

(Study of the Influence of Cigarette Smoking on Serum Oxidant and Antioxidant Status)

Safaa H. A. Al-Ghzi *

Abstract

The use of tobacco is a world wide problem and the traditional method of tobacco use is smoking cigarettes. This study was aimed to investigate the balance state in oxidation system (by measuring malondialdehyde (MDA) levels lipid peroxidation marker) - antioxidant system (by measuring ceruloplasmin (Cp) antioxidant marker) and attempted to shed a light on the possible correlation between (MDA), (Cp) and age of smokers and period of smoking.

Sample size was (49) healthy adult men smokers between the ages of 19-32. The results showed a presence of a significant increase in MDA levels in all smoker groups ($P \leq 0.05$) in comparison with control group (nonsmokers). Also, the results evinced the presence of a significant decrease in ceruloplasmin levels ($P \leq 0.05$) in comparison with control group (nonsmokers).

Our results confirmed the role of reactive oxygen species (ROS) in development of oxidative stress disorders, where serum MDA was found to be positively correlated with period of smoking. Whereas the results showed the presence a negative correlation between ceruloplasmin and period of smoking. Also proved no relationship between age of smokers and MDA levels and Cp levels.

Keywords: Smoking, Oxidants, Antioxidants, Malondialdehyde, Ceruloplasmin.

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Introduction

Smoking, in simple words, mean drawing and exhaling smoke from a cigarette, cigar, or pipe etc. it is one of the most common forms of recreational drug use. According to world health organization tobacco smoking is today the most popular form of smoking and practiced by over one billion people in majority of all human societies and approximately 47% of men and 12% of women smoke worldwide [1, 2]. Cigarette smoking is a major public health concern worldwide and is responsible for 5 million deaths each year [3]. During the last decades, many carcinogens have been identified in tobacco smoke, and smoking is now classified as cause of cancers of lung, or pharynx, larynx, esophagus, kidney, liver, uterine cervix, stomach, bladder, pancreas, nasal cavity and paranasal sinuses, as well as leukemia, but is also associated with heart disease and vascular disease [4]. Environmental tobacco smoke has been shown to contain high amounts of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) many of which have been shown to be potent carcinogens [5]. In a rat model, exposure to PAHs rapidly induced palpable mammary tumors [6]. Indeed, cigarette smoke contains numerous toxic compounds [7]. These compounds can inter act with DNA, lipids, and proteins in multiple organs to alter their normal physiological activities and ultimately lead to adverse health effects [8]. Oxidative stress is accepted as the initial step in the biological effect after cigarette smoking [9]. Chronic cigarette smoking is a well-known risk factor for developing coronary atherosclerosis via oxidative stress [10]. Generally, oxidant stress caused by smoking may damage biologic molecules such as protein, DNA and lipid molecules, and the degree of lipid peroxidation could be investigated with malondialdehyde (MDA), which is the break down product of lipid peroxidation [11]. To cigarette smoke may cause oxidant stress and also decrease the availability of certain antioxidant nutrients [12, 13]. There are in consistent findings about the effects of smoking on dietary antioxidants and oxidant metabolites [14]. The nutritional status of smokers may become promised by an inadequate diet such that smoking might be related to a lower dietary intake of antioxidants [15].

Antioxidant is any substance that when present at a low concentrations compared with those of an oxidizable substrate, significantly delays or prevents oxidation of that substrate [16]. This system includes the enzymes superoxide dismutase (SOD) and catalase. The body has several other important antioxidants. They are low molecular weight metabolites being either synthesized in the cell or supplied from diet. Ceruloplasmin (Cp) is a blue multi-copper oxidase which is found in the plasma of vertebrate species. The protein, which contains greater than 95% of copper (Cu) in the plasma, is synthesized mainly in the liver as a single-chain polypeptide and secreted into the plasma as a α_2 -glycoprotein [17]. Ceruloplasmin is an enzyme which has a role as an oxidant or antioxidant depending on the existence of Fe ions and similar material levels in the micro base, and it also scavenges superoxide anion radical ($\bullet\text{O}_2^-$) [18]. It also stops lipid peroxidation by direct oxidation of cations. As a result, membrane lipid oxidation is controlled [19]. The catalytic cycle involving four of the six coppers associated with Cp that employ dioxygen as the terminal electron acceptor without the intermediacy of a partially reduced oxygen species such as (O_2^-) or H_2O_2 [20,21,22].

