

*Research Article***Anthropometric Measurements and Obesity among Diabetic patients in EL-Minia governorate****Maher M. Kamel; Mohammed M. A. Abdelaleem; Sayed A. Sayed; Mostafa Abdel-Hamid and Medhat A. Salah**

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**Abstract**

**Objective:** The relationship between type 2 DM, obesity and fat measures has not been well documented so far, the present study aims to determine the changes in the body composition that occurred in type 2 DM patients and to figure out the appropriate measures of body fatness that reflect the concrete association with DM type 2 at El-Miniagovernorate. **Subjects and Methods:** 100 subjects were divided into 2 groups, the first is the diabetic group (60 subject); which subdivided according to DM duration into 3 subgroups (each 20; 20 males and 20 females) group A (DM less than 5 years), group B (5-10 years) and group C (DM more than 10 years). The second is the apparently healthy non diabetic group (control group): 40 (20 males and 20 females); free of diabetes by one touch test. Each of the diabetic and healthy individual is subjected to the following anthropometric measurements; body weight, height, body circumferences (mid-arm, waist, hip, mid-thigh and calf), skin fold thicknesses (biceps, triceps, sub scapular, supra-iliac and calf). Random blood sugar (is assessed by single Prick Glucometer. Cut-off point of BMI (body mass index), WHR (waist to hip ratio), WHtR (waist to height ratio) and WC (waist circumference) were assessed. **Results:** the cut-off point of WC of diabetic male and female are 109.9 and 90.1. Cut-off point of WHR of diabetic male and female are 0.94 and 0.9. Cut-off point of WHtR of diabetic male and female are 0.493 and 0.493 and Cut-off point of BMI of diabetic male and female are 26.49 and 26.09. WC has the largest AUC followed by WHR so, the most predictive value of DM in El-Minia governorate is the WC followed by WHR then WHtR then BMI which is the least reliable predictive value of DM type 2. **Conclusion:** obesity may be considered as a risk factor for DM type 2, and anthropometric parameters and indices (BMI, WHR, WHtR and WC) are predictive values of DM type 2 but measures of central obesity (WC, WHR, and WHtR) are more powerful predictors of DM type 2 than measures of general obesity (BMI). **Key Words:** DM type 2, Obesity, anthropometric variables.

**Introduction**

During the last 20 years, the prevalence of type 2 DM has increased in Egypt. It has been reported that the percentage of type 2 DM during the last decades in Egypt reached 9% of the population (Herman et al., 1990).

Obesity is a medical condition related to body mass index (BMI) of 30 (kg/m<sup>2</sup>) or greater. It has been reported that the worldwide prevalence of obesity in males is 20.4%, and in females 23.1% (Veber et al., 2008). Obesity particularly abdominal obesity is an important risk factor for a broad spectrum of chronic diseases as type

2 DM. Obesity is evaluated by many obesity anthropometric measurements and indices; such as weight, height, body circumference, skinfold thicknesses, body mass index (BMI), waist to hip ratio (WHR) and waist to height ratio (WHtR). BMI is defined as the body weight in kilograms divided by the stature squared in meters (Weight/ Stature<sup>2</sup>) (Abdel-Malek A. et al., 1980).

The association between type 2 DM, obesity and anthropometric measures has not been well documented so far. The present study aims to assess the changes in the body composition that occurred in type 2 DM



patients and to figure out the appropriate measures of body fatness that reflect the concrete association with type 2 DM at El-Miniagovernorate.

### Subjects and Methods

In the present work, 800 subjects were divided into 3 groups, the first is the diabetic group (600 subject, 300 males and 300 females); the second is the apparently healthy non diabetic group (control group): 200 (100 males and 100 females); free of diabetes by pin prick test. Each of the diabetic and healthy individual is subjected to the following anthropometric measurements; body weight, height, body circumferences and skin fold thicknesses.

