MORPHOFUNCTIONAL CHANGES IN THE KIDNEYS UNDER HYPOPARATHYROID CONDITIONS: A COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW

Ahmedova Sayora Mukhammadievna *– Professor, Department of Human Anatomy and OKhTA, Tashkent State Medical University, Tashkent, Uzbekistan*

Avezova Gulshod Sattarovna *– Master's student, Tashkent State Medical University, Tashkent, Uzbekistan*

Abstract. *Hypoparathyroidism (HPT) is an endocrine disorder characterized by insufficient secretion of parathyroid hormone, leading to disturbances in calcium–phosphate metabolism and significant systemic consequences. Among target organs, the kidneys play a central role in maintaining mineral homeostasis and are particularly vulnerable to hormonal imbalance.*

This review aims to analyze current scientific evidence regarding morphofunctional changes in the kidneys under hypoparathyroid conditions. A comprehensive analysis of approximately 20 relevant international publications was conducted, focusing on renal physiology, calcium–phosphate metabolism, and histopathological alterations.

The findings indicate that parathyroid hormone deficiency leads to impaired calcium reabsorption, hypercalciuria, phosphate retention, and progressive renal dysfunction. Morphological studies reveal structural alterations such as tubular atrophy, interstitial fibrosis, and glomerular changes. In addition, long-term hypoparathyroidism is associated with complications including nephrocalcinosis, nephrolithiasis, and reduced glomerular filtration rate.

The integration of clinical and experimental data highlights the multifactorial nature of renal damage in hypoparathyroidism, involving metabolic, hemodynamic, and structural mechanisms.

In conclusion, hypoparathyroidism significantly affects renal morphofunctional status and represents an important risk factor for chronic kidney

disease. Further research is required to improve early diagnosis and develop targeted therapeutic strategies.

Keywords. *Hypoparathyroidism, kidney, renal function, morphology, calcium-phosphate metabolism, nephrocalcinosis, glomerular filtration, tubular reabsorption*

Relevance Of The Study. Hypoparathyroidism (HPT) is a relatively rare yet clinically important endocrine disorder characterized by insufficient secretion or action of parathyroid hormone (PTH), resulting in persistent hypocalcemia and hyperphosphatemia. Although advances in endocrine diagnostics and management have improved patient outcomes, the long-term systemic consequences of HPT, particularly its impact on renal structure and function, remain inadequately elucidated.

The kidneys represent one of the principal target organs of PTH, playing a pivotal role in calcium–phosphate homeostasis through the regulation of glomerular filtration, tubular reabsorption, and electrolyte transport. In physiological conditions, PTH enhances calcium reabsorption in the distal nephron while simultaneously inhibiting phosphate reabsorption in the proximal tubules. However, in hypoparathyroid states, disruption of this finely regulated mechanism leads to hypercalciuria, phosphate retention, and subsequent mineral imbalance, which may contribute to progressive renal dysfunction.

A growing body of evidence indicates that patients with chronic hypoparathyroidism are at increased risk of developing renal complications, including nephrocalcinosis, nephrolithiasis, reduced glomerular filtration rate (GFR), and chronic kidney disease. These pathological processes are driven not only by metabolic disturbances but also by alterations in renal hemodynamics, microcirculation, and tubular integrity. Moreover, sustained hypocalcemia and hyperphosphatemia have been associated with structural remodeling of renal tissues, including tubular atrophy, interstitial fibrosis, and glomerular changes.

Despite these findings, current literature is largely focused on clinical and biochemical aspects of hypoparathyroidism, while detailed investigations of

morphofunctional changes in renal tissues—especially in experimental models—remain limited. In particular, the mechanisms underlying renal adaptation and injury during different stages of hypoparathyroidism, including early developmental periods, have not been sufficiently characterized [2,4,6,7,8,9].

In addition, the increasing incidence of postoperative hypoparathyroidism following thyroid and parathyroid surgery further amplifies the clinical relevance of this problem. Given the potential for long-term renal complications and the lack of comprehensive morphophysiological studies, there is a clear need for systematic research integrating functional, morphological, and experimental approaches.

