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ORIGINAL ARTICLE

The Status Of NIDDM Patients After Yoga Asanas: Assessment Of Important Parameters

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ABSTRACT

Fifty six patients of Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus (NIDDM), with a history of diabetes of 0 - 10 years, in the age group of 30 - 60 years, were selected. The diagnoses of Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus (NIDDM) patients were done according to the WHO criteria Technical Report Series. Subjects suffering from cardiac, renal and proliferative retinal complications were excluded from the study. The yoga asanas regime included the Survanamskar Tadasan. Konasan. Padmasan Pranayam, Paschimottansan Ardhmatsyendrasan, Shavasan, Pavanmukthasan, Sarpasan and Shavasan. The subjects were called to the cardio-respiratory laboratory in the morning and were given training by the Yoga expert. The Yoga exercises were performed for 30-40 minutes The subjects were on a recommended diet and oral every day for 40 days. hypoglycaemic drugs. Basal blood glucose, serum insulin, lipid profile, body mass index, malondialdehyde levels (MDA) as an index of lipid peroxidation, cardiac function, p300 and the nerve conduction velocity of the median nerve was measured and repeated after 40 days of the Yogic regime. Another group of 50 Type 2 diabetes subjects of comparable age and severity, called as the control group, were kept on prescribed medication and light physical exercises like walking. Their basal and post 40 daysparameters were recorded for comparison.

There was a reduction in the weight and even in the distribution of fat in the body space, as shown by a significant decrease in the waist to hip ratio in NIDDM patients on *Yoga asanas*. There was a significant fall in the fasting blood glucose levels. The one hour postprandial blood glucose level also decreased after 40 days of *Yoga asanas*), the subjects developed a sense of wellbeing within 10 days and there was a lowering of the dosage of the oral anti-diabetic drug (s). There was a significant reduction in total cholesterol also. There was a noticeable decrease in triglyceride levels, LDL and VLDL cholesterol, MDA levels and GHb. Improvement of nerve conduction velocity and pulmonary and cardiovascular function occurred, thus indicating a shift to the parasympathetic dominance. The subjects were also more aware and restful.

Yoga asanas in mild to moderate NIDDM cases, which were used in addition to normal medical therapy, would give benefit to the patient and improve the status of diabetics in terms of the use of less medicine, improvement of physical well being, improvement of mental alertness and activity and and leading a complication free life. Consequently, it is suggested that Yoga asanas and pranayama may be used as an adjunct to reduce Diabetes Mellitus.

Key Words: Yoga, NIDDM

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Introduction

The prevalence of Type 2 diabetes is increasing the world over. This trend is being found, both in the developed and in the developing countries.

Diabetes Mellitus is a slowly progressive disease, affecting most of the systems in the body and perpetually deteriorating their normal function. However, specific *Yoga asanas* along with prescribed meditation and diet help in arresting the progress of further complications of the disease and perhaps in slowing it down.

Further studies are required in this direction to substantiate scientific studies. Our study evaluated the status of NIDDM patients before and after 40 days of yoga asanas by the assessment of some important parameters.

Materials And Methods

The study of the assessment of anthropometric, biochemical and cardio-pulmonary parameters before and after 40 days of *Yogic* exercises by NIDDM patients was conducted in the Departments of Physiology, Biochemistry and Medicine, University College of Medical Sciences and Guru Tegh Bahadur Hospital, Delhi and Institute of Human Behavior of Allied Sciences, Delhi.

Selection Of Subjects.

Fifty six patients of Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus (NIDDM), with a history of diabetes of 0-10 years, in the age group of 30-60 years, were selected. The diagnoses of Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus (NIDDM) patients were done according to the WHO criteria Technical Report Series. The diagnostic details are given in the review of literature.

Patients selected from the Endocrine Metabolic Clinic, Department of Medicine, Guru Tegh Bahadur Hospital were informed about the thesis project. A written, duly signed consent was taken from the subjects according to the ethical principles of the Indian Council of Medical Research, New Delhi, India. No conscious effort was made to especially pick-on persons related to meditation. Once selected, the subjects were not excluded from various *Yoga asanas*, investigations and measurements, except when the desired co-operation required for the testing procedures was not forthcoming.

Screening

Subjects with nephropathy, retinopathy (proliferative) and coronary artery disease were excluded from the study. Nephropathy was excluded by a negative dipstick test for proteins in the urine. The subjects were subjected to a baseline ophthalmological fundus examination. A baseline complete electrocardiogram was done in every patient to rule out any coronary artery disease. In addition, the treating physician clinically diagnosed and approved them for the study. The subjects were on a recommended diet and oral hypoglycaemic drugs. Routine laboratory tests were done before and after the Yoga asanas. All subjects had a complete physical examination and the clinical assessment was recorded in the proforma as per it's format in Annexure 1 The relevant parameters were recorded at the beginning (i.e. baseline values) and after forty days of Yoga asanas for the Yoga group (n_1) . Similarly, these parameters were recorded for the control group (n_2) in the beginning (i.e. baseline values) and after forty days.

The recorded parameters were compared and statistically analysed and conclusions were drawn therefrom. All *Yogic asanas* were conducted under the guidance and supervision of a *Yogic* expert. A qualified doctor was also present during the exercises, so as to attend to the patients as and when required.

II. Methodology

The patients were divided into two separate groups. Group I NIDDM, the Yoga group patients were put through various Yogic asanas for 40 days, together with diet plus traditional diabetic medicines. $(n_1 = 26)$. They acted as their own controls.

Group II NIDDM, the control group patients, were retained on diet plus normal walking exercises etc. plus normal medical therapy only. ($n_2 = 38$). The controls were matched with respect to age, sex, body mass index, socio-economical status and glycaemic base line parameters. The grouping of patients provided vital data for effective comparison, statistical analysis and inferences. The patients performed *Yoga asanas* for 40 – 60 minutes per day for 40 days under the supervision and guidance of a *Yoga* expert. The various *asanas* and *pranayamas* along with their duration are tabulated in [Table/Fig 1].

Yoga Group

26 **NIDDM** subjects in the *Yoga* group (**n**₁) were kept on a prescribed diet and oral antidiabetic medicines and they performed specific *Yoga asanas* for 40 days under the guidance of a *Yoga* expert [Table/Fig 1]. The important parameters before the commencement of the *Yoga* exercises (baseline values) and after the *Yoga* were recorded. The observations and results are enumerated in the succeeding paragraphs.