BMI, WHR and WHtR were assessed using SPSS program (version 12.0). Data were expressed in the form of mean (X), standard deviation (SD) and standard error (SE). Differences between the mean values of groups (D) were tested for significance using student *t*- test.

Receiver operating curve (ROC) is used to evaluate the cutoff point of anthropometric variables; area under the curve (AUC) is determined and used to study the predictive power of various anthropometric parameters. Odds ratio (OR) is evaluated to assess the risk factors of type 2 DM. Also multiple logistic regressions is used to determine the impact of anthropometric indices on DM.

### Results

**Table (1):** Shows the mean values and standard errors ( $X \pm SE$ ) of the anthropometric parameters and indices of apparently healthy and diabetic males (group A) at El-Minia.

	<b>Apparently healthy male</b>	<b>Group A diabetic male</b>	
<b>Variable</b>	<b>X ± SE</b>	<b>X ± SE</b>	<b>D</b>
- Age	50.2 ± 7	50 ± 4	0.20
- Weight	71.63 ± 1.76	87.10 ± 1.63	14.47**
- Height	177 ± 0.7	172 ± 0.6	0.00**
<b><u>Circumferences</u></b>			
- Mid-arm	20.33 ± 0.40	29.78 ± 0.50	4.40**
- Waist	71.30 ± 1.09	87.31 ± 0.90	10.96**
- Hip	89.40 ± 1.19	99.70 ± 0.98	10.30**
- Mid-thigh	37.32 ± 0.77	44.20 ± 0.54	7.88**
- Calf	28.97 ± 0.52	30.24 ± 0.34	1.27*
<b><u>Skin fold thickness</u></b>			
- Biceps	17.03 ± 0.70	19.09 ± 0.77	2.06**
- Triceps	17.01 ± 0.58	19.19 ± 0.70	3.18**
- Subscapularis	21.14 ± 0.70	27.38 ± 0.74	5.24**
- Supra-iliac	23.43 ± 0.94	27.41 ± 1.12	3.38**
- Calf	18.27 ± 0.80	28.10 ± 0.99	9.88**
<b><u>Anthrop. Indices</u></b>			
- BMI	20.79 ± 0.53	32.87 ± 0.70	7.17**
- WHR	0.80 ± 0.01	0.88 ± 0.01	0.08**
- WHtR	48.07 ± 0.70	50 ± 0.72	0.94**

**Table (2):** Shows the mean values and standard errors ( $\bar{X} \pm SE$ ) of the anthropometric parameters and indices of apparently healthy and diabetic females (group A) at El-Minia.

	<b>Apparently healthy female</b>	<b>Group A diabetic female</b>	
<b>Variable</b>	<b><math>\bar{X} \pm SE</math></b>	<b><math>\bar{X} \pm SE</math></b>	<b>D</b>
- Age	00.4±0	04.8±7	0.70
- Weight	72.07±1.70	87.48±1.01	14.41**
- Height	174±0.7	170±0.7	4.0**
<b><u>Circumferences</u></b>			
- Mid-arm	23.41±0.73	27.72±0.00	4.31**
- Waist	70.29±1.18	88.71±0.97	18.42**
- Hip	91.10±1.21	101.74±1.10	10.64**
- Mid-thigh	41.72±0.73	47.42±0.79	5.7**
- Calf	31.01±0.40	32.98±0.74	1.97
<b><u>Skin fold thickness</u></b>			
- Biceps	18.47±0.09	24.44±0.91	5.97*
- Triceps	18.90±0.49	20.31±0.72	1.41**
- Subscapularis	27.99±0.91	33.09±1.12	5.1**
- Supra-iliac	29.97±1.13	34.00±1.12	4.03**
- Calf	30.02±0.76	34.47±1.29	4.45**
<b><u>Anthrop. Indices</u></b>			
- BMI	26.77±0.80	33.78±0.07	7.01**
- WHR	0.77±0.01	0.88±0.07	0.11**
- WHtR	0.45±0.07	0.478±0.72	0.23**

\* Significant (P-value < 0.05).

