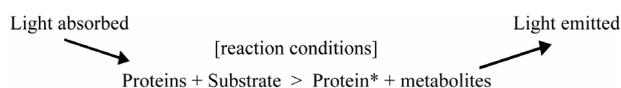


Figure 1. Light absorbing and emitting properties of proteins.

of biochemicals and biological systems [20] e.g. it stimulates the release of nitric oxide (NO) [27-31] which is essential for smooth muscle function in the endothelium. Significantly, impaired NO metabolism is implicated in atherosclerosis, hypertension and diabetes.

Note 2: Light influences the production of the hormone calciprotiol which is essential for immune function and hence is vital to prevent the passage of viruses into the body.

A technique which is based upon the emission of light has to overcome problems of interference which arise from the light being absorbed and emitted by other proteins. The eye uses lutein and zeaxanthin to absorb UV light therefore there is a precedent. Nevertheless such a technique faces problems of standardisation. This illustrates the problems faced by researchers as they seek to develop a test which measures colour perception. This problem has been overcome by using mathematical modelling and a form of pattern recognition [2] which incorporates an understanding of how the function of the ANS includes that of the various organ networks/physiological systems. See examples 1 - 3.

Note 3: In the example reports, 0 - 9 units is at the pre-symptomatic level whilst 10 units and above is at the symptomatic level.

3. DIABETES IS A MULTI-SYSTEMIC DISORDER

The brain seeks to maintain the neural stability of the physiological systems. It adopts a best-fit system which, when faced with emergent pathologies or altered genetic structure, seeks to optimise the body's stability. Every aspect of the body's adaptivity, regulation and function leads to physiological changes *i.e.* increased predisposition to the condition. Accordingly instability in any single physiological system will inevitably lead to instability in one or more adjacent physiological systems e.g. lack of sleep (system: sleep); excess salt (system: osmotic pressure); inadequate levels of respiration (system: breathing); excessive acidity and excessive/instability in elimination, in particular of urine (system: pH); blood pressure; each contribute to the onset of diabetes [1, 3-5,32].

The Significance of Acidity

The regulation of acid/base stability *i.e.* of pH, and its significance in chemical reactions is the most basic aspect of chemistry yet this is often completely disregarded in biochemical research. The neural regulation pH influences the function of most, if not all, proteins and enzymes. It is a significant factor in diabetes etiology [32] e.g. increased acidity alters the prevailing redox state and level of minerals. The acid salts of calcium, magnesium

and other minerals have low solubility. Such changes to acidity are the inevitable consequence of lack of exercise (the elimination of CO₂ which exists in the body as carbonic **acid**), a protein rich diet, low consumption of vegetables, increased levels of lipids and fatty **acids**, and the consumption of acidic and alcoholic beverages. For example i) the consumption of two 500mls cans of a Cola drink (pH 3.5 - 4.0), which contains phosphoric acid, carries an estimated 1000 - 3000 times more acidity than the body is designed to handle each day, and ii) a few beers (est pH 4.5) each evening carries an estimated 500 - 1000 times more acidity than the body routinely handles each day. Moreover ethyl alcohol is metabolised into acetic acid which effectively doubles the exposure to acidity!

Under acid conditions minerals react to form insoluble salts which are eliminated from the body. Consequently, the prevailing levels of Magnesium, Calcium, Zinc and Chromium are no longer sufficient to sustain the function and reactivity of insulin – this is known as insulin resistance *i.e.* insulin is present but is no longer available in a reactive form and/or in an environment which can sustain its function. This is supported by the following:

- Magnesium is required by chaperonin enzymes, including telomerase, in order to prevent the misfolding or uncoiling of proteins and prevent their aggregation.
- Magnesium is required to support the function of transcriptome enzymes and hence the genetic expression of the insulin precursor.
- Chromium is necessary to sustain the function of the GLUT4 transporter protein in muscle walls.
- Magnesium, chromium, and zinc deficits are associated with diabetes [32], cardiovascular disease, etc.
- Increased acidity reduces the availability of calcium which is essential for the metabolism of nitric oxide synthase. Moreover impaired nitric oxide synthase activity is associated with insulin resistance [33].
- Cola consumption, and hence of phosphoric acid, is linked to the occurrence of osteoporosis [34] and the leaching of magnesium from the bones.
- In the obese and therefore associated with the diabetic [35], leptin resistance is due to biochemical factors which influence the ability of leptin to react or otherwise perform its physiological function *i.e.* to communicate feelings of satiation following a meal and hence reduce appetite [36].
- The conversion of glucose to triglycerides is enhanced by acidic conditions, in particular by higher levels of acidity, and is linked to leptin resistance. This can be the result of lack of physical activity, a protein-rich diet, stress or intake of acidic and alcoholic drinks [32] e.g. higher levels of acidity trigger the activity of isoenzymes which metabolise alcohol into acetaldehyde and acetic acid, alters lipid metabo-

lism and contributes to obesity [37].

