

Pervasive developmental disorders : New biological perspectives

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Aim of the work: To explore the role of oxytocin and serotonin in the pathogenesis of PDD, to study the EEG changes in PDDs. Design of the study: Cross sectional, case control study. Method: The sample included 42 children and a control group formed of 20 healthy age and sex matched children, they are diagnosed according to ICD-10 to have PDD. All the subjects are investigated by the following: Sociodemographic data sheet, clinical psychiatric interview, CARS, tests for IQ, EEG and test for oxytocin and serotonin measurement. Results: there is high incidence of EEG changes among the patients with PDD as compared with normal controls, also, there is hyperserotonemia where the mean serotonin level among the PDD patients is 212.2 ± 55.8 and in the normal controls it is 157.1 ± 33.6 with significant difference. Also, there is high significant oxytocin level among the PDD patients 4.2 ± 2.5 than among the normal controls 2.9 ± 0.7 .

Conclusion: PDD is a biological disorder that should merit a medical approach in its management; the current study confirmed the high incidence of hyperserotonemia, high oxytocin level, perinatal insults, seizures and EEG changes.