\*\* Highly significant (P-value < 0.01).

- Group A: DM < 0 years.

- D: difference between means.

**Table (3):** Shows ANOVA test among anthropometric parameters and indices of the three studied diabetic male groups A, B and C.

	<b>Group A</b>	<b>Group B</b>	<b>Group C</b>	
<b>Variable</b>	<b><math>\bar{X} \pm SE</math></b>	<b><math>\bar{X} \pm SE</math></b>	<b><math>\bar{X} \pm SE</math></b>	<b>P-Value</b>
- Age	00±4	04.7±7	07.1±0	0.77
- Weight	87.10±1.01	72.44±1.00	71.77±0.0	0.000**
- Height	172±0.7	172±0.7	172±0.7	0.10
<b><u>Circumferences</u></b>				
- Mid-arm	29.78±0.00	27.49±0.97	23.48±0.7	0.000**
- Waist	87.31±0.90	80.47±0.90	82.88±0.77	0.000**
- Hip	99.70±0.98	98.77±0.98	90.00±0.80	0.000**
- Mid-thigh	44.20±0.04	40.40±0.70	37.00±0.70	0.000**
- Calf	30.24±0.34	29.94±0.47	28.90±0.39	0.070
<b><u>Skin fold thickness</u></b>				
- Biceps	19.88±0.77	17.18±0.84	10.00±0.07	0.000**
- Triceps	19.19±0.09	10.07±0.74	11.30±0.43	0.000**
- Subscapularis	27.38±0.74	23.70±0.77	20.17±0.71	0.000**
- Supra-iliac	27.41±1.11	22.28±1.02	18.87±0.93	0.000**
- Calf	28.10±0.99	22.94±0.89	17.08±0.83	0.000**
<b><u>Anthrop. Indices</u></b>				
- BMI	32.87±0.70	27.44±0.74	27.30±0.01	0.000**
- WHR	0.88±0.01	0.87±0.01	.87±0.004	0.000**
- WHtR	0.45±0.72	0.184±0.08	0.490±0.40	0.000**

**Table (4):** Shows ANOVA test among anthropometric parameters and indices of the three studied diabetic female groups A, B and C at El-Minia.

	Group A	Group B	Group C	
Variable	$\bar{X} \pm SE$	$\bar{X} \pm SE$	$\bar{X} \pm SE$	P-Value
- Age	04.8±7	00.2±4	00.9±7	.03
- Weight	87.48±1.01	78.16±1.77	72.76±1.01	.....**
- Height	109±0.7	170±0.7	170±0.7	.12.
<b>Circumferences</b>				
- Mid-arm	27.72±0.00	24.80±.72	20.94±.0	.....**
- Waist	88.71±0.97	87.30±0.91	83.97±.77	.....1**
- Hip	101.74±1.10	99.72±1.01	98.80±.99	.....**
- Mid-thigh	47.42±0.79	41.06±0.81	30.98±.73	.....**
- Calf	32.98±0.74	29.77±0.44	30.12±.44	.....**
<b>Skin fold thickness</b>				
- Biceps	24.44±0.91	20.70±1.07	22.91±.90	.....**
- Triceps	20.31±0.71	22.72±0.78	19.09±0.00	.....**
- Subscapularis	33.09±1.12	27.14±0.83	20.71±.70	.....**
- Supra-iliac	34.00±1.12	27.10±1.07	21.72±.70	.....**
- Calf	34.47±1.29	27.73±1.81	20.24±.70	.....**
<b>Anthrop. Indices</b>				
- BMI	33.21±0.07	30.03±0.74	28.42±0.08	.....**
- WHR	0.88±0.07	0.87±0.04	0.80±0.04	.....**
- WHtR	04.78±0.72	04.20±0.08	01.93±.40	.....**

\* Significant (P-value < 0.05).