	NAME AND DURATION OF VARIOUS ASANAS INCLUDED IN YOGIC EXERCISES								
S.No.	NAME	DURATION							
1.	Surya Namaskar – 1	3 – 7 turns of each, the pose being maintained for ten seconds adding one turn each, every fortnight							
2.	Surya Namaskar - 2	3 - 7 turns of each, the pose being maintained for ten seconds adding one turn each, every fortnight							
3.	Tadasana	1/4 minute to one minute for adding 1/4 minute per week							
4.	Trikona-asana	1/4 minute to one minute for each side, adding 1/4 minute per week							
5.	Sukhasana	¼ minute to one minute, adding ¼ minute per week							
6.	Padmasana	1/4 minute to one minute, adding 1/4 minute per week							
7.	Bhastrika Pranayama	5 – 15 minutes per day							
8.	Pashimottanasana	1/4 minute to one minute for each side, adding 1/4 minute per week							
9.	Ardhmatsyendrasana	1/4 minute to one minute for each side , adding 1/4 minute per week							
10.	Vajrasana	1/4 minute to one minute, adding 1/4 minute per week							
11.	Pawanmuktasana	1/4 minute to one minute for each side, adding 1/4 minute per week							
12.	Naukasana	3 - 7 turns of each, the pose being maintained for ten seconds adding one turn each, every fortnight							
13.	Bhujangasana	3 - 7 turns of each, the pose being maintained for ten seconds adding one tun each, every fortnight							
14.	Dhanurasana	3 - 7 tums of each, the pose being maintained for ten seconds adding one tun each, every fortnight							
15.	Shayasana	2 – 10 minutes, adding 2 minutes per week							

Anthropometric Parameters

Height (Ht.) remained same at 152.4 ± 0.9 cm. There were decreases in the parameters

of Weight (Wt.) from 62.94 \pm 2.4 kg to 62.17 \pm 2.2 kg, Waist Hip Ratio (WHR) of 14 subjects from 0.93 \pm 0.1 to 0.88 \pm 0.1, Body Surface Area (BSA) from 45.06 \pm 0.8 m^2 to 44.83 \pm 0.8 m^2 and Body Mass Index (BMI) from 26.81 \pm 0.9 kg / m^2 to 26.49 \pm 0.9 kg / m^2 . The Lean Body Mass (LBM) increased from 66.53 \pm 2.5 kg to 66.69 \pm 2.4 kg. The result of WHR was significant at a p value of 0.005. The remaining results were insignificant.

Plasma Glucose

There was a decrease in the fasting blood glucose (FBG) from 208.3 \pm 20.0 in mg / dl to 171.7 \pm 19.5 in mg / dl, which was significant at a p value of 0.001. Postprandial Blood Glucose (PPG) after one hour also decreased from 295.3 \pm 22.0 in mg / dl to 269.7 \pm 19.9 in mg / dl at a p value of 0.059.

Serum Lipid Profile

There was a decrease in the values of Cholesterol (CHOL) from 222.8 \pm 10.2 mg/ dl to 207.9 \pm 8.6 mg / dl, Low Density Lipoprotein Cholesterol (LDL - C) from $144.8 \pm 8.6 \ mg \ / \ dl$ to $140.7 \pm 7.9 \ mg \ / \ dl$ and Very Low Density Lipoprotein Cholesterol (VLDL – C) from $37.4 \pm 4.6 mg$ / dl to 32.1 \pm 3.4 mg / dl. The CHOL results were significant at a p-value of 0.003. Serum Triglyceride (TG) levels decreased from $168.5 \pm 15.5 \ mg \ / \ dl$ to 146.3 ± 13.5 mg / dl mg / dl, which was significant at a p value of 0.001. There was almost no effect in High Density Lipoprotein Cholesterol (HDL - C) levels from $43.8 \pm 2.6 \, mg / dl$ to $40.7 \pm 1.9 \, mg \, / \, dl$, which was insignificant at a p value > 0.05. Other Biochemical Parameters Like **Fasting** Malondialdehyde (MDA) Levels Of The 26 NIDDM Subjects And Plasma Glycosylated Haemoglobin (Ghb) Values Of 15 NIDDM Subjects

There was a decrease of serum MDA levels from $6.7 \pm 0.7 n mol/ml$ to $3.4 \pm 0.5 n mol/ml$, which was significant at a p value of 0.000. There was a decrease of glycosylated

haemoglobin from 9.98 \pm 0.5 % to 9.82 \pm 0.7 %.

Serum Insulin Levels

Serum insulin levels increased from 13.9 \pm 4.9 μ IU / ml to 19.7 \pm 4.8 μ IU / ml in four **NIDDM** subjects with a Body Mass Index (BMI) < 25 at a p value of 0.079. It decreased from 36.1 \pm 11.3 μ IU / ml to 11.0 \pm 2.0 μ IU / ml in seven **NIDDM** subjects with a Body Mass Index > 25, within the normal range.

Cardiac parameters There was a decrease in Diastolic Blood Pressure (DBP) from 86.7 ± 2.5 mm of Hg to 75.5 ± 2.1 mm of Hg, which was significant at a p value of 0.000. There were decreases in Systolic Blood Pressure (SBP) from 142.0 ± 3.9 mm of Hg to 126.0 ± 3.2 mm of Hg, which was significant at a p value of 0.000 and in Pulse Rate (PR) from 86.45 ± 2.0 pulse / min to 77.65 ± 2.5 pulse / min, which was significant at a p value of 0.001. The corrected QT interval (QTc) decreased from 0.42 ± 0.0 to 0.40 ± 0.0 .

Pulmonary Function Values

There were increases amongst 22 NIDDM subjects in Slow Vital Capacity (SVC) from 2.11 ± 0.1 lt to 2.21 ± 0.1 lt and Forced Vital Capacity (FVC) from 2.14 ± 0.1 lt / sec to 2.20 ± 0.1 lt / sec and Maximal Voluntary Ventilation (MVV) from 55.19 ± 4.7 to $57.48 \pm 4.0 \ lt \ / \ sec$ amongst 20 subjects. Volume Forced Expiratory (FEV1) increased from 1.83 \pm 0.1 lt / sec to 1.93 \pm 0.1 lt / sec, which was significant at a p value of 0.003. There were increases in the FEV1/ FVC RATIO in 20 subjects from 0.84 ± 0.0 to 0.86 ± 0.0 and in the Peak Expiratory flow rate (PEFR) from 3.7 ± 0.3 lt / sec to 4.4 ± 0.6 lt / sec among 20 subjects. These changes were insignificant.