- The consumption of Fructose [38] is also associated with higher levels of triglycerides, leptin resistance and contributes to the increased acidity, devitaminisation and demineralisation which is associated with consumption of sugars and acidified drinks *i.e.* failure to satisfy cellular requirements for glucose.
- Zinc atoms may initiate glucagon secretion during hypoglycemia [39], *i.e.* there is an interactive mechanism involving the alpha and beta cells in the pancreas which facilitates the release glucagon and insulin resp.
- The leaching of magnesium from the bones reduces the degree to which the tendons, and ligaments adhere to the bone and influences the physiology of the joints.

The precipitation of the zinc hexamer is pH dependent. Whereas at neutral pH insulin is complexed in a zinc hexamer [40], stored in readiness to metabolise excess blood glucose (typically following a meal), and released as a coiled and reactive protein every 6 minute cycle [41]; by contrast, in the acidic environment, insulin is less coiled and less reactive, there is less zinc and magnesium e.g. to support the function of the chaperonin enzymes; there are lower levels of vitamins and/or cofactors. The conditions do not favour the precipitation of the zinc hexamer; pancreatic reserves of the zinc hexamer decline, and the 6 minute cyclic controlled release of insulin is destabilised and is often extended to 15 minutes or more *i.e.* the cellular environment does not support the function of insulin. In such acidic environment insulin (a highly bioactive protein with a half life of 4 - 6 minutes) circulates readily in both its coiled and uncoiled states, facilitates the metabolism of blood glucose to triglycerides, and leads to lower levels of blood glucose and persistent hunger. The normal cyclic regulation of levels of blood glucose is destabilised, the frequency and amplitude of insulin secretion is reduced [42] and the level of insulin, which is genetically expressed, is reduced [43]. Consequently, at higher levels of acidity the body becomes increasingly less able to cope with high levels of blood glucose. It influences both genotype and phenotype. This is particularly evident in the elderly [41] who exhibit a natural form of diabetes as a consequence of the aging process *i.e.* when they are no longer able to generate sufficient insulin and/or do not have the musculature to adequately metabolise blood glucose.

Increased acidity lowers the levels of minerals which are essential if adequate levels of immune function are to be maintained and hence resist the ingress of viruses [44,45].

The consumption of alcoholic and acidic beverages is associated with the formation of free radicals which ultimately damage the cellular structure of the pancreas,

often observed as Pancreatitis [46], influences intercellular communication between alpha and beta cells, and ultimately results in the formation of visually active glycosylated species [47] derived from proteins, glucose, nucleic acids, and lipids.

These processes contribute to eye disease [48], circulatory problems, pulmonary fibrosis, neurodegenerative processes, premature ageing, urinary incontinence, fatty liver disease, osteoporosis, postural problems, etc. In addition, the lack of essential minerals (which are the consequence of increased acidity) and increased blood viscosity suppresses the function of the heart and its ability to deliver oxygenated blood to the neural tissues and ultimately leads to the onset of migraines and cardiovascular problems e.g. cardiac arrhythmia, cardiac insufficiency, hypertension, etc.

Stress influences the stability of the ANS, in particular the sympathetic nervous system which is associated with the release of adrenaline, norepinephrine and glucocorticoids. Excessive release of glucocorticoids suppresses the genetic expression of pro-insulin [18]. The influence of stress can destabilise the function of the digestive system leading to the release of acidity into the oesophagus and duodenum whilst relief from stress reduces gastric reflux [49,50]. Stress inhibits normal respiration and raises the levels of CO₂ and acidity in the blood [51].