\*\* Highly significant (P-value < 0.01).

- Group A: DM (< 0 Y).

- Group B: DM (0-1 Y).

- Group C: DM (1-10 Y).

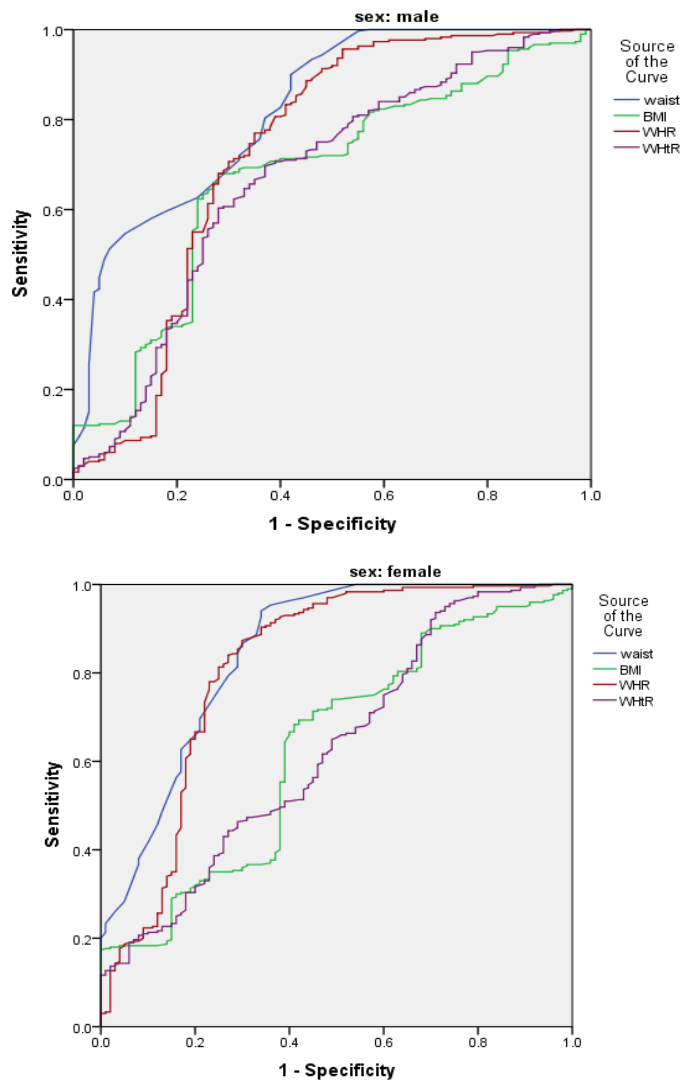
**Table (5):** Shows the mean values and standard errors ( $\bar{X} \pm SE$ ) of anthropometric parameters and indices of apparently healthy male and female subjects at El-Minia.

	Healthy male	Healthy female	
Variable	$\bar{X} \pm SE$	$\bar{X} \pm SE$	D
- Age	00.2±7	00.4±0	0.787
- Weight	71.73±1.77	72.07±1.70	0.44
- Height	177±0.7	174±0.7	3.00**
<b>Circumferences</b>			
- Mid-arm	20.33±0.40	23.41±0.73	1.92*
- Waist	71.30±1.09	70.29±1.18	1.07
- Hip	89.40±1.19	91.10±1.21	1.70
- Mid-thigh	37.32±0.77	41.72±0.73	0.30**
- Calf	28.97±0.02	31.01±0.40	2.04
<b>Skin fold thickness</b>			
- Biceps	17.03±0.70	18.47±0.09	1.43
- Triceps	17.01±0.08	18.90±0.49	2.89**
- Subscapularis	21.14±0.70	27.00±0.91	7.41**
- Supra-iliac	23.42±0.94	29.97±1.13	7.03**
- Calf	18.27±0.80	30.02±0.77	12.20**
<b>Anthrop. Indices</b>			
- BMI	20.79±0.03	27.77±0.00	1.08
- WHR	0.80±0.01	0.77±0.01	0.03
- WHtR	48.07±0.70	00.40±0.07	2.39**

**Table (6):** Shows the mean values and standard errors ( $\bar{X} \pm SE$ ) of anthropometric parameters and indices of diabetic male and female patients (group A) at El-Minia.