Nerve Conduction Parameters

The distal amplitude of the right hand (RWA) decreased from $6.73 \pm 0.5 \ mV$ to $6.55 \pm 0.5 \ mV$. The distal amplitude of the

left hand (LWA) increased from 7.02 ± 0.4 mV to 7.78 \pm 0.6 mV. The proximal amplitude of the right hand (REA) decreased from $6.65 \pm 0.5 \ mV$ to $6.22 \pm 0.4 \ mV$. The proximal amplitude of the left hand (LEA) decreased from 6.90 ± 0.4 mV to 6.66 ± 0.4 mV. The proximal latency of the left hand (LEL) had practically no change from 7.81 ± 0.2 milli sec to 7.81 \pm 0.2 milli sec. The proximal latency of the right hand (REL) decreased from 7.48 \pm 0.4 *milli sec* to 7.30 \pm 0.3 *milli sec*. The distal latency of the right hand (RWL) increased from 4.02 ± 0.1 milli sec to 4.26 ± 0.3 milli sec. The distal latency of the left hand (LWL) decreased from 4.34 \pm 0.3 milli sec to 4.27 \pm 0.3 milli sec. The left hand velocity (LV) increased from 52.46 \pm 1.0 m / sec to 55.75 \pm 1.0 m / sec, which was significant at a p value of 0.033. The right hand velocity (RV) increased from $52.81 \pm 1.0 \, m$ / sec to $53.87 \pm 1.0 \, m$ / sec.

Control Group

In the control group, 36 **NIDDM** subjects were on diet, mild exercises like walking and medical therapy, as prescribed by the clinician. Various baseline and after 40 days parameters of the control group who were not on the *Yoga* regimes were recorded. The observations are results which are enumerated in the succeeding paragraphs.

Anthropometric Parameters

Height (Ht.) decreased from 152.4 ± 1.1 cm to 149.5 ± 3.1 cm in 35 **NIDDM** patients. There were increases in the parameters of Weight (Wt.) from $64.37 \pm 2.3 \ kg$ to $65.50 \pm$ 0.9 kg in 27 **NIDDM** patients and Body Mass Index (BMI) from $27.11 \pm 0.85 \text{ kg} / \text{m}^2$ to $27.40 \pm 0.98 \ kg \ / \ m^2$ in 14 **NIDDM** patients. There were increases in the Waist Hip Ratio (WHR) in 20 subjects from 0.87 \pm 0.00 to 0.90 \pm 0.00 and Body Surface Area (BSA) in 27 **NIDDM** subjects from $45.45 \pm$ $0.9 \ m^2$ to $45.87 \pm 1.2 \ m^2$. The Lean Body Mass (LBM) of 27 NIDDM subjects decreased from $47.74 \pm 1.15 \ kg$ to $42.55 \pm$ 0.8 kg, which was significant at a p value of 0.000.

Plasma Glucose Values

There was an increase in fasting blood glucose (FBG) levels from $154.15 \pm 9.14 \ mg$ / dl to $160.38 \pm 11.11 \ mg$ / dl in 26 subjects. There was decrease in postprandial blood glucose (PPG) levels from $245.33 \pm 12.5 \ mg$ / dl to $243.11 \pm 13.6 \ mg$ / dl in 24 subjects. The results are not significant.

Fasting Serum Lipid Profile Values

There were decreases in the values of Cholesterol (CHOL) from 202.27 \pm 8.72 mg/ dl to 200.46 \pm 9.3 mg / dl and Low Density Lipoprotein Cholesterol (LDL - C) from $132.0 \pm 7.8 \ mg \ / \ dl$ to $126.62 \pm 7.6 \ mg \ / \ dl$. There was an increase in High Density Lipoprotein Cholesterol (HDL - C) levels from $40.73 \pm 1.7 \, mg \, / \, dl$ to $43.54 \pm 2.1 \, mg \, / \,$ dl. There were also increases in Very Low Density Lipoprotein Cholesterol (VLDL – V) levels from $29.23 \pm 2.8 \, mg \, / \, dl$ to 30.15 ± 2.4 mg / dl and Triglyceride (TG) levels from $133.08 \pm 8.1 \ mg \ / \ dl$ to $159.31 \pm 14.7 \ mg \ / \ dl$. These results were not significant, except for Triglyceride TG, which was significant at a p value of 0.050.

Other Biochemical parameters

Fasting serum Malondialdehyde (MDA) levels of 9 **NIDDM** subjects and plasma Glycosylated Haemoglobin values (GHb) values of 20 **NIDDM** subjects are as follows: There was an increase in serum MDA levels from 4.85 ± 0.93 nmol/ml to 7.32 ± 0.8 n mol / ml. There was a decrease in glycosylated haemoglobin levels from 8.62 ± 0.26 % to 8.47 ± 0.17 %. The results were not significant.

Fasting Serum Insulin Levels

The levels increased from 13.06 \pm 2.3 μ IU / ml to 14.03 \pm 2.5 μ IU / ml. The results were significant in four **NIDDM** subjects.

Cardiac parameters There was an increase in Diastolic Blood Pressure (DBP) from $77.70 \pm 2.2 \, mm$ of Hg to $79.40 \pm 2.6 \, mm$ of Hg in 20 subjects. There was a decrease in

Systolic Blood Pressure (SBP) from 128.10 \pm 3.2 mm of Hg to 132.70 \pm 5.4 mm of Hg in 20 subjects. There was an increase in Pulse Rate (PR) from $80.00 \pm 2.7 \ pulse/min$ to $86.57 \pm 3.6 \ pulse / min$ in 21 subjects, which was significant at a p value of 0.030. There was an increase in the Corrected QT interval (QTc) levels from 0.40 ± 0.4 to 0.42 ± 0.0 in 23 subjects.

