

Relationship between Oxytocin level and Major Depressive disorder

A Thesis

Submitted for The partial fulfillment of M.D Degree
in Psychiatry

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Ain-Shams University
CAIRO, 2018**

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

قالوا

لَسْبَحَانَكَ لَا عِلْمَ لَنَا
إِلَّا مَا عَلَّمْتَنَا إِنَّكَ أَنْتَ
الْعَلِيمُ الْعَظِيمُ

صدق الله العظيم

سورة البقرة الآية: ٣٢



Acknowledgments

First, I wish to express my deep thanks, sincere gratitude to **Allah**, who always helps me, care for me and granted me the ability to accomplish this thesis.

I would like to express my deepest gratitude, thanks and gratefulness to **Prof. Abd El Nasr Mahmoud Omar**, Professor of Neurology and Psychiatry, Ain Shams University, for his enthusiastic support, continuous encouragement, valuable scientific advices, and great help through out of the accomplishment of this work. It would be impossible to count all the ways that he has helped me to complete this work and throughout my career path.

I am very grateful to **Prof. Heba Hamed Mahmoud Alshahawy**, Professor of Neurology and Psychiatry, Ain Shams University, for her kind supervision, support, indispensable suggestion, and great help through out of course of my thesis.

I am profoundly grateful to **Prof. Doaa Hamed Mostafa Hewedi**, Professor of Neurology and Psychiatry, Ain Shams University for her guidance.

My sincere thanks to **Ass. Prof. Reem El Sayed Mohamed Hashem**, Assistant professor of Neurology and Psychiatry, Ain Shams University, for her kind and meticulous supervision, support, help, valuable supervision all through the work.

Words can never express my sincere thanks to **my family and my loving husband** for their generous emotional support and continuous encouragement which brought the best out of me. I owe them all every achievement throughout my life. **I can't miss my Sweet Unique Beloved Son** Whose love and smile gives meaning to life and the power to carry on.

I would like to express my everlasting gratitude to all my all **my professors, colleagues and friends**, so many of them influenced, encouraged and inspired me throughout the years and wishing them the best of all.

I would like also to thank the **patients** who agreed willingly to be part of my study and without them I wouldn't have been able to accomplish this work.

 **Fairouz Ahmed Abdel Moneim Tawfik**

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List of Abbreviations

<i>Abbr.</i>	<i>Full-term</i>
ACTH	: Adrenocorticotrophic hormone
ASD	: Autism spectrum disorders
BDNF	: Brain derived neurotrophic factor
BMI	: Body mass index
CNS	: Central nervous system
CRH	: Corticotropin-releasing hormone
CSF	: Cerebrospinal fluid
ECT	: Electroconvulsive therapy
FST	: Forced swimming test
GABA	: Gamma-aminobutyric acid
GAD	: Generalized Anxiety disorder
GRs	: Glucocorticoid receptors
HPA	: Hypothalamic-pituitary-adrenal
HRSD	: Hamilton Rating Scale for Depression
i.p	: Intraperitoneal
ICV	: Intra-cerebroventricular
IQR	: Interquartile range
LHA	: Lifetime History of Aggression
LH-RH	: Luteinizing hormone-releasing hormone gene
M	: Mean
MAOA	: Monoamine oxidase Type A

MBTs	: Mind–body therapies
MDD	: Major Depressive Disorder
MnR	: Median raphe nuclei
MPFC	: Medial prefrontal cortex
NMDA	: N-methyl-D-aspartate
NPV	: Negative predictive value
OCD	: Obsessive-compulsive disorder
OTRs	: Oxytocin receptors
OXT	: Oxytocin
OXTR	: OXT receptor
P	: Probability
PPV	: Positive predictive value
PTSD	: Post-traumatic stress disorder
PVN	: Paraventricular nucleus
r	: Correlation coefficient
RCTs	: Randomized controlled trials
ROC	: Receiver operator curve
SCID-I	: Structured Clinical Interview for DSM-IV-TR Axis I Disorders
SD	: Standard deviation
SNRI	: Selective norepinephrine reuptake inhibitor
SON	: Supraoptic nucleus
SPSS	: Statistical Package for Social Sciences
SSRIs	: Selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors
STAI	: State trait anxiety inventory

TCA	: Tricyclic antidepressant
TGOT	: Thr4, Gly7-oxytocin
WHO	: World Health Organization

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ABSTRACT

Background: major depressive disorder is one of the most common medical disorders worldwide, having huge impact on physical and mental health in the society and is considered an extended life-threatening psychiatric disorder. Abnormalities in the neurohypophyseal system, neuroendocrine, and immune systems have been reported in depression. **Aim of the Work:** this study was carried out to identify the relationship between plasma oxytocin level and the severity of major depressive disorder. **Patients and Methods:** this case control observational study was started from July 2016 till March 2018. The subjects were selected from inpatient and outpatient clinics of Institute of Psychiatry, Faculty of medicine, Ain Shams University. Twenty two female patients were enrolled and fourteen female healthy subjects were considered as controls. Both groups were subjected to Arabic version of Structured Clinical Interview for DSM-IV-TR Axis I Disorders and sampling of serum Oxytocin. Moreover the female patients were subjected to Hamilton rating scale for depression and state trait anxiety inventory to assess the presence of anxiety symptoms. **Results:** our study revealed reduced serum oxytocin levels in depressed female patients with cutoff point ≤ 25.6 denoting that below this level shows probability for major depressive disorder in females. **Conclusion:** our study revealed reduced serum oxytocin levels in depressed female patients. Consistently with the hypothesis of dysregulated OXT biology may serve as a biomarker for major depression. **Keywords:** Oxytocin, major depressive disorder, Hamilton Rating Scale for Depression, state trait anxiety inventory.

Introduction

Major depressive disorder (MDD), is associated with substantial deficits in quality of life, considered to be the leading cause of disability globally as it affects nearly 350 million people worldwide (**Rapaport et al., 2005; Ishak et al., 2013**).

Importantly, the quality of life deficits revealed to persist beyond the clinical resolution of symptoms. Placing patients at an increased risk for relapse and rising direct and indirect costs (**Ishak et al., 2015**).

In the last decades several neuropeptide families were discovered having modulatory roles on neurotransmission in synapses. This in turn evoked the interest of psychoneuro-endocrinologists predicting potential significant clinical relevance in the treatment of stress-related mood disorders (**Paschos et al., 2009**).

Oxytocin (OXT) is a neuropeptide produced in the hypothalamus, involved in a broad range of physiological and behavioral processes (**McQuaid et al., 2013**).

A few data suggest a link between Oxytocin and neuropsychiatric disorders, especially obsessive-compulsive disorder, eating disorders, addiction, post-traumatic stress