4. GENOTYPE AND PHENOTYPE

There are two main issues of significance in the etiology of any disease: i) the expression of proteins (in particular of pro-insulin in the case of diabetes) and ii) the influence of the environment *i.e.* the rate at which expressed proteins subsequently react or perform their physiological function. These are more typically known as genotype and phenotype [52]. Acidity and temperature are known factors which, indirectly, influence the degree of protein coiling. In particular, increased levels of acidity decreases the prevailing levels of zinc, calcium, magnesium, selenium, chromium, etc. This influences protein and enzyme conformation and hence the rate at which expressed proteins react or otherwise function. This is especially significant when considering the categorisation and nomenclature of diabetes mellitus. Type 1 diabetes is associated with the lack of insulin whilst type 2 diabetes is associated with the inability of insulin to perform its function *i.e.* insulin-resistance. Moreover it highlights the difficulty of diagnosing diabetes e.g. (i) a patient with lowered levels of insulin and also of insulin resistance will have manifestations which are typical of type 1 **and** type 2 diabetes *i.e.* the type 2 diabetic may require insulin; (ii) an elderly person with naturally declining levels of insulin could be diagnosed as diabetic yet their dietary requirements and metabolic rate are such that they do not require an insulin supplement *i.e.* context

is significant; iii) a person drinking large quantities of acidic colas or alcoholic beverages (which are metabolised into acetic acid) often increases weight prior to developing type 2 diabetes; iv) in many the condition can often be managed by having smaller meals and lowering the levels of carbohydrate consumed; v) patients often require significantly different dosage regimes; vi) an athlete would consume far greater amounts of carbohydrates and would require greater amounts of insulin, perhaps at a level which is beyond the capacity of their pancreas; vii) a drug addict may have wildly fluctuating blood glucose levels. Their lifestyles will determine to what extent they require insulin *i.e.* they experience the symptoms of diabetes (or any other pathology) if their functional requirement at any particular moment exceeds their genetic and structural supply e.g. i) when physical effort exceeds the functional abilities of the pectoral muscles in angina pectoris and of what we now know to be the myocardium, and ii) when the glucose demand cannot be matched by the availability of insulin (T1) or the supply and/or reactivity of the available insulin (T2). This lack of insulin or its unreactivity in the form of 'insulin resistance' leads to vascular damage [53] and hence to the onset of diabetic complications. It explains the alternative terms "insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus (IDDM)" and "non-insulin dependent diabetes mellitus (NIDDM)".

Note 4: If insulin has a half-life of 4 - 6 minutes and 50% of insulin is removed from plasma in its first passage through the liver then 99% of this insulin supplement would be unavailable within one hour however a significant proportion of this insulin supplement re-enters circulation e.g. from the liver, kidneys and musculature; and may remain available for up to one additional hour [54-57]. Nevertheless if a patient with type 1 diabetes requires an injection of insulin typically around each mealtime this indicates that their ability to produce insulin in the pancreas is merely deficient and is not due to the complete failure of the pancreatic beta cells. If their condition was such that their pancreatic beta cells were no longer able to produce insulin in any amount they would require insulin supplements irrespective of the prevailing circumstances and far earlier than the 4 - 6 hours gap between meals.

5. RESULTS

- Example 1 illustrates the full scope of Virtual Scanning and, in particular, the ability to screen for the onset of pathologies in each organ. In relation to diabetes it illustrates the example of a patient with 12 units genotype and 10 units phenotype *i.e.* the patient has the symptomatic manifestations of both type 1 and type 2 diabetes. The results are above the 9 units limit which differentiates between presymptomatic

and symptomatic. It also illustrates the emergence of circulatory problems *i.e.* of Phlebitis and Thrombophlebitis (11 genotype/22 phenotype) at a significant level.

- The abbreviated Example 2 illustrates the type 2 diabetic (22 units) and the presymptomatic onset of type 1 diabetes (6 units). The results illustrates that the patient is genetically susceptible to Ischemic Heart Disease, Cardiac Infarction, Myocardial Dystrophy & Myocarditis.
- The abbreviated Example 3 illustrates the type 2 diabetic (17 units).

6. CONCLUSIONS

The neural regulation of Blood Glucose is influenced by a number of factors which influence i) the amount of protein which is genetically expressed, and ii) the rate at which the expressed protein insulin, reacts and/or performs its cellular & biochemical function. These are more typically known as genotype and phenotype. Phenotype was previously known as “the influence of the environment”. However, it is suggested that such “environmental influences” or non-genetic “lifestyle factors” are those which influence the function of the autonomic nervous system, physiological systems, and which ultimately influence cellular and molecular biology *e.g.* pH, temperature, etc.

