

# **The serum level of tumor necrosis factor alpha (TNF-alpha) and interleukin- 6 (IL-6) in bipolar affective disorder and schizophrenia : Study in Egyptian sample**

**Hatata, H. Atta-Allah, M. F.**

**Current Psychiatry. Ain Shams University (Print)**

**2009 v16 n2**

A large body of evidence suggests that immune system dysregulation is associated with bipolar affective disorder (bad) and schizophrenia. this study is to characterize the immunological variations of patients with a bipolar affective disorder (bad) in manic phase diagnosis and patients with diagnosis of schizophrenia, by the quantification of the serum levels of tumor necrosis factor alpha (TNF-alpha) and interleukin - 6 (IL-6). Thirty-four patients with diagnosis of bad type I diagnosis and 36 physically healthy patients with diagnosis of schizophrenia and 18 matched controls were studied, after giving informed consent. The inclusion criteria included at least 12 weeks without any kind of psychopharmacological treatment. Exclusion criteria included any infectious diseases, allergies or any other kind of medical illness that required treatment with immunosuppressors, as well as any other diagnosis in axis I. physical and laboratory examinations was performed to rule out any clinical illness. Enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA) was used to analyze the serum cytokines concentration. Results showed that bad patients showed statistical significant increase in both il-6 and TNF-alpha values when compared to controls and on the other hand schizophrenic patients showed statistical significant increase in the serum levels of TNF-alpha when compared to controls. The comparison between both groups suggests that there is a distinctive cytokine pattern for the specific disorders.