Pulmonary Function

There were decreases of Slow Vital Capacity (SVC) from 2.12 ± 0.1 lt to $2.01 \pm$ 0.1 lt in 23 **NIDDM** subjects and in Forced Expiratory Volume (FEV1) from 1.83 ± 0.1 lt / sec to 1.66 \pm 0.1 lt / sec and Forced Vital Capacity (FVC) from $1.95 \pm 0.1 \ lt / sec$ to 1.89 ± 0.1 lt / sec, in 24 patients. The Peak Expiratory Flow Rate (PEFR) also reduced from 3.83 ± 0.3 lt / sec to 3.41 ± 0.3 lt / sec in 23 subjects, which was significant at a p value of 0.035. Besides, there were decreases in Maximal Voluntary Ventilation (MVV) from 53.41 \pm 2.7 lt / min to 47.51 \pm 3.1 lt / min in 22 subjects and FEV1/ FVC (RATIO) from 0.96 ± 0.1 to 0.88 ± 0.0 in 24 subjects.

Nerve Conduction Parameters

The distal amplitude of the right hand (RWA) decreased from 7.23 \pm 0.5 mV to 6.71 ± 0.6 mV. The distal amplitude of the left hand (LWA) decreased from 7.06 ± 0.6 mV to 6.19 \pm 0.5 mV. The proximal amplitude of the right hand (REA) decreased from $6.81 \pm 0.5 \ mV$ to $5.92 \pm 0.5 \ mV$, which was significant at a p value of 0.016. The proximal amplitude of the left hand (LEA) decreased from 6.30 ± 0.3 mV to 5.84 ± 0.4 mV. The proximal latency of the left hand (LEL) decreased 7.66 \pm 0.2 milli sec to 7.59 ± 0.2 milli sec. The proximal latency of the right hand (REL) changed from 7.84 ± 0.3 milli sec to 7.84 ± 0.2 milli sec. The distal latency of the right hand (RWL) increased from 4.09 ± 0.1 milli sec to 4.12 ± 0.1 milli sec. The distal latency of the left hand (LWL) increased from 3.74 ± 0.1 milli sec to 4.02 ± 0.2 milli sec. The left hand velocity

(LV) decreased from $54.53 \pm 1.0 \, m$ / sec to $53.31 \pm 1.3 \, m$ / sec. The right hand velocity (RV) increased from $53.75 \pm 1.0 \, m$ / sec to $54.03 \pm 0.8 \, m$ / sec.

Levene's Test For Equality Of Variances

The analysis of the recorded results by Levene's test showed that there was equality of variances in both groups. In both groups, there were significant decreases in the waist hip ratio at a p value of 0.019, in trigylceride levels at a p value of 0.030, in serum MDA levels at a p value of 0.000, in FEV $_1$ at a p value of 0.037, in QT $_C$ at a p value of 0.045 and in LV at a p value of 0.036. These analyses were statistically significant. The analyses of the other results by the said test were not significant.

Discussion

The present study was conducted in mild to moderate cases of NIDDM. It was observed that there was a significant fall in the fasting and postprandial blood glucose, cholesterol and triglyceride levels. Besides, MDA and glycosylated haemoglobin levels also came down (tables 5.2, 5.3 and 5.4). Very few studies are available on the effect of Yoga asanas on different parameters in NIDDM patients. In fact, only B.K. Sahay [1] have conducted the studies and have shown the beneficial effects of Yoga asanas in NIDDM cases. The present study has however tried to cover various / important parameters to show the effect of a few specific Yoga asanas in Diabetes.

The Effect Of Yoga Asanas On Anthropometric Parameters.

In the present study, there was a reduction in the weight and even in the distribution of fat in the body space, as shown by a significant decrease in the waist hip ratio in NIDDM patients on *Yoga asanas*. There was a noticeable decrease in body mass index and an increase in lean body mass [Table/Fig 2].

B.K. Sahay [1] have reported a significant decrease in lean body mass, with a significant change in the weight of normal healthy volunteers after *Yoga asanas. Yoga* helps in the reduction of fat from the waist, and causes a change from central obesity ('apple shape' or 'android') to peripheral obesity ('pear shape' or 'gynoid') due to a change in insulin resistance.

				[Table/Fig 2]							
AN	ANTHROPROMETRIC PARAMETERS BEFORE AND AFTER 40 DAYS OF YOGA ASANAS										
S. No.	Pai	rameters	n	Before Yoga	After Yoga	p Value					
				Mean ± S. E.	Mean ± S. E.						
1.	Ht.		20	152.4 ± 0.9	152.4 ± 0.9	-					
2.	Wt.		20	62.94 ± 2.4	62.17 ± 2.2	0.350 ^{NS}					
3.	WI	HR.	14	0.93 ± 0.1	0.88 ± 0.1	0.005*					
4.	BM	п	20	26.81 ± 0.9	26.49 ± 0.9	0.347 ^{NS}					
5.	LB:	M	20	67.53 ± 2.5	66.69 ± 2.4	0.347 ^{NS}					
6.	BS.	A	20	1.6 ± 0.0	1.59 ± 0.0	0.266 ^{NS}					
*	:	Significa	ınt at j	p value ≤ 0.05							
NS	:	Non Sign		nt							
Ht.	:	Height in									
Wt.	:	Weight i									
WHR	:	Waist H	ip Rat	io							
BMI	:			dex in kg/m²							
LBM	:	Lean Bo	dy Ma	ass in kg	1						
BSA	:	Body Su	uface	Area in m ²)						

The Effect Of Yoga Asanas On The Biochemical Profile.