Material and methods

- Blood samples collection

49 healthy university students aged 19-32 (38 smokers daily for at least 3 years) and 11 non-smokers volunteered to enter the study, with no history of diabetes, autoimmune diseases or exposure to radiation and chemotherapy. Blood samples were collected by venous puncture about 5 ml of their blood were collected in sterile, dry tubes and the plasma was separated by centrifuged at 3000 rpm for 15 minutes, and then serum was separated and kept in a clean tube in the refrigerator at 2-8°C until the time of assay.

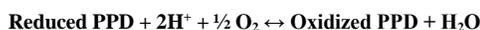
The subjects were classified into four groups as follows: (1) nonsmoker group 0 (n=11), (2) smoker group I (n=8, smoking 3-10 cigarettes per day), and (3) smoker group II (n=12, smoking 10 - 20 cigarettes per day), (4) smoker group III (n= 18, smoking more than 30 cigarettes per day)

- Determination of serum malondialdehyde (MDA)

Lipid peroxidation was evaluated as the concentration of malondialdehyde (MDA) thus provides valuable information for evaluation of oxygen radical-induced oxidative stress. In our study, MDA was assayed by the method of published earlier [23]. The pink chromogen produced by the reaction of thiobarbituric acid with malondialdehyde, a secondary product of lipid peroxidation was estimated. The absorbance of clear supernatant was measured against reference blank at 535 nm.

- Determination of Serum Ceruloplasmin (Cp)

Plasma Cp concentration was measured by the method published earlier [24]. It is based on the ceruloplasmin-catalyzed oxidation of colorless para-phenylene diamine (PPD) to blue-violet oxidized form. The reaction is followed photometrically and the blank value is determined after inhibition of the enzyme with sodium azide at (0°C).



(Colorless)

(Blue)

A mixture of serum, substrate and acetate buffer at pH = 6.0 was incubated at 37°C for 15 min. The reaction is stopped by the addition of sodium azide, and the absorbance of the purple color formed (Oxidized PPD) in the diluted test mixture is read at 525 nm against blank solution. The corrected absorbance is directly related to the concentration of Cp [25].

- Statistical analysis

Analyses were performed using SPSS (Version19.0 software). For comparison between groups, analysis of variance followed by multiple comparisons by T-test analysis. Significance was set at P<0.05. All values were expressed as means ± SD.

Results and Discussion

The host information of all smokers and nonsmokers subjects is summarized in table (1).

Table (1): Data of the volunteers.

No.	age	Number of cigarette / day	period of smoking	gender
1	22	.....	.....	male
2	29	.....	.....	=
3	23	.....	.....	=
4	24	.....	.....	=
5	22	.....	.....	=
6	22	.....	.....	=
7	22	.....	.....	=
8	29	.....	.....	=
9	25	.....	.....	=
10	20	.....	.....	=
11	19	.....	.....	=
12	22	60	9	=
13	26	4	2	=
14	25	30-40	11	=
15	32	8	4	=
16	26	2	1	=
17	22	5	2	=
18	22	60	4	=
19	20	20	4	=
20	23	40-60	3	=
21	23	30	4	=
22	22	30-40	10	=
23	22	10-15	5	=
24	23	10	1	=
25	22	10-20	5	=
26	23	30-40	6	=
27	21	20	6	=
28	22	20	2	=
29	22	20	2	=
30	22	30	1	=
31	21	20	4	=
32	23	10	5	=
33	22	30	5	=
34	21	20	7	=
35	19	30	6	=
36	21	30	3	=
37	26	20	10	=
38	32	40-60	10	=
39	28	5-10	1	=
40	23	40-50	3	=
41	25	40-50	7	=
42	20	20	2	=
43	23	3	1	=
44	21	30	1	=
45	21	30	6	=
46	25	20	3	=
47	25	20	6	=
48	23	30-40	7	=
49	26	60	17	=

