

Biological markers of women vulnerability to depression

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The objective of this study was to test the epidemiological and clinical studies in psychiatry revealed gender-base differences in the prevalence and manifestations of certain psychiatric disorders, in particular women may be more vulnerable to develop depressive disorders. A number of studies have demonstrated the correlation between depression and anxiety to estrogen and thyroid function, but the findings are still controversial. Forty outpatients complaining of depression according to DSM-IV as well as 20 women healthy controls were included in this study. Patients and controls were subjected to Kasr El-Aini Psychiatric Sheet, social level according to Egyptian Classification of Fahmy and El-Sherbini, Hamilton rating scale for depression, Beck rating scale for depression and T3, T4, TSH and estradiol level assessment. The results showed that there was a significant difference between menopausal and pre-menopausal patients regarding HAMD and BID. There was a significant difference between patients and control group regarding T3, T4, and TSH (among the pre-menopausal group) and E2.