Potassium Monitoring from Multilead T-wave Morphology Changes during Hemodyalisis: Periodic versus Principal Component Analysis

Flavio Palmieri, Pedro Gomis, José Esteban Ruiz, Dina Ferreira, Alba Martín-Yebra, Esther Pueyo, Pablo Laguna, Juan Pablo Martínez, Julia Ramírez

Centre de Recerca en Enginyeria Biomèdica, Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya, Barcelona, Spain

Background: End-stage renal disease (ESRD) patients undergoing hemodialysis (HD) experience blood potassium variations ($\Delta[K^+]$) reflected on the T-wave (TW) morphology. In a previous work, we applied principal component analysis (PCA) as the lead space reduction (LSR) technique to extract three markers of TW morphology changes ($d_u^w$, $d_w$ and $\hat{d}_{w,c}$). However, periodic component analysis ($\pi$CA), computed using samples from the QRST complex, $\pi$CA$^B$, or using the TW only, $\pi$CA$^T$, might outperform PCA in tracking TW changes in ESRD-HD patients. The aim of this study was to compare the impact of using PCA, $\pi$CA$^B$ or $\pi$CA$^T$ as in prior to extracting $d_u^w$, $d_w$ and $\hat{d}_{w,c}$.

Methods: We applied the three LSR techniques to 12-lead 48 h electrocardiogram (ECG) recordings from 24 ESRD-HD patients. We, next, derived the markers from the PCA, $\pi$CA$^B$- and $\pi$CA$^T$-transformed lead with the highest TW energy. Each marker was calculated by comparing an average TW derived every 30 min with that at the end of the HD. To assess the agreement among each LSR-specific marker, we used Bland-Altman plots. Finally, we used the fitting error ($\epsilon$) to quantify the dispersion of each LSR-specific marker from a regression line (when $\Delta[K^+]$ is considered linear).

Results: The three series, $d_u^w$, $d_w$ and $\hat{d}_{w,c}$ (Figure), derived after using the three LSR techniques, followed $\Delta[K^+]$ along the 48 h (the first 5 h correspond to the HD). They also showed a good degree of agreement (median bias values $\leq 0.5$ ms) and a small dispersion (median $\epsilon \leq 3.3$ ms).

Conclusions: PCA and $\pi$CA can be used interchangeably to track TW changes in ESRD-HD patients.