- Determination of serum malondialdehyde (MDA)

Results of determination of serum MDA concentration in groups (I, II, III) and control group (0) are given in table (2), illustrate a significant elevation ($P < 0.05$) in serum MDA levels in groups (I, II and III) when compared to control group (0).

The increase of MDA levels as reported in the present study; this agrees with other works [26, 27]. The rising of MDA level is directly associated with the degree of lipid peroxidation which is one of the most important measurement of oxidative stress in smokers. Also oxidative stress is accepted as the initial step in the biological effect after cigarette smoking [28]. On the other hand, the evidence is becoming increasingly strong that free radicals are involved in many of the chronic diseases that are associated with smoking. And the concentrations of radicals in smoke are so high (compared, for example, with smog) that radical-mediated reaction pathways appear certain to result from the exposure of tissue to smoke [29].

The elevated oxidative stress in this study is thought to result both directly from inhaled oxidants in cigarette smoke or pollution and in directly due to the release of reactive oxygen species (ROS) generated by various inflammatory, immune and epithelial cells [30]. These results were in agreement with previous results of [31] that exposed rabbit pulmonary alveolar macrophages to a filtered aqueous extract of cigarette smoke; they monitored lipid peroxidation by the thio barbituric acid (TBA) test and found increased levels of TBA-reactive materials in the macrophages that were exposed to the smoke [32].

The results of statistical analysis (coefficient correlation) showed no relationships between age of smokers and serum MDA for all studied groups, which were demonstrated in (Figure 1). Similar result was concluded by [33]. Who showed that the serum MDA level unrelated with age of smoker. Also, a positive correlation (Figure 2) can be depended on to support the significant increase of MDA levels with long period of smoking. This result is supported by a similar study [34] indicated that there might be a close association between the duration of smoking and oxidative stress.

Table (2): Serum MDA levels taken from healthy volunteers.

Serum MDA concentration nmol/L				
Groups	(0) Nonsmoker/day	(I) Smoker (2-10)/day	(II) Smoker (10-20)/day	(III) Smoker more than 30/day
Number of subject	11	8	12	20
MDA (mean ± SD)	80.07 ±12.67	280.06 ±117.22	221.63 ±93.76	272.28 ±113.57

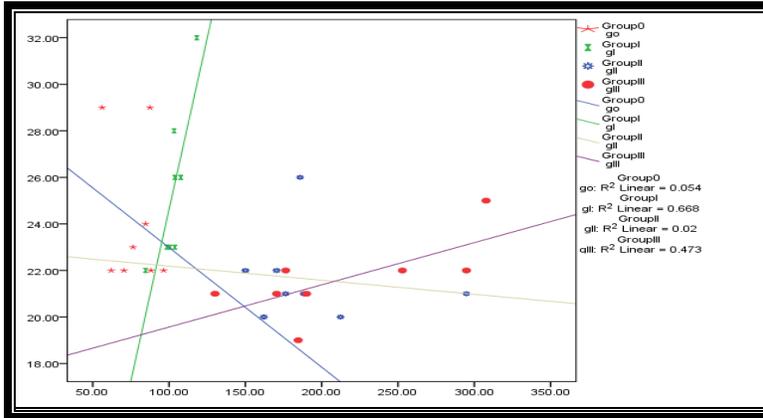


Figure (1): Correlation between age of smokers and serum MDA levels.