Glucose

There was a significant fall in the fasting blood glucose levels. One hour postprandial blood glucose levels also decreased after 40 days of Yoga asanas Table/Fig 3] and the subjects developed a sense of wellbeing within 10 days. There was a lowering of the dosage of the oral anti-diabetic drug (s). Data from some patientswho discontinued Yogic practices for some time and restarted, showed poor control during the interval, with return to normal values after restarting the Yoga practices, which confirms "Cause and Effect Relationship between Yoga asanas and the Blood Glucose Levels". These findings are similar to those reported by [2], [3],[10]

	[Table/Fig 3] FASTING AND POSTPRANDIAL PLASMA GLUCOSE BEFORE AND AFTER 40 DAYS OF YOGA ASANAS									
S. No.	Pa	rameters	Before Yoga	After Yoga	p Value					
	n = 20		Mean ± S.E. Mean ± S.E		-					
1.	FI	3G	208.3 ± 20.0	171.7 ± 19.5	0.001**					
2.	PI	PG .	295.3 ± 22.0	269.7 ± 19.9	0.059 ^{NS}					
**	:	Significar	ntatp value of 0.0	00						
NS	:		Non Significant							
FBG	:	Fasting B	Fasting Blood Glucose in mg / dl							
PPG	:	Postprand	Postprandial Blood Glucose in mg / dl							
<u>Note</u>	:	Values ar	e mean fasting pla	ısma samples in <i>n</i>	ng / dl					

Lipid Profile:

In the present study, there was a significant reduction in total cholesterol. There was also a noticeable decrease in triglyceride, LDL and VLDL cholesterol levels. There was an improvement in glycaemic control in NIDDM patients who were associated with an improvement in serum lipid profile [Table/Fig 4]. Studies on the effect of Yoga asanas on lipid profile have been reported These have shown a significant decrease in free fatty acids and LDL and VLDL cholesterol levels with an increase in HDL cholesterol. Desai has also reported a significant reduction in serum lipase activity after Yoga asanas in Diabetics. This helps to maintain the normal concentration of circulating free fatty acids.

				PID PROFIL DAYS OF 1 TABLE 5.3	OGA ASAN				
S. No.	Pa	ran	neters	Before Yoga	After Yoga	p Value			
		n =	22	Mean ± S.E.	Mean ± S. E.				
1.	CHOL			222.8 ± 10.2	207.9 ± 8.6	0.003*			
2.	TG			168.5 ± 15.5	146.3 ± 13.5	0.075 ^{NS}			
3.	HDL - C		- C	43.8 ± 2.6	40.7 ± 1.9	0.309 ^{NS}			
4.	LI	LDL - C		144.8 ± 8.6	140.7 ± 7.9	0.466 ^{NS}			
5.	VI	DI	. – C	37.4 ± 4.6	32.1 ± 3.4	0.059 ^{NS}			
NS : Non-s CHOL : Choles				ignificant at p value ≤ 0.050 ignificant sterol in mg dl ceride in mg dl					
HDL = C		:	High Density Lipoprotein Cholesterol in mg dl Low Density Lipoprotein Cholesterol in mg dl						
VLDL - NOTE	С	:	Very Low Density Lipoprotein Cholesterol in mg / dl Values are for fasting serum samples are in mg / dl						

In the present study, there was a significant fall in fasting malondialdehyde levels within 40 days of the Yoga asanas. This indicates that the level of lipid peroxidation / oxidative stress was reduced The subjects felt better, were relieved of their stress and had improvement in their day to day performances. Studies regarding the effect of Yoga on oxidative stress in Type 2 diabetics are virtually not existent. In Diabetes Mellitus, there was increased oxidative stress because of the prolonged exposure to hyperglycaemia due to the improper utilisation of blood sugar by the tissues [3], [4]. This resulted in an increase in free radical production and insufficient antioxidants in the body. The increase in oxidative stress can be measured by estimating the status of malondialdehyde (MDA), a marker of lipid peroxidation. Yogic exercises require low amount of oxygen consumption and produce high oxygen tension in blood, leading to the postponement of fatigue (anaerobic threshold) [5].

Glycosylated Haemoglobin

In the present study, there was a decrease in glycosylated haemoglobin in the NIDDM patients undergoing Yoga practice. Glycosylated haemoglobin is abnormally high in Diabetics with chronic hyperglycaemia and reflects their metabolic control. B.K. Sahay [1] have reported a decrease in glycosylated haemoglobin to normal levels after Yoga asanas, thus indicating a smooth and good control of Diabetes. Glycosylated haemoglobin did not show much change as the patients did Yoga asanas for 40 days only and it represented a three month control [Table/Fig 5].

Oxidative Stress

			[T	able/Fig 5]				
					TED HEMOO S OF <i>YOGA 2</i>			
S. No.	S. No. Parameters			o. Parameters n Before		Before Yoga	After Yoga	p Value
				Mean ± S.E.	Mean ± S.E.	g varue		
1.	MD.	A	26	6.7 ± 0.7	3.4 ± 0.5	0.000***		
2.	GHI	3	15	9.98 ± 0.5	9.82 ± 0.7	0.863 ^{NS}		
***	:	Significa	nt at p	value of 0.000				
NS	:	Non Sign						
MDA	:			e in n mol∕ml				
GHb	:			emoglobin in perce				
<u>Note</u>	:				arum samples in 11 m isma samples in pero			

Insulin Kinetics Insulin levels increased with the increase in BMI (index of obesity). These levels decreased after 40 days of Yoga asanas. There was a reduction in insulin resistance with an improvement in insulin sensitivity. Thereby, it is inferred that Yoga asanas and pranayamas produce beneficial effects on insulin kinetics, prevent β cell exhaustion and thus avoid the development of insulin resistance (Syndrome X) in obese NIDDM. In normal weight NIDDM patients on Yoga asanas, insulin levels increased from a basal value, thus suggesting an increase in the secretion of serum insulin. The other changes included the normalisation of insulin levels, suggesting the beneficial effects of Yoga asanas in both obese and non-obese NIDDM patients. The mechanisms that contributed to the improvement of this status in both subgroups seemed to be variable. The improvement in insulin sensitivity was probably receptor mediated in obese NIDDM patients. However, future studies at receptor levels are needed to confirm this. Increase in insulin levels in non-obese diabetics need to be confirmed by further studies at the cellular gene level. Rughmini et al have postulated that Yoga asanas help in releasing stored insulin or in freeing bound insulin from the pancreas when pressure is applied on the abdomen. In the present study, serum insulin levels increased in non-obese NIDDM patients who were on Yoga asanas for 40 days. Thus, the normalisation of serum insulin helped NIDDM patients by directly increasing the utilisation and the metabolism of glucose in peripheral tissues, liver and adipose tissues

through it's effect on enzymatic processes. [B.K. Sahay [1] have also shown a significant increase in insulin sensitivity and a decrease in insulin resistance by reporting a significant rise in the insulin receptors. Diabetic subjects have demonstrated a decrease in body fat percentage, increase in the lean body mass, normalisation of the insulin glucagon (I/G) ratios and upregulation of insulin receptors. They have thus suggested a better utilisation of insulin and decreased peripheral resistance to insulin. B.K. Sahay [1] have also analysed the insulin / glucose ratio and have reported a significant fall in the fasting state in these patients, thus suggesting that asanas and pranayamas help in bringing about a near physiological response to stress in Diabetic patients. In their study, the increased fasting insulin concentrations have been found to correlate positively with the degree of obesity and with insulin resistance. [Table/Fig 6].