	<b>Group A diabetic male</b>	<b>Group A diabetic female</b>	
<b>Variable</b>	<b><math>\bar{X} \pm SE</math></b>	<b><math>\bar{X} \pm SE</math></b>	<b>D</b>
- Age	50 ± 4	54.8 ± 7	0.80
- Weight	87.09 ± 1.73	87.48 ± 1.01	0.39
- Height	172 ± 0.7	159 ± 0.7	2*
<b><u>Circumferences</u></b>			
- Mid-arm	29.78 ± 0.00	27.72 ± 0.00	2.71*
- Waist	87.31 ± 0.90	88.71 ± 0.97	1.40
- Hip	99.70 ± 0.98	101.74 ± 1.10	1.89*
- Mid-thigh	44.20 ± 0.04	47.42 ± 0.79	2.22*
- Calf	30.24 ± 0.34	32.98 ± 0.74	2.74**
<b><u>Skin fold thickness</u></b>			
- Biceps	19.88 ± 0.77	24.44 ± 0.91	4.06**
- Triceps	19.19 ± 0.7	20.31 ± 0.712	7.12**
- Subscapularis	27.38 ± 0.74	33.09 ± 1.12	7.71**
- Supra-iliac	27.41 ± 1.12	34.00 ± 1.12	7.09**
- Calf	28.10 ± 0.99	34.47 ± 1.29	7.32**
<b><u>Anthrop. Indices</u></b>			
- BMI	32.87 ± 0.70	33.31 ± 0.07	0.40
- WHR	0.88 ± 0.01	0.88 ± 0.01	0
- WHtR	0.4 ± 0.72	0.478 ± 0.72	0.78

**Fig. (1) and (2):** Shows Receiver operating characteristics (ROC) curve analysis of BMI, WHR, WHtR and WC in diabetic males and females.



**Fig. 1 and 2** show that; WC has the largest AUC followed by WHR so, the most predictive value of DM in El-Minia gavernorate is the WC followed by WHR then WHtR then BMI which is the least reliable predictive value of DM type 2. It is clear also that anthropometric mrasurements of abdominal (central) obesity (WC, WHR and WHtR) are more efficient in prediction of DM than that of overall (general) obesity (BMI).

In males	Cutoff value	AUC	Sensitivity	Specificity	PPV	NPV	P value
<b>BMI</b>	>26.49	0.770	78	72	87.9	42.9	<0.001*
<b>WHR</b>	>0.78	0.730	90.77	48	84.7	78.7	<0.001*
<b>WHtR</b>	>47.93	0.771	79.77	73	80	40.9	<0.001*
<b>WC</b>	>80.9	0.824	99.77	40	84.0	97.8	<0.001*

In females	Cutoff value	AUC	Sensitivity	Specificity	PPV	NPV	P value
<b>BMI</b>	> 26.09	0.728	79.33	08	83.2	38.7	<0.001*
<b>WHR</b>	>0.8	0.814	87.33	70	89.7	74.8	<0.001*
<b>WHtR</b>	> 40.93	0.728	93.77	29	79.8	70.4	<0.001*
<b>WC</b>	> 90.1	0.800	90.33	74	88.8	82.1	<0.001*

- AUC: area under the curve.

- PPV: positive predictive value

- NPV: negative predictive value.

\* Significant: AUC > 0.0.