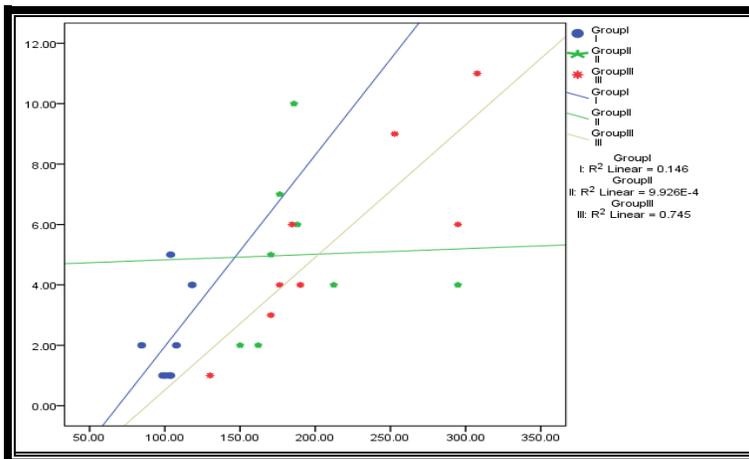


Figure (2): Correlation between period of smoking and serum MDA levels.

- Determination of Serum Ceruloplasmin (Cp)

Table (3), illustrate a significant decrease ($P \leq 0.05$) in serum Cp levels, in all smokers groups (I, II and III) when compared to control group (0).

The results in table (3) are fairly consistent with other laboratory data which shows that in vitro exposure to cigarette smoke could significantly decrease some enzymatic activities, both in plasma and in saliva [35].

The low concentrations of ceruloplasmin which was reported in the present study agree with the study of [36] that demonstrated the extent of ROS-induced oxidative damage can be exacerbated by a decreased efficiency of antioxidant defense mechanisms. On the other hand the fall in ceruloplasmin level which was reported in the present study agree with the study of [37]. Which demonstrated that ceruloplasmin concentration was decreased in the advanced stage of oxidative stress during smoking. Results of our study support the data presented by [38] who have reported decreased activity of ceruloplasmin in the smokers. In agreement with previous findings [39, 40]. On the other hand, the results of statistical analysis (coefficient correlation) showed no relationships between age of smokers and serum CP for all studied groups, which were demonstrated in (Figure 3). This result is consistent with results of study conducted by ministry of health (MOH) which found that the age of smokers do not relate with reduction of cp level [41].

Our results that were reported in the present study, illustrated that reactive oxygen species production increased during all studied types of smoking. Therefore, the slightly decrease in whole serum Cp may be due to its work in scavenging of hydrogen peroxide (H_2O_2) and hydroperoxide (ROOH). This is supported with negative correlation between serum Cp and period of smoking, which was shown in figure (4).

Table (3): Serum CP levels taken from healthy volunteers.

Serum Cp concentration mg/L				
Groups	Nonsmoker/day	Smoker (2-10)/day	Smoker (10-20)/day	Smoker more than 30/day
Number of subject	11	8	12	20
Cp (mean \pm SD)	9.29 \pm 1.68	4.52 \pm 2.59	4.73 \pm 2.19	3.57 \pm 1.72