	[Table/Fig 6]										
	PLASMA INSULIN BEFORE AND AFTER 40 DAYS OF <i>YOGA ASANAS</i>										
	Before Yoga (µIU/ml) After Yoga (µIU/ml)										
В	MI <		BMI > 25 n = 7	BMI < 25 n = 4	BMI > 25 n = 7						
13.9	± 4.9	a	36.1 ± 113 _b	19.7 ± 4.8 _a	11.0 ± 2.0 _b						
a	:	g valı	ne < 0. 079								
b	:	p valı	ne < 0.614								

The effect of Yoga Asanas on the Cardiovascular System In the present study, it was observed that there was a significant decrease in the heart rate, besides there being a decrease in systolic and diastolic blood pressure. QTc intervals were also seen to have decreased. The subjects felt relaxed too. These observations suggest that Yoga exercises shift the autonomic equilibrium to the parasympathetic side [B.K. Sahay [1] have shown reduction in both systolic and diastolic blood pressure in hypertensive subjects after two to three weeks of Yoga practice, with significant reduction in drug requirements The diastolic blood pressure was low in trained subjects, especially after

the *Yogic* exercises. This has been associated with a decrease the sympathetic tone and consequently, a decreased peripheral resistance in trained subjects [6]. It has been established that certain Yogis can alter the patterns of their cardiovascular functions voluntarily [7],[8]. Changes of heart rate and respiration accompanying a *Yogic* subjective activity are intended to alter the state of mind alone [7]. There is rapid decrease of whole blood and red cell glycotic rate during meditation [9]. There is a small but significant increase of cardiac output which is reported during Meditation (15%), coupled with a significant decline of renal and hepatic blood flow [7]. It seems that blood pressure changes due to meditation are mainly dependent on peripheral resistance. Blood pressure may not change acutely during Meditation [11]. It leads to an improvement in the vagal tone, as shown by a decrease in the voluntary control over heartbeat. [12]. The Heart rate adjusted OT interval (QTc) predicts mortality in Diabetic patients with coronary heart disease, along with nephropathy and autonomic neuropathy. It may be associated with an imbalance of the sympathetic nervous system [13]. In Diabetics, QT lengthening has been linked to an increased risk of unexpected deaths. [14]. Reduction of the P wave in ECG in a group practicing Yoga asanas, has also been noted [12]. Other types of voluntary control of the heart such as tachycardia, bradycardia, achieving T-wave amplitude more than that of the Rwave and atrial flutters, have also been recorded [12] [Table /Fig 7].

([Table/Fig 7] CARDIAC PARAMETERS BEFORE AND AFTER 40 DAYS OF YOGA ASANAS										
S. No.	Parameters	Before Yoga	After Yoga	g Value							
	n = 20	Mean ± S.E.	Mean ± S.E.								
1.	DBP	86.7 ± 2.5	75.5 ± 2.1	<0.001							
2.	SBP	142.0 ± 3.9	126.0 ± 3.2	<0.001							
3.	Pulse Rate	86.45 ± 2.0	77.65 ± 2.5	<0.001							
4.	QTc	0.42 ± 0.0	0.40 ± 0.0	0.246							
DBP		lic Blood Pressure in									
SBP		ic Blood Pressure in 1									
PR		Rate in pulse / min									
OT.	: Correc	ted OT Interval									

The effect of *Yoga Asanas* on the Respiratory System and on Energy Metabolism.

In the present study, the regular practice of Yogic asanas in NIDDM Diabetics over a period of 40 days have been observed to lower the rate of respiration, increase FEV₁/ FVC, increase slow vital capacity and maximal voluntary ventilation, increase peak expiratory flow rate with a reduction in bronchial hyperactivity, increase expansion of the chest and increase the vital capacity and the ability to hold the breath. These changes were not significant, as pranayamas were carried out for 40 days only, as their blood sugar did not decrease. [Table/Fig 7]

	[Table/Fig 8] EFFECT OF YOGA ON LUNG FUNCTION BEFORE AND AFTER 40 DAYS OF YOGA ASANAS									
S. No.	Parameters	n	Before Yoga After Yoga		p Value					
			Mean ± S.E.	Mean ± S.E.						
1.	SVC	22	2.11 ± 0.1	2.21±0.1	0.156 ^{NS}					
2.	FEV1	20	1.83 ± 0.1	1.93 ± 0.1	0.287 ^{NS}					
3.	FVC	VC 22 2.14 ± 0.		2.20± 0.1	0.375 ^{NS}					
4.	RATIO	20	0.84 ± 0.0	0.86 ± 0.0	0.521 ^{NS}					
5.	PEFR	22	3.7 ± 0.3	4.4 ± 0.6	0.252 ^{NS}					
6.	MVV	22	57.2 ± 4.7	55.8 ± 3.8	0.332 ^{NS}					
NS		gnificant								
SVC			acity in lt							
FVC			ory Volume in First S pacity in <i>lt sec</i>	second in [t / sec						
RATIO	: FEV1/		pacity in # / 260							
PEFR			Flow Rate in It / sec							
MVV			tary Ventilation in It							

The effect of *Yoga Asanas on* Nerve Functions

In the present study, there was an increase in the left hand nerve conduction velocity. The distal amplitude in the diabetic subjects who were on *Yoga asanas* also increased. This was mainly due to decrease in blood sugar. The other reasons were proper utilisation of oxygen by the nerves, as measured by decrease in oxidative stress, a reduction of the weight and even distribution of fat in the body space, as shown by a decrease in the waist to hip ratio in these patients. The vibration sense as measured by a tuning fork was better appreciated and

the motor reflexes also improved. The latency decreased. Other parameters were insignificant because of intra observed variations such as the placement of electrodes, etc. Studies regarding the effect of *Yoga* on nerve conduction velocity in Type 2 Diabetics are virtually nonexistent. This study of this parameter is one of the firsts of its kind. It has been established that *Yogic* exercises reduce blood sugar [1] and serum lipid peroxide, thereby decreasing the toxicity of oxygen free radicals [15].It is therefore hypothesised, that the practice of *Yoga asanas* can decrease nerve injury and control or improve Diabetic neuropathy.