Therefore, the investigation of renal morphofunctional alterations under hypoparathyroid conditions represents a highly relevant and scientifically significant issue in contemporary biomedical research, with important implications for both pathophysiological understanding and clinical practice.

Aim of the study. The aim of the present study is to conduct a comprehensive and systematic analysis of current scientific evidence regarding morphofunctional alterations in the kidneys under hypoparathyroid conditions, with particular emphasis on the underlying physiological, biochemical, and structural mechanisms.

Specifically, this study seeks to evaluate the impact of parathyroid hormone deficiency on renal function, including glomerular filtration, tubular reabsorption, and electrolyte homeostasis, as well as to identify key morphological changes occurring in renal tissues. In addition, the study aims to integrate findings from experimental and clinical research in order to elucidate the complex interactions between calcium–phosphate metabolism and renal adaptation processes.

Furthermore, special attention is given to the analysis of experimental models of hypoparathyroidism, which allow for a deeper understanding of the pathogenesis and progression of renal alterations at both early and advanced stages of the condition. The study also aims to highlight existing gaps in the literature and to identify перспективные направления for future research in this field.

Ultimately, the findings of this review are intended to contribute to a more comprehensive understanding of the role of hypoparathyroidism in renal dysfunction and to support the development of improved diagnostic and therapeutic approaches.

Materials and methods. This study was designed as a structured narrative review aimed at synthesizing current scientific evidence on morphofunctional alterations in the kidneys under hypoparathyroid conditions. The methodology involved a systematic search, selection, and critical analysis of relevant literature published in peer-reviewed journals.

A comprehensive literature search was conducted using major international scientific databases, including PubMed, Scopus, Web of Science, and Google Scholar. The search strategy incorporated combinations of the following keywords and Medical Subject Headings (MeSH): *"hypoparathyroidism," "parathyroid hormone deficiency," "renal function," "kidney morphology," "calcium-phosphate metabolism," "glomerular filtration,"* and *"tubular transport."*

Studies published within the last 10–15 years were prioritized to ensure the inclusion of the most recent and relevant findings. However, seminal earlier works of high scientific value were also included where appropriate. Inclusion criteria comprised original research articles, clinical studies, experimental animal studies, and systematic reviews that directly addressed renal structural and functional changes associated with hypoparathyroidism. Exclusion criteria included studies lacking sufficient methodological clarity, non-peer-reviewed sources, and publications not directly relevant to the topic.

A total of approximately 20 high-quality sources were selected for detailed analysis. The selected studies were evaluated using a comparative and analytical approach, focusing on key parameters such as glomerular filtration rate, tubular reabsorption, electrolyte balance, and histopathological changes in renal tissues. Special emphasis was placed on experimental models that provided insights into the mechanisms of renal adaptation and injury.

Data extracted from the selected studies were systematically organized, compared, and synthesized to identify consistent patterns, discrepancies, and

knowledge gaps in the current literature. This approach allowed for a comprehensive understanding of the multifactorial impact of hypoparathyroidism on renal morphofunctional status.

Results and discussion. The analysis of contemporary scientific literature demonstrates that hypoparathyroidism exerts a complex and multifactorial impact on renal structure and function, mediated by disturbances in calcium–phosphate metabolism, hormonal imbalance, and alterations in renal hemodynamics.

According to John P. Bilezikian et al. (2011), parathyroid hormone deficiency significantly disrupts calcium reabsorption in the distal renal tubules, leading to increased urinary calcium excretion (hypercalciuria), which is considered a key factor in the development of nephrocalcinosis [2]. These findings are supported by Dolores M. Shoback (2008), who emphasized that chronic hypocalcemia and phosphate retention contribute to progressive renal impairment and long-term structural damage [17].

Further investigations by Maria Luisa Brandi et al. (2016) have demonstrated that hypoparathyroidism is associated with significant alterations in renal hemodynamics, including reduced glomerular filtration rate (GFR) and impaired renal blood flow. These functional disturbances are often accompanied by morphological changes, as reported by Erik Evenepoel et al. (2015), who identified tubular atrophy and interstitial fibrosis as key histopathological features in experimental models.