This article supports earlier articles of the author which highlight the need to take into consideration the very considerable effect, acidity, in particular, has upon the etiology of diabetes. Diabetes Mellitus, irrespective of its type, is fundamentally a problem of acidity. Higher than normal levels of acidity reduce the levels of minerals which are essential for the metabolism of enzymes which regulate blood glucose and sustain the normal function of key signalling protein insulin and leptin. It conceivably explains what is “insulin resistance” and “leptin resistance”, and hence why appetite and satiety are disrupted in the diabetic. Diabetes is a problem of genotype AND phenotype, *i.e.* lower levels of protein expression (insulin), and lack of protein reactivity and/or ability of the protein to carry out its biochemical function to facilitate the passage of glucose through the cell membrane. It explains why a patient with type 2 diabetes may often require insulin supplementation.

This is partially recognised through the adoption of the HbA1c test which arguably measures the level of protein and also its rate of glycation. This principle has been further developed by a light-based technique as outlined, *i.e.* which is based upon the light emitting properties of proteins [20] and which is able to provide a broad-spectrum assessment of the pathologies influencing the condition and function of all visceral and sensory organs. Such a light-based technique may represent a better way

of i) screening for the earliest onset of the condition *i.e.* from its presymptomatic origins; ii) determining the genetic AND phenotypic character of the patient’s diabetes; and iii) identifying the onset of various secondary diabetic complications.

7. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

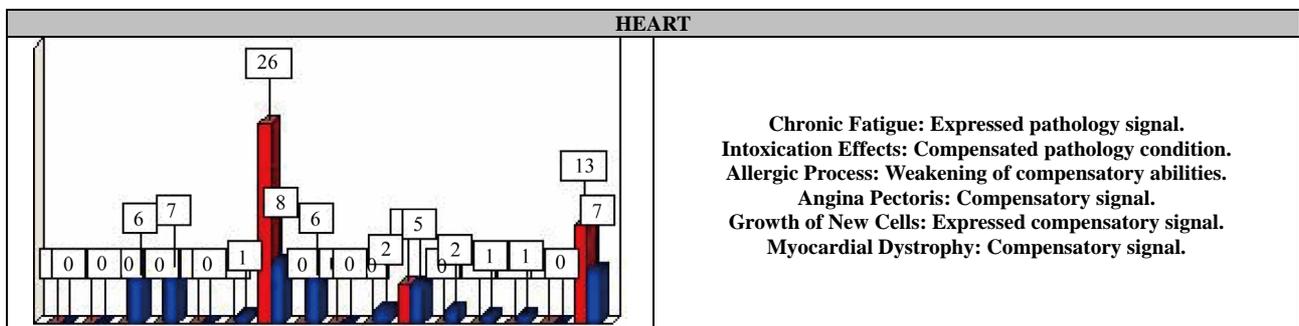
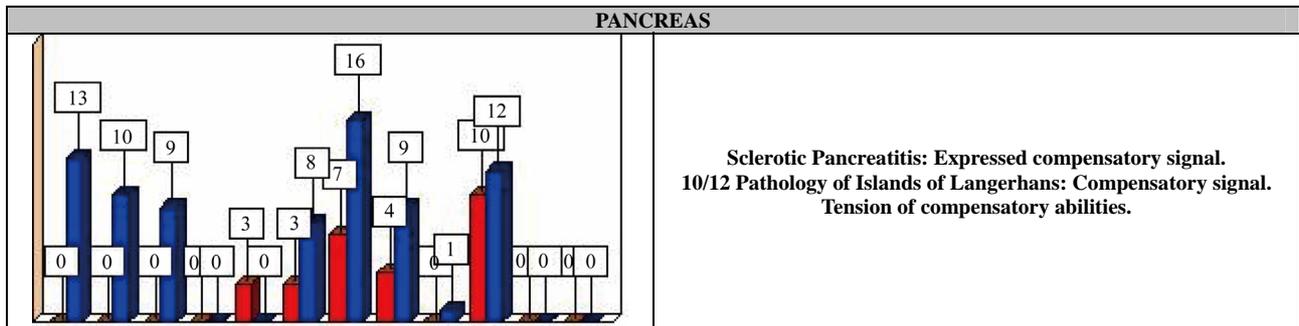
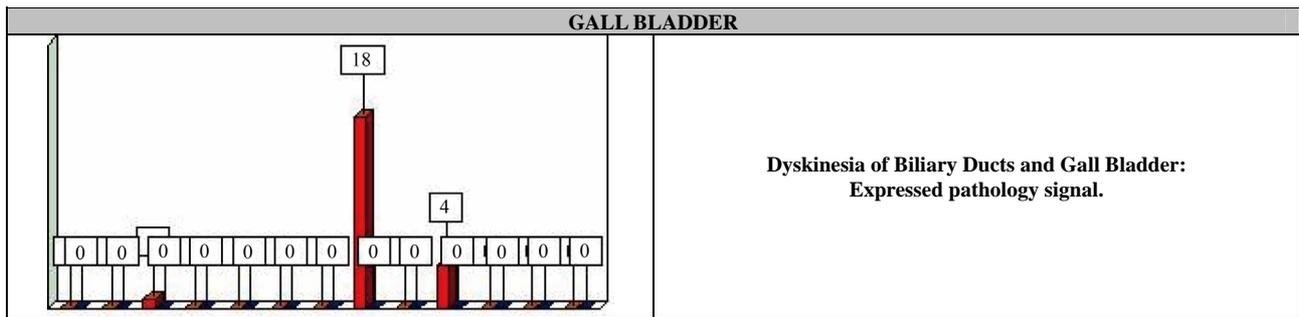
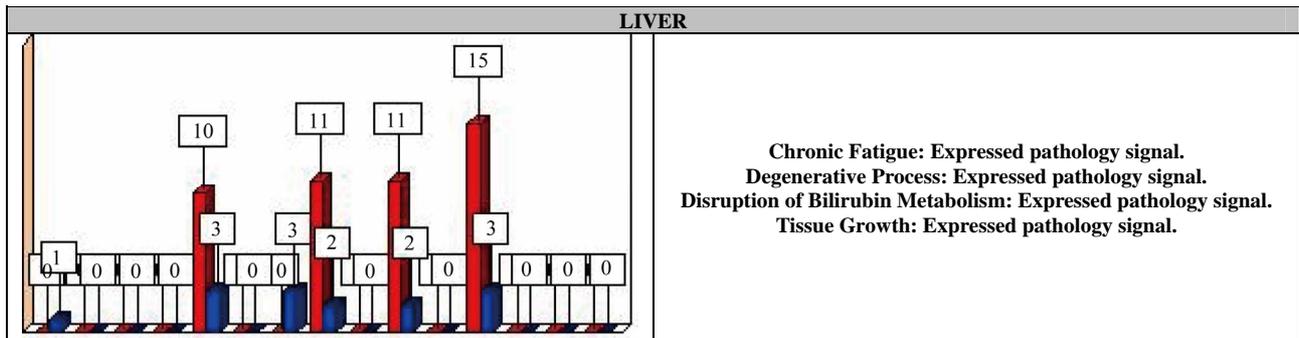
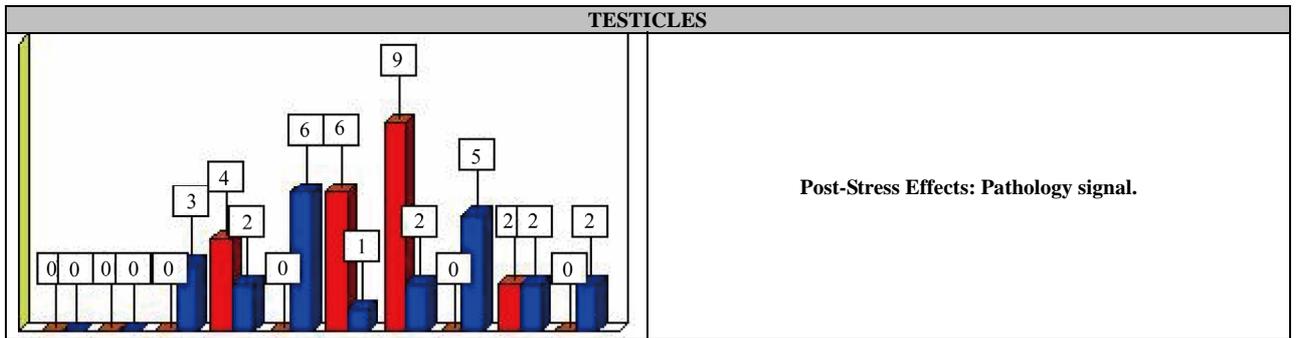