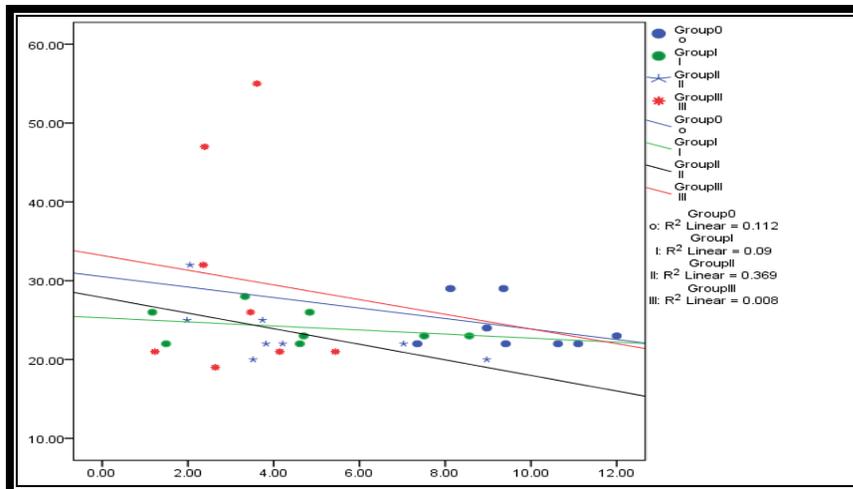


Figure (3): Correlation between age of smokers and serum CP levels.

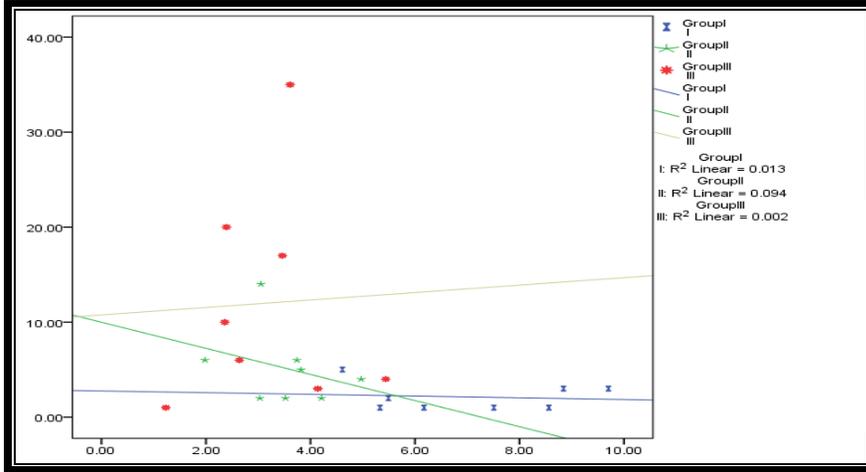


Figure (4): Correlation between period of smoking and serum CP levels.

- Conclusion and recommendations:

From these findings, it's possible to conclude that effects of cigarette smoking is associated with lower levels of antioxidants in smokers serum, suggesting the use of this antioxidant for the purpose of limiting lipid peroxidation. However, this study will need to be replicated with a greater number of subjects in order to establish conclusive reference values. A larger study would also allow researchers to look for different antioxidants.

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دراسة تأثير تدخين السجائر على حالة الأوكسدة مضادات الأوكسدة

صفاء حسين علي *

الخلاصة

يعد التدخين مشكلة عالمية، ويمثل تدخين السكان الطريقة الأكثر شيوعاً. تهدف هذه الدراسة الى تحقق من حالة التوازن بين عمليات الأوكسدة بواسطة قياس مستوى المالون داي الدهايد (MDA) كمقياس لعمليات الأوكسدة ومضادات الأوكسدة بواسطة قياس مستوى السيروبلازمين (Cp) كمقياس لمضادات الأوكسدة، ومحاولة تسليط الضوء على العلاقة المحتملة بين المالون داي الدهايد (MDA) والسيروبلازمين (Cp) وكل من عمر المدخن وفترة التدخين.

بلغ حجم العينة (49) مدخن من الرجال البالغين ممن تراوحت اعمارهم بين (19-32). بينت النتائج وجود زيادة معنوية ($P \leq 0.05$) في مستويات المالون داي الدهايد (MDA) في كل مجاميع المدخنين عند مقارنتها مع مجموعة السيطرة (غير المدخنين). وكذلك برهنت النتائج وجود انخفاض معنوي ($P \leq 0.05$) في مستويات السيروبلازمين (Cp) في كل مجاميع المدخنين عند مقارنتها مع مجموعة السيطرة (غير المدخنين).