**Table (V):** Shows multiple logistic regression analysis of BMI, WHR, WHtR and WC in males.

In males	Control (n=100)	Diabetics (n=300)	P value	OR (90 % CI)	P value	AOR (90 % CI)	P value
<b>BMI</b>							
≤ 26.49	72 (72%)	96 (32%)	<0.001*	0.47 (0.32-0.9)	<0.001*	1.8 (0.77-4.18)	0.170
> 26.49	28 (28%)	204 (68%)					
<b>WHR</b>							
≤ 0.78	08 (48%)	13 (4.3%)	<0.001*	20.38 (10.32-40.24)	<0.001*	8.78 (3.79-20.0)	<0.001*
> 0.78	42 (52%)	287 (95.7%)					
<b>WHtR</b>							
≤ 47.93	73 (73%)	91 (30.0%)	<0.001*	3.91 (2.43-6.29)	<0.001*	1.83 (0.8-4.27)	0.170
> 47.93	27 (27%)	209 (69.7%)					
<b>Waist</b>							
≤ 90.1	70 (70%)	1 (0.3%)	<0.001*	244.7 (33.03-1812)	<0.001*	07.9 (7.2-447.0)	<0.001*
> 90.1	40 (40%)	299 (99.7%)					



**Table (A):** Shows multiple logistic regression analysis of BMI, WHR, WHtR and WC in females.

In females	Control (n=100)	Diabetics (n=300)	P value	OR (95 % CI)	P value	AOR (95 % CI)	P value
<b>BMI</b> ≤27.09 >27.09	08 (08%) 42 (42%)	92 (30.7%) 208 (69.3%)	<0.001*	3.12 (1.90-4.97)	<0.001*	1.3 (0.08-2.74)	0.060
<b>WHR</b> ≤0.8 >0.8	70 (70%) 30 (30%)	38 (12.7%) 262 (87.3%)	<0.001*	17.09 (9.13-27.79)	<0.001*	7.0 (3.07-11.87)	<0.001*
<b>WHtR</b> ≤40.93 >40.93	72 (72%) 28 (28%)	19 (6.3%) 281 (93.7%)	<0.001*	0.70 (3.04-10.88)	<0.001*	0.09 (0.87-1.46)	0.100
<b>Waist</b> ≤80.9 >80.9	74 (74%) 26 (26%)	14 (4.7%) 286 (95.3%)	<0.001*	37.3 (18.0-71.3)	<0.001*	29.87 (8.1-110.7)	<0.001*

- OR: odds ratio.

- AOR: adjusted odds ratio

\* Significant: P-value < 0.001.

- CI (Confidence interval).

**Table Y and A,** show that the odds ratio of WC is the highest followed by WHR, so WC is the most significant relative risk factor of DM type Y in males and females. In AOR, WC is an adjusted risk factor of type YDM in males and females but WHtR is not considered as an adjusted risk factor as P-value = 0.100.

**Discussion**

The global prevalence of DM in the year 2010 among adults had been estimated to be 7.4%. There is no accurate figure for prevalence of DM in Egypt, the crude prevalence of diabetes mellitus in Egypt in 2008, was calculated to be 4.7%. Cairo governorate had a prevalence of 4.9%, while El-Minia governorate had a prevalence of 4.1% (Nagwa A. and Ghada A., 2010). The possible risk factors of DM in Egypt includes rapid socioeconomic change, urbanization, sedentary lifestyle, and prevalence of overweight and obesity (Abolfotouh et al., 2008).

In the present study, healthy and diabetic females are heavier than healthy and diabetic males. This may be due to regional differences in adipocyte metabolism and lipoprotein lipase activity as lipolysis are more pronounced in women than in men (Rebuffe et al., 1980). Also, it is clear that the diabetic male and female subjects are shorter than healthy individuals, this in accordance with results documented by Lawlor et al., (2002), this association are

not understood. It may be due to osteoporosis associated with diabetes, which results in reduced stature due to vertebral collapse (Isaia et al., 1987).