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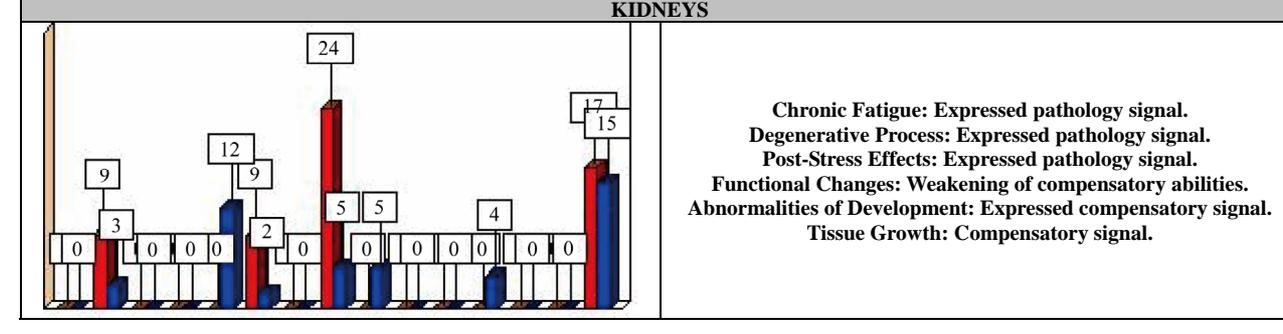
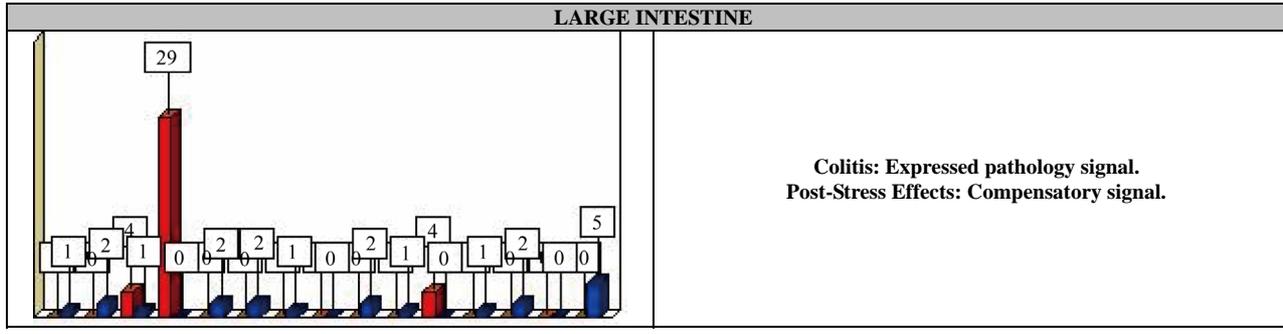
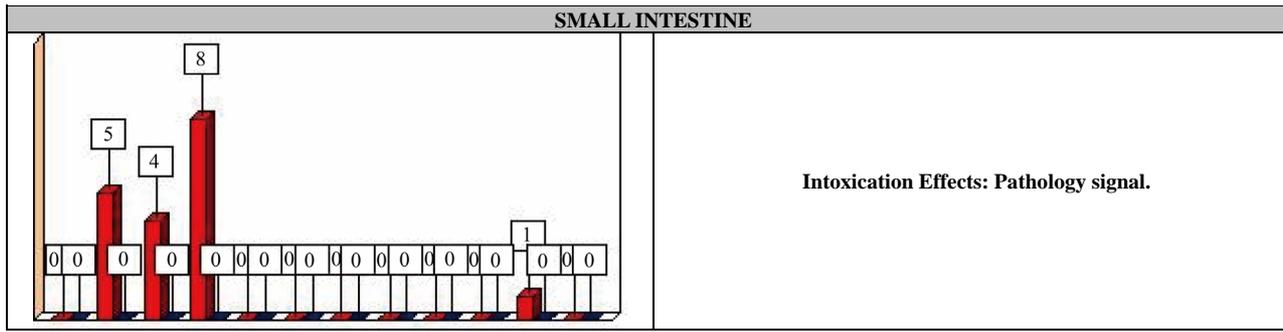
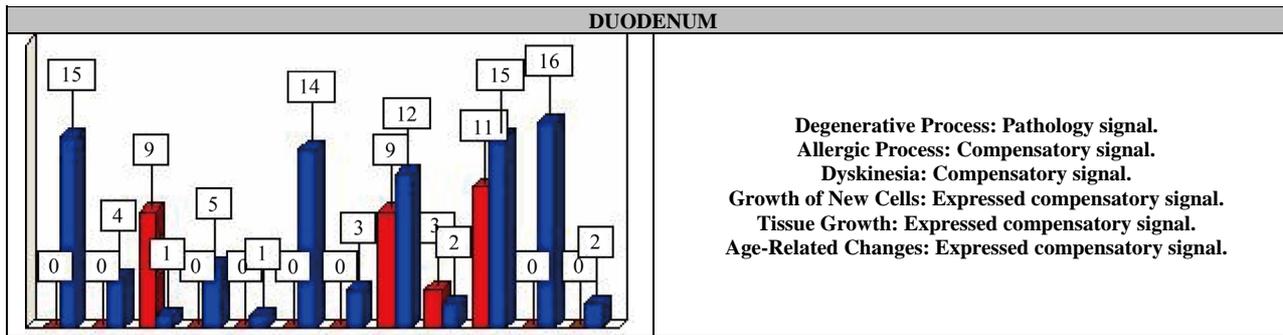
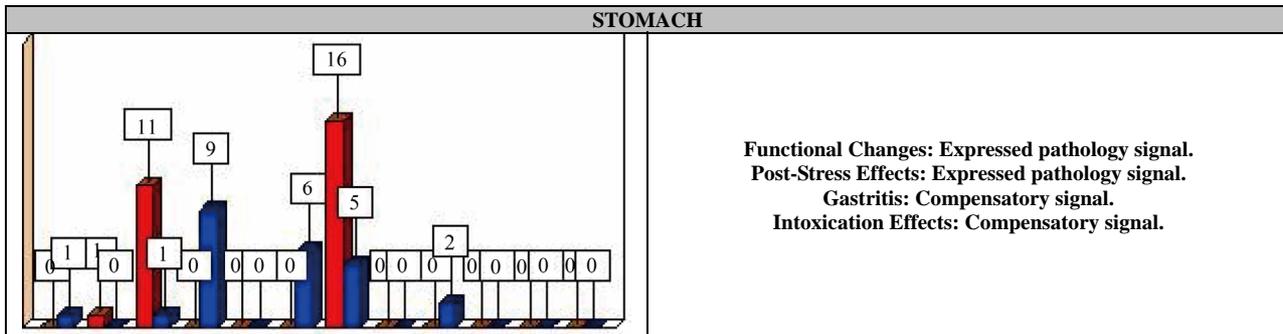
