

Platelet 5-HT transport in depression and the affects of treatment

Abou-Saleh, M. T.

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Platelet 5-HT transport was investigated in a group of 28 patients with depressive illness in comparison to results obtained in 12 normal subjects. Depressive patients were also investigated after treatment with antidepressants or ECT. 5-HT transport (K_m) was significantly lower in depressive patients than normal controls and showed no change after treatment. V_{max} values were similar in depressive patients and normal subjects with no change after treatment. Change in K_m and V_{max} values associated with change in cortisol levels. The implication of these findings are discussed in relation to the results of other studies and the notion that change in 5-HT transport kinetics and dynamics may reflect changes in cortisol dynamics