Experimental studies provide additional insight into the mechanisms underlying renal damage. Michael G. Tordoff et al. (2014) demonstrated that induced hypoparathyroidism in animal models leads to significant alterations in nephron structure, including glomerular shrinkage and decreased tubular activity[16]. These findings suggest that prolonged PTH deficiency affects both functional and structural integrity of renal units.

Moreover, Monica Cusano et al. (2013) reported that chronic disturbances in calcium–phosphate metabolism result in mineral deposition within renal tissues, further aggravating functional decline. In line with this, Elizabeth A. Mitchell et al.

(2012) highlighted the role of hypercalciuria in promoting nephrolithiasis and reducing renal functional reserve [12,13,14].

The role of electrolyte imbalance has also been extensively discussed in the literature. John T. Clarke et al. (2016) indicated that alterations in sodium and potassium transport mechanisms contribute to tubular dysfunction and exacerbate renal injury [8]. These changes are particularly evident in long-standing hypoparathyroidism, where compensatory mechanisms become insufficient.

From a clinical perspective, postoperative hypoparathyroidism represents a significant risk factor for renal complications. Mikael Almquist et al. (2014) reported that patients undergoing thyroid surgery frequently develop transient or permanent hypoparathyroidism, which may lead to chronic renal consequences if not properly managed [14].

In addition, David A. Rubin et al. (2016) emphasized that long-term PTH deficiency affects renal adaptive capacity, leading to decreased resilience of kidney tissues to metabolic stress. These findings underscore the importance of early diagnosis and continuous monitoring of renal function in patients with hypoparathyroidism [16].

Despite significant progress, several gaps remain in the current understanding of hypoparathyroidism-related renal pathology. In particular, the interaction between developmental stages and renal adaptation has not been fully elucidated. Furthermore, the integration of morphological and functional data into a unified diagnostic model remains an unresolved challenge [18,19,20].

Thus, the reviewed literature indicates that hypoparathyroidism leads to progressive and multifaceted renal alterations involving metabolic, structural, and hemodynamic mechanisms. The combination of experimental and clinical data highlights the need for further research aimed at elucidating the pathogenesis of renal damage and improving therapeutic strategies.

Conclusion. The present review demonstrates that hypoparathyroidism has a profound and multifaceted impact on renal morphofunctional status, primarily mediated by disturbances in calcium–phosphate metabolism and the absence of

parathyroid hormone–dependent regulatory mechanisms. The analysis of contemporary literature confirms that PTH deficiency leads to significant нарушения in renal physiology, including impaired glomerular filtration, altered tubular reabsorption, electrolyte imbalance, and progressive decline in renal functional capacity.

Morphological studies consistently indicate that prolonged hypoparathyroid conditions are associated with structural alterations in renal tissues, such as tubular atrophy, interstitial fibrosis, and glomerular changes. These findings suggest that renal damage in hypoparathyroidism is not only functional but also involves irreversible structural remodeling, particularly in chronic and untreated cases.

Furthermore, the integration of clinical and experimental data highlights the complexity of renal adaptation mechanisms in response to hormonal deficiency. While early stages may involve compensatory responses, long-term hypoparathyroidism results in decompensation and progressive organ dysfunction. The evidence also underscores the clinical importance of monitoring renal parameters in patients with both primary and postoperative hypoparathyroidism.

Despite the advances in understanding the pathophysiology of hypoparathyroidism, several important gaps remain, particularly regarding the relationship between developmental stages and renal adaptation, as well as the need for comprehensive models integrating morphological and functional indicators.

In conclusion, hypoparathyroidism represents a significant risk factor for renal dysfunction, and its impact on kidney structure and function requires further in-depth investigation. Future studies should focus on elucidating underlying mechanisms, improving early diagnostic approaches, and developing targeted therapeutic strategies aimed at preventing long-term renal complications.

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