



Abstract

# A Scoping Review on the Serum Biomarkers of Osteosarcopenic Obesity<sup>†</sup>

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**Abstract:** Background and objectives: Osteosarcopenic obesity/adiposity (OSO/OSA) syndrome describes the concurrent deterioration of bone, muscle, and adipose tissue. The objective of this review was to evaluate human studies addressing serum biomarkers in relation to OSA. Methods: A search in the PubMed, Scopus, and Web of Science databases was conducted to examine relevant articles published from their inception to the end of March 2023, using the MeSH strings in the search strategy. Only studies published in English and conducted in humans ( $\geq 18$  years) without chronic diseases (cancers, kidney/liver disease) or pregnancy were used. Book chapters, abstracts only, and studies in which participants did not have all three body composition components measured to identify OSA or in which the body composition components could not be related to the independent/exposure variables were excluded. Results: A total of  $n = 943$  articles were retrieved from all three databases. After removing duplicates and articles unrelated to the topic, only  $n = 4$  studies conducted in South Korea and China met the inclusion criteria. Three studies were cross-sectional while one was retrospective. Of the biomarkers, only serum 25(OH)D and ferritin were studied, showing strong relations with OSA. Discussion: Overall, lower serum vitamin D ( $< 20$  ng/mL) and higher serum ferritin were associated with a higher prevalence of OSA. Further research is needed to develop biomarkers for each tissue that, in combination, may indicate the existing impairments and presence of OSA.

**Keywords:** osteosarcopenic adiposity; osteosarcopenic obesity; OSA; biomarkers



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