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**Cytokines as pleiotropic modulators in the pathogenesis of
type 2 diabetes mellitus and specific vascular
complications**

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Abbreviations

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| AGE | Advanced Glycation Endproducts |
| BMI | Body Mass Index |
| CI | Confidence Interval |
| CIGMA | Continuous infusion of glucose with model assessment |
| CRP | C-reactive protein |
| DHEAS | Dehydroepiandrosterone sulfate |
| E ₂ | Oestradiol |
| EPIC | European Investigation into Cancer and Nutrition |
| FSH | Follicle-Stimulating Hormone |
| HbA _{1c} | Haemoglobin A _{1c} |
| HDL | High Density Lipoprotein |
| HIF-1 α | Hypoxia inducible Factor-1 α |
| HOMA | Homeostasis model assessment |
| IGF | Insulin-like Growth Factor |
| IKK- β | I κ B Kinase- β |
| IL-1 β | Interleukin-1 β |
| IL-6 | Interleukin-6 |
| JNK | c-Jun N-terminal Kinase |
| KO | Knock-out |
| LDL | Low Density Lipoprotein |
| LH | Luteinizing Hormone |
| MMP | Matrix Metalloproteinase |
| NF κ B | Nuclear Factor κ B |
| OR | Odds Ratio |
| PCOS | Polycystic Ovarian Syndrome |
| PDR | Proliferative Diabetic Retinopathy |
| PEDF | Pigment Epithelium Derived Factor |
| PKC | Proteinkinase C |
| RPE | Retinal Pigment Epithelial Cells |
| SEM | Standard Error of the Mean |
| SHBG | Sexual Hormone Binding Globulin |
| sICAM-1 | soluble Intercellular Adhesion Molecule-1 |
| SNP | Single Nucleotide Polymorphism |
| sVCAM-1 | soluble Vascular Cell Adhesion Molecule-1 |
| T2DM | Type 2 Diabetes mellitus |
| TNF- α | Tumor necrosis factor- α |
| VEGF | Vascular Endothelial Growth Factor |
| VLDL | Very low Density Lipoprotein |
| vWF | von Willebrand Factor |
| WHR | Waist-Hip Ratio |