اثبتت نتائجنأ دور جذور الاوكسجين الحرة في تطوير عمليات فرط الاوكسدة حيث وجد علاقة موجبة بين مستويات المالون داي الدهايد (MDA) وفترة التدخين. بينما اثبتت النتائج وجود علاقة سالبة بين مستويات السيروبلازمين (Cp) وفترة التدخين. ومن ناحية اخرى اثبتت النتائج عدم وجود ارتباط بين مستويات المالون داي الدهايد (MDA) و مستويات السيروبلازمين (Cp) نسبة الى عمر المدخنين.

* مدرس مساعد، كيميائ حيوية، المعهد التقني الشرطة

Table (1): Data of the volunteers.

No.	age	Number of cigarette / day	period of smoking	gender
1	22	.....	.....	male
2	29	.....	.....	=
3	23	.....	.....	=
4	24	.....	.....	=
5	22	.....	.....	=
6	22	.....	.....	=
7	22	.....	.....	=
8	29	.....	.....	=
9	25	.....	.....	=
10	20	.....	.....	=
11	19	.....	.....	=
12	22	60	9	=
13	26	4	2	=
14	25	30-40	11	=
15	32	8	4	=
16	26	2	1	=
17	22	5	2	=
18	22	60	4	=
19	20	20	4	=
20	23	40-60	3	=
21	23	30	4	=
22	22	30-40	10	=
23	22	10-15	5	=
24	23	10	1	=
25	22	10-20	5	=
26	23	30-40	6	=
27	21	20	6	=
28	22	20	2	=
29	22	20	2	=
30	22	30	1	=
31	21	20	4	=
32	23	10	5	=
33	22	30	5	=
34	21	20	7	=
35	19	30	6	=
36	21	30	3	=
37	26	20	10	=
38	32	40-60	10	=
39	28	5-10	1	=
40	23	40-50	3	=
41	25	40-50	7	=
42	20	20	2	=
43	23	3	1	=
44	21	30	1	=
45	21	30	6	=
46	25	20	3	=
47	25	20	6	=
48	23	30-40	7	=
49	26	60	17	=

Table (2): Serum MDA levels taken from healthy volunteers.

Serum MDA concentration nmol/L				
Groups	(0) Nonsmoker/day	(I) Smoker (2-10)/day	(II) Smoker (10-20)/day	(III) Smoker more than 30/day
Number of subject	11	8	12	20
MDA (mean \pm SD)	80.07 \pm 12.67	280.06 \pm 117.22	221.63 \pm 93.76	272.28 \pm 113.57

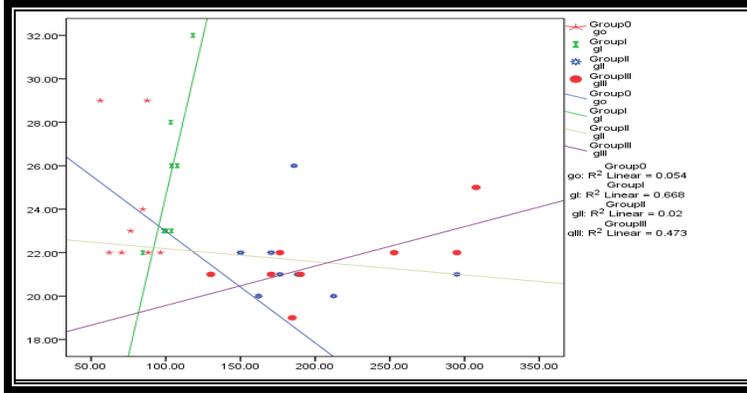


Figure (1): Correlation between age of smokers and serum MDA levels.