The effect of *Yoga Asanas* on the Central Nervous System.

The subjects felt better and were relieved of their stress and had improvement in their day to day performances. The subjects developed a sense of well being. Yoga relaxes, relieves stress and makes the patient feel good, alert, active and exhilarated by releasing opioids and altering adrenocortical activity that gives pleasurable sensations and keeps the body fit. Anand B.K., Chhina G.S., Baldev Singh. [16],[17] reported dominance of alpha rhythm in the EEG activity of the persons who were trained in Yoga. The subjects were more aware and restful. The presence of alpha waves (8-13 Hz) and theta waves was not correlated with the numbers of the years of Yoga practice. Yoga enhances the physical threshold to withstand every adverse state of the body and to achieve a mental stamina to ignore the most painful physical sensations. Exercises lead to efficiency and perfection. A person, by the practice of Yoga, acquires the knowledge of human physiology and psychology and thus, is able to govern the physiological and psychological aspects of his life. [Table/Fig 9]

			#	Distal	7.78 ± 0.6 ₄ ^{NS}	4.27 ± 0.3, NS	:1.1,						
	After Foga Mean ± S. E.	Left	Proximal	6.66 ± 0.4°s	7.81 ± 0.2, ^{NS}	54.75 ± 1.1 _k				stal - Wrist			
	RE AND	After Mean	Right	Distal	6.22 ± 0.4,™	$4.27 \pm 0.3_{\rm f}^{\rm NS}$	53.87 ± 1.1 _i ^{NS}		Significant at p ≤ 0.05	ficant	Proximal - Elbow and Distal - Wrist		
9]	NERVE CONDUCTION VELOCITY BEFORE AND AFTER 40 DAYS OF YOGA ASANAS		R	Proximal	6.55 ± 0.5 _. NS	7.30 ± 0.3, ^{NS}	53.87		Significar	: Non Significant	: Proximal		
[Table/Fig 9]	Table/Fig 9	Foga t.S.E.	Left	Distal	7.02 ± 0.4^{NS}	4.34± 0.3 ₈ NS	± 1.0,*		*	NS	Note		
	CONDUCT AFTER 40 D			Proximal	6.90 ± 0.4 №	7.81 ± 0.2 NS	52.46 ± 1.0		0.374	0.983	0.402	0.236	0.033
	RVE	Before Yoga Mean ± S.E.		[E]		0.3			4	ьп	ч		м.
N		Right	Distal	6.73± 0.5 ^{NS}	4.34± 0.3 _f ^{NS}	52.81 ± 1.1, 18	p. Value	0.590	90.70	0.670	0.394	0.582	
		R	Proximal	6.65 ± 0.5 ₂ 78	7.48 ± 0.4 NS	52.81		rd	Q	o	P	o	
			Parameters $n = 20$		Amplitude	Latency	Velocity						

Findings of Diabetic Controls

The control group of Diabetics comprised subjects of comparable age and severity who did other physical exercises and who were on a diet regime and drug therapy, with mild physical exercise i.e. walking in place of *Yoga asanas*. The changes in the various parameters were recorded..

There was a general increase in weight and increased distribution of fat in the abdominal region. This was associated with an increase in the body mass index and decrease in lean body mass.

There was an increase in the fasting and postprandial blood glucose levels, with an increase in total cholesterol, triglycerides, LDL and VLDL cholesterol levels. Thus, there was poor glycaemic control in these NIDDM patients who were associated with deterioration in the serum lipid profile.

There was an increase in glycosylated haemoglobin in the NIDDM patients who were not undergoing the *Yoga* practice. An increase in the glycosylated haemoglobin was observed, thereby indicating that the Diabetes in the subjects of the control group was progressing uncontrollably.

It has been observed that there was no change in the insulin levels. There was a rise in the fasting malondialdehyde levels after 40 days of the study, thereby indicating that the level of lipid peroxidation / oxidative stress was increased.

However, there was a decrease in flow volumes.

It was observed that there was an increase in the heart rate besides an increase in systolic and diastolic blood pressure. The QTc intervals were also found to have been increased. The lung function also deteriorated. These observations suggested that the physical exercises on which the subjects were, shifted the autonomic equilibrium to the sympathetic side.

The patients suffered a progressive loss of function of the nerves, which was confirmed by analysing their nerve conduction velocity of the median nerve. There was a slowing of the conduction velocity along with a decrease in the distal amplitude. This showed that Diabetes is a progressive disease affecting not only the myelin sheaths, but also the axons.

These findings conformed to the general view in the medical fraternity that Diabetes Mellitus is a slowly progressive disease affecting most of the systems in the body and perpetually deteriorating their normal functioning. However, specific *Yoga asanas* along with prescribed meditation and diet helps in arresting the progress of further complications of the disease and perhaps slowing it down.

Further studies are required in this direction to substantiate receptor studies and

hormonal assays in more number of cases. Cognitive function studies need to be done to support the subjective feeling of wellbeing among the NIDDM patients.

In **conclusion**, it can be said that Yoga asanas in mild to moderate NIDDM cases, used in addition to normal medical therapy, would give benefit to the patient and improve the status of Diabetics in terms of use of less medicine, improvement of physical well being, improvement in mental alertness and activity and leading a complication free life. Consequently, it is suggested that Yoga asanas and pranayamas may be used as an adjunct to reduce Diabetes Mellitus. In overweight NIDDM patients on Yoga asanas, insulin levels were brought back to normal from a very high basal level.