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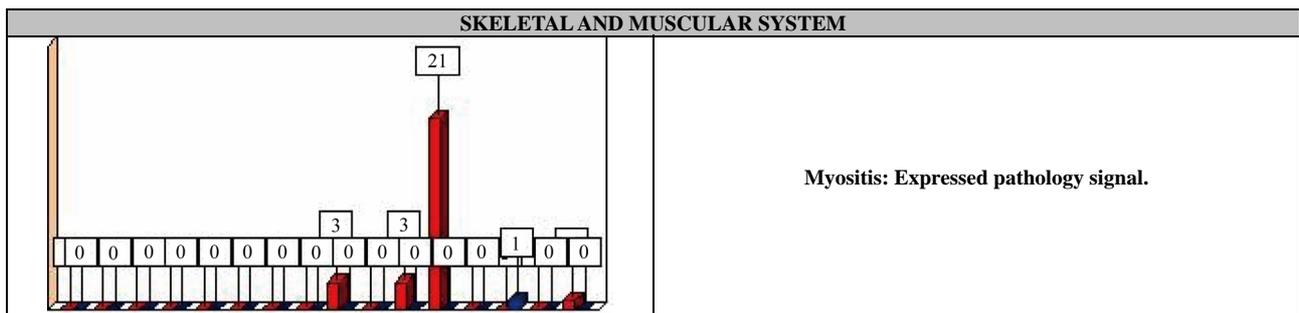
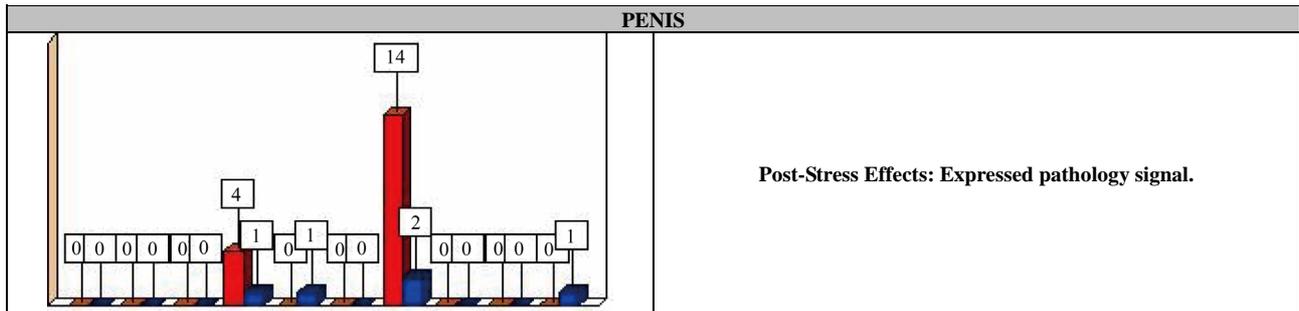
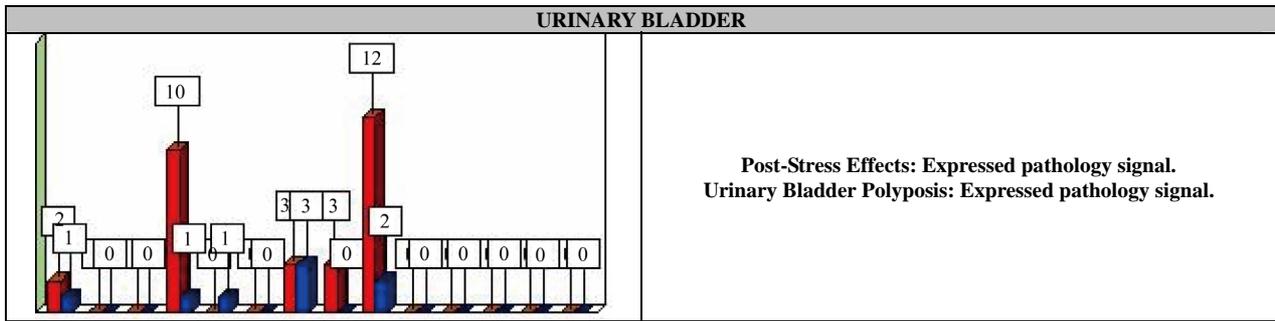
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