Body mass index (BMI) of diabetic persons is bigger than that of healthy individuals, so obesity may lead to development of type Y DM and this is in accordance with the results reported by Kumar et al., (2013). The role of obesity in the development of DM may be through free fatty acid (FFA) which leads to secretion of adipokines. These adipokines cause insulin resistance, Robert et al., (2011). In the present study, the mean value of BMI of female is bigger than that of male in the healthy and diabetic groups. These results are similar to the results reported by Aschner et al., (2009) who found that obesity prevalence in males is 70%, and 76% in females. Adult men and women differ in their fat distribution. Fat tend to accumulate in the abdominal area so obese men are "apple-shaped" with increasing waist circumference, however; obese females tend to be "pear-shaped" as females has big pelvis designed for

childbirth. Regional localization of body fat is considered a secondary sex characteristic (Blouin K et al., 2008).

In the present work, the body circumferences of diabetic male and female group A are bigger than those of healthy ones and this is in accordance with Sosenko et al., (1993) who reported that, obesity and excess body fat are associated with insulin resistance and places people at higher risk for developing insulin resistance. The association between obesity and insulin resistance is due to increased release of FFA and abnormalities in adipokine secretion. Body circumferences of healthy and diabetic females are bigger than that of healthy and diabetic male subjects. This may be due to increased frequency of obesity and body fatness in females than in males (Eun et al., 2001). In the present study, the optimal cut-off point of WC of diabetic male and female are 109 and 91 respectively, these values are smaller than WC cut-off points reported by Łopatyński et al., (2003) which was 97 for women and 99 for men but; larger than WC cut-off point that documented by He et al., (2012) which was 115 in men and 105 in women. It is observed that, SFT at all sites measured in diabetic male and female patients group A are thicker than those of apparently healthy male and female individuals, and since 0% of the body fat is present in the subcutaneous tissue layers so diabetic patients are more obese and have subcutaneous fat more than healthy ones. This is in harmony with the results of Robert et al., (2011).

The optimal cut-off point of BMI of diabetic male and female subjects (27.49 and 26.09) are larger than optimal cut-off point of BMI of diabetic Chinese male and female which were (25 and 25) as documented by Feng et al., (2012), but; it is smaller than that of diabetic Jordanian men and women (28.4 and 20.3) which was reported by Al-Odat et al., (2012). The optimal cut-off point of WHR of diabetic male and female subjects in the present study (0.98 and 0.80) are larger than that of diabetic Chinese male and female which were (0.77 and 0.70) as reported by Hu et al. (2007). But; they are smaller than WHR

optimal cut-off point of diabetic Jordanian men and women (0.89 and 0.84) which was found by Al-Odat et al., (2012).

The optimal cut-off point of WHtR of diabetic male and female subjects in the present study (0.9 and 0.9) are smaller than that of diabetic male and female subjects in Iraq (0.9 and 0.9) which were reported by Mansour and Al-Jazairi (2007).

Area under the receiver operating characteristics curve (AUC) of BMI, WHR, WHtR and WC of diabetic male subjects are 0.728, 0.814, 0.728 and 0.800 respectively and of diabetic female subjects are 0.728, 0.814, 0.728 and 0.800 respectively. As AUC (must be > 0.5) of the four anthropometric measures is statistically significant so they may be strongly related to and predict the incidence of type 2 DM in Egypt. AUC of WC in males is the highest followed by WHR then WHtR then BMI. WC could statistically predict type 2 DM in Egypt more than other anthropometric measures. These results are consistent with the results reported by Kai et al., (2011) in China. However, AUC of the present study is disagree with results reported by Nyamdorj et al., (2009), who found that BMI strongly related to and predict the incidence of type 2 DM.

As (P-value < 0.001) so the four anthropometric variables are considered as independent risk factors for DM type 2 in Egypt in the following order (WC, WHR, WHtR and BMI). These results are in agreement with the results reported by Vazquez et al., (2007).

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