

Hormonal levels in male heroin addicts and methadone detoxification

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ABSTRACT

Heroin addicts which we studied were associated with low plasma testosterone (T), luteinizing hormone (LH), follicle stimulating hormone (FSH), prolactin (PRL) and cortisol but only the T was significantly ($P < 0.05$) lower than in a control group. During low dosage methadone detoxification over 7 days, the hormonal levels were increased from pretreatment levels but the T was still significantly ($P < 0.05$) lower than in normal male controls. At the end of 14 days methadone treatment, we found that the T, LH and FSH levels were significantly ($P < 0.05$) higher than in control group. Moreover, there was a 48% HIV seropositive rate among the heroin addicted group.

Key words : Herion, Addict, T, LH, FSH, PRL, Cortisol, HIV

Chulalongkorn Medical Journal. 1995; 39(12): 867-875.