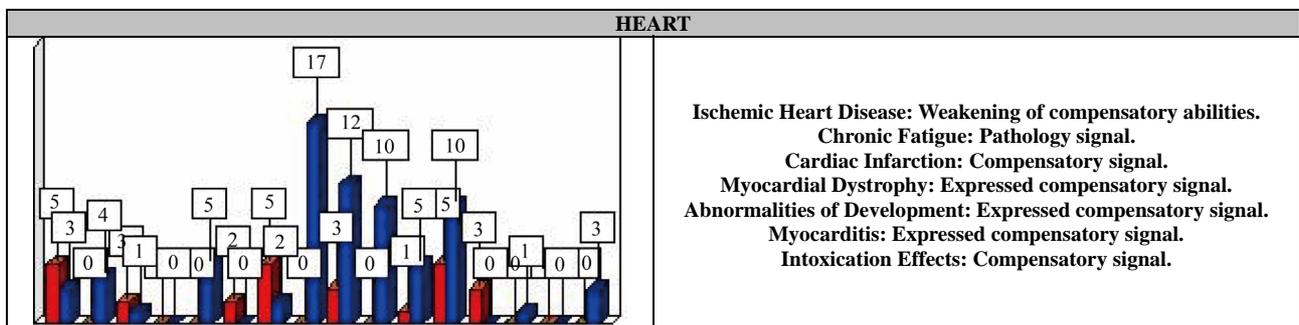
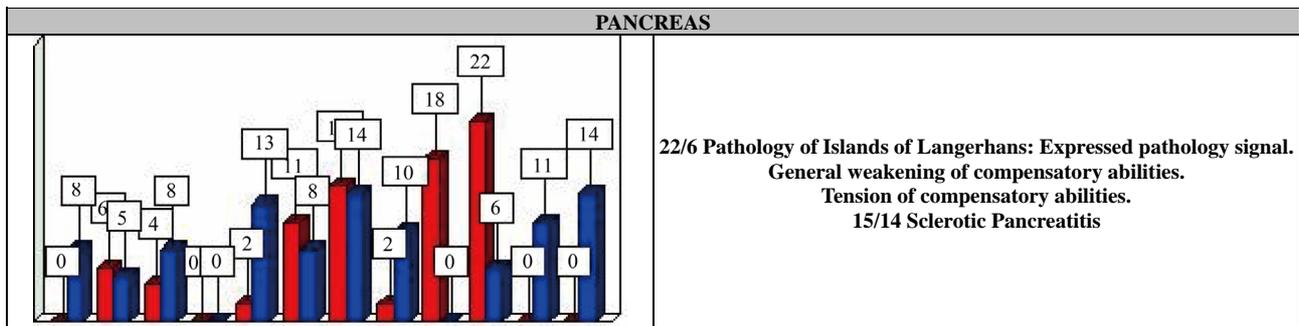
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Example 2. Type 2 diabetes (22) with indications of emergent type 1 diabetes (6).



Example 3. Type 2 diabetes (17).