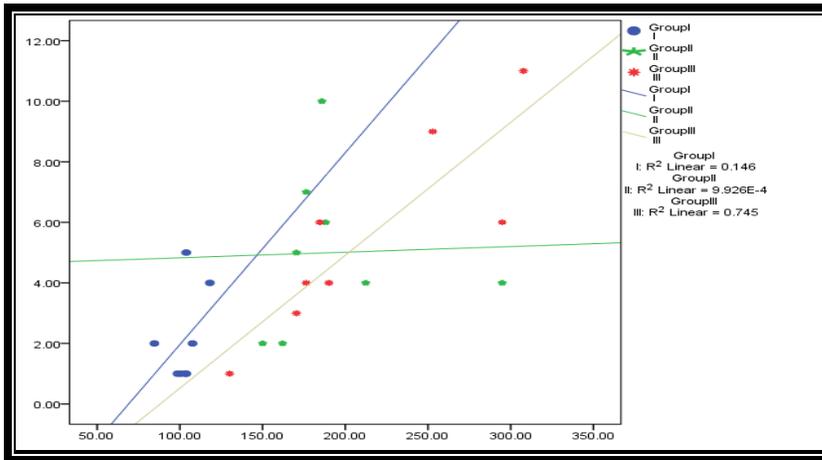


Figure (2): Correlation between period of smoking and serum MDA levels.

Table (3): Serum CP levels taken from healthy volunteers.

Serum Cp concentration mg/L				
Groups	Nonsmoker/day	Smoker (2-10)/day	Smoker (10-20)/day	Smoker more than 30/day
Number of subject	11	8	12	20
Cp (mean ± SD)	9.29±1.68	4.52±2.59	4.73±2.19	3.57±1.72

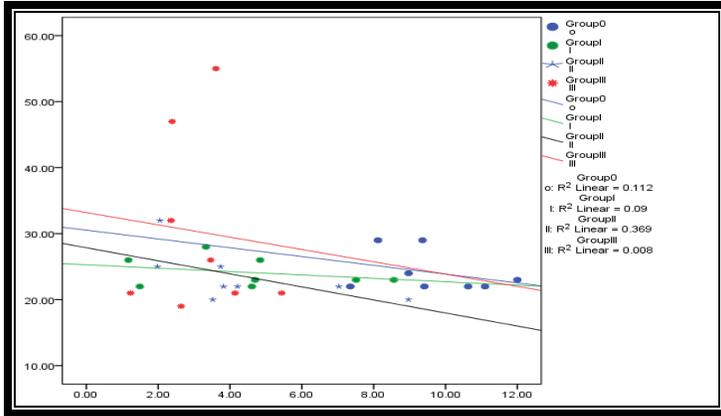


Figure (3): Correlation between age of smokers and serum CP levels.

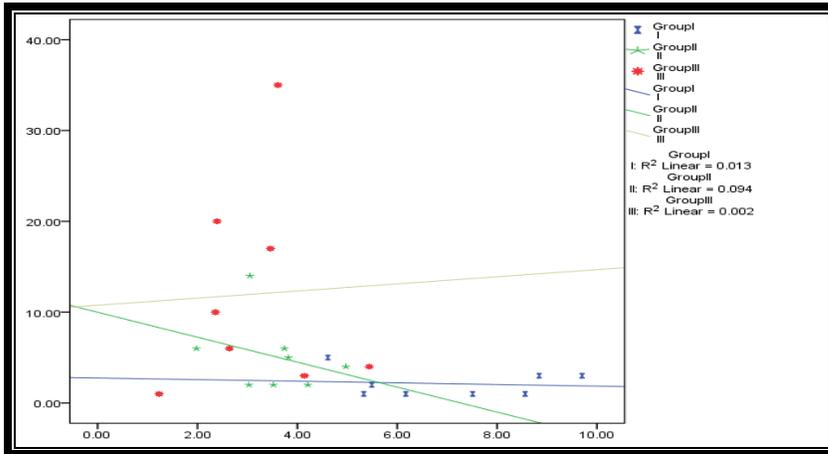


Figure (4): Correlation between period of smoking and serum CP levels.