



PIGMENTATION

## HORMONAL PROFILE OF FEMALE PATIENTS WITH MELASMA: A CASE CONTROL STUDY

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**Introduction:** several factors have been implicated in the etiology of melasma, which include ultraviolet radiations, genetic predisposition, pregnancy and oral contraceptive pills. However there is a paucity of literature regarding the role of endocrine factors.

**Objective:** is to study the clinical and sex hormone correlation in female patients with melasma

**Patients and method:** this case control study included thirty Egyptian female patients with different clinical varieties of melasma and another ten healthy females as a control group. Assay of total and free testosterone, LH, FSH, Progesterone and 17 beta estradiol was done in the 5th or 6th day of the menstrual cycle in the mid follicular phase.

**Result:** the epidermal melasma was the commonest variety followed by the mixed type. There was a statistically significant increase in the level of 17 -beta estradiol in patients than control without any significant difference in the other sex hormones.

**Conclusion:** Among the sex hormones, 17 beta estradiol shows the significant increase in cases of females with melasma.