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Annexure 1

PROFORMA

S.No. OPD/Clinic	Date:		Ref. By	/ :
Name:	Age:		Sex : N	Iale / Female
Occupation:	Income:		Addres	0.
Occupation.	income.		Addres	5.
Educational Status				
	Y/N	Cim		0
	Y/N	Sino	e e	Quantity
Personal Habits				
Smoking				
Alcohol				
Tobacco Chewing				
	Freq	uency of	Intake	per Day
Dietary Habits				
Meat / Fruits / Vegetables				
High Fat Diet (Oil, Butter, Ghee)				
High Sugar Diet (Sweets, Sugar Intake)				
Vitamin C / Vitamin E				
Environment Pollution				
Vehicular Fumes / Workplace Fumes /				
Cooking (Firewood / Kerosene) Smoke				
	Y / N	Duration		Remarks

Frequent Urination / Increased Urine Output (Polyuria) Excessive Thirst (Polydispia) Excessive Hunger (Polyphagia) Feeling of Tiredness / Fatigue / Cramps Weight Loss Weight Loss Fasting Symptoms (Stupor, Tremors, Nervousness, Sweating, Feeling Cold) Constipation / Diarrhea Blurred Vision / Cataract / Stye Conjuctival Infection / Iris Inflammation Corneal Ulceration / Glaucoma Recurrent Boils / Candidiasis Postural Unsteadiness / Drowsiness Distal Muscle Wasting / Weakness Sensory Loss / Pain / Tingling / Burning Corns / Ulcers / Skin Colour Changes Abdominal Pain / Nausea / Vomiting Burning Micturation Unhealthy Gums / Pus Discharge Coldness of Feet / Colour Changes Gastric Acidity / Fullness of Abdomen Delayed Wound Healing / UV Burns Sick Look / Dehydrated / Kussmaul Breathin Associated Diseases Obesity / Malnutrition (Emaciation) Hypertension Tuberculosis Acromegaly / Mumps Pregnancy / Big Baby Fever / Thyrotoxicosis Gall Stones / Colic Parent(s) / Sibling(s) / Second Degree Relative(s) Family History Diabetes Mellitus Tuberculosis Hypertension Obesity Name Dose Duration	Presenting Complaints and History of Present Illness				
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Corns / Ulcers / Skin Colour Changes Abdominal Pain / Nausea / Vomiting Burning Micturation Unhealthy Gums / Pus Discharge Coldness of Feet / Colour Changes Gastric Acidity / Fullness of Abdomen Delayed Wound Healing / UV Burns Sick Look / Dehydrated / Kussmaul Breathin Associated Diseases Obesity / Malnutrition (Emaciation) Hypertension Tuberculosis Acromegaly / Mumps Pregnancy / Big Baby Fever / Thyrotoxicosis Gall Stones / Colic Parent(s) / Sibling(s) / Second Degree Relative(s) Family History Diabetes Mellitus Tuberculosis Hypertension Obesity					
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Acromegaly / Mumps Pregnancy / Big Baby Fever / Thyrotoxicosis Gall Stones / Colic Parent(s) / Sibling(s) / Second Degree Relative(s) Family History Diabetes Mellitus Tuberculosis Hypertension Obesity					
Pregnancy / Big Baby Fever / Thyrotoxicosis Gall Stones / Colic Parent(s) / Sibling(s) / Second Degree Relative(s) Family History Diabetes Mellitus Tuberculosis Hypertension Obesity					
Fever / Thyrotoxicosis Gall Stones / Colic Parent(s) / Sibling(s) / Second Degree Relative(s) Family History Diabetes Mellitus Tuberculosis Hypertension Obesity					
Gall Stones / Colic Parent(s) / Sibling(s) / Second Degree Relative(s) Family History Diabetes Mellitus Tuberculosis Hypertension Obesity					
Parent(s) / Sibling(s) / Second Degree Relative(s) Family History Diabetes Mellitus Tuberculosis Hypertension Obesity					
Family History Diabetes Mellitus Tuberculosis Hypertension Obesity	Gall Stones / Colic				
Diabetes Mellitus Tuberculosis Hypertension Obesity		Parent(s) / S	ibling(s) / S	econd Degree	e Relative(s)
Tuberculosis Hypertension Obesity	<u>Family History</u>				
Hypertension Obesity	Diabetes Mellitus				
Obesity	Tuberculosis				
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Hypertension				
Name Dose Duration	Obesity				
		Name		Dose	Duration

<u>Drug History</u>									
OCPs									
Steroids									
Antihypertensive Drugs									
Diabetogenic Drugs									
T.,1'									
Insulin Dietary Advise									
Breakfast									
Dicariast									
Lunch									
Snacks									
Dinner									
Dillici									
								Rem	arks
Physical Activities									
At Work / Home	Mi			derat	e	Severe			
At Leisure Time	W	alking	Spo	orts		Relaxation			
_		Y/N					Remar	·ks	
Psychological History									
Stress Aggression									
Restlessness									
Quarrelling									
Temperamental Nature									
Hysteria									

<u>EXAMINATION</u>				
General Physical Examination	Before Yoga	After Yoga	Remarks	

р. и.	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Pallor		
Icterus		
Edema		
Cyanosis		
Lymphadenopathy		
Anthropometric Measurements		
Height (cms)		
Weight (kgs)		
Waist Hip Ratio (WHR)		
Lean Body Mass for Male (LBM)		
$(1.10 \times \text{wt } (kg) - 128(\text{wt}^2/(100 \times \text{height } (m))^2)$		
Lean Body Mass for Female (LBM)		
$1.07 \times \text{wt } (kg) - 148(\text{wt}^2/100 \times \text{height } (m))^2)$		
Surface Area (m^2) 0.20247(height $^{0.725} \times$ weight $^{0.425}$).		
Body Mass Index (BMI) (wt/ht²)		
Vitals		
Temperature		
Pulse Rate (per min)		
Respiratory Rate (per min)		
Blood Pressure (mm Hg)		
Systemic Examination		
Chest		
Cardiovascular		
Abdomen		
Nervous System		

<u>PARAMETERS</u>					
	Before Yoga	After Yoga			
Biochemical Investigations					
Blood Glucose					
Fasting					
Post Prandial					
Lipid Profile					
Serum					
Cholesterol					
Serum					

Triglycerides Serum HDL Serum LDL				
Serum VLDL				
Serum Insulin				
Blood MDA Level				
Blood Glycosylated				
<u>Hemoglobin</u>	Before Yoga		A f4	on Vogo
Respiratory Parameters	Predicted	Observed	Predicted	er Yoga Observed
SVC (lt)				
FEV ₁ (lt / s)				
FVC (lt / s)				
FEV ₁ / FVC (%)				
PEFR (lt/s)				
MVV (lt / min)				
ECG (QTc Interval) Electrophysiological Parameters (Nerve Conduction Studies) Median Nerve Amplitude Latency Distance Velocity				
Miscellaneous Investigations Opthalmoscopy Urine Examination Hormonal Assay				