

LEVELS OF LITHIUM IN SERUM AND IN SCALP HAIR OF CRIMINALS AND PERSONS WITH VIOLENT BEHAVIOUR

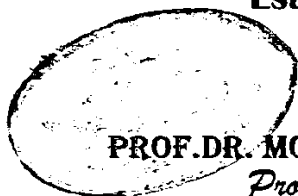
THESIS

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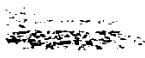
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TO...

To every one taught me a letter ..

To my parents ..



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<i>Introduction and Aim of the Work</i>	

INTRODUCTION AND AIM OF WORK

Lithium is a trace element and is metabolically active in many tissues especially those of the neuroendocrine system (*Smith, 1988*).

Lithium deficiency may cause varieties of clinical illness. Lithium has been found to be low in dental caries (*Schamshula et al., 1978*) and in mental retardation (*Bruhle et al., 1987*).

Hair lithium levels are also low in certain pathological conditions like heart disease, in learning disabled subjects and in incarcerated violent criminals (*Schrauzer, et al., 1992*).

In the opposite side Autistic population has significantly higher levels of lithium in hair compared to matched control of the same sex and age (*Wecher, et al., 1985*).

The aims of this thesis are:

- 1-Determination of serum lithium and lithium store in scalp hair of Egyptian criminals and those with violent behaviour.
- 2-Correlation between lithium in serum and hair in criminals with the violent behaviour.

