

Callous Unemotional Traits in Conduct Disorder in Relation to Salivary Cortisol Level

Prof. Hani H. Dessoki *, **Assist. Prof. Heba F. Abd El Reheem****, **Assist. Prof. Maha E. Ahmed ***, **Dr. Mohamed R. Soltan MD*****, **Ahmed A. Abdel Hakim MD *** and **Dr. Mariam E. Dawoud MSc*****.

* Department of Psychiatry, Faculty of Medicine, Beni Suef University.

**Department of Psychiatry, Faculty of Medicine, Cairo University.

***Department of Psychiatry, Faculty of Medicine, Fayoum University.

Abstract

Objectives: To show the correlation between items of Callous Unemotional Inventory (CUI) and Conduct Disorder and to assess correlation between salivary cortisol and Conduct Disorder.

Background: Emerging evidence suggests that low levels of cortisol may act as a biological marker for the Callous Unemotional traits (CU Traits) subgroup of Conduct Disorder. **Materials**

and Methods: The current study tested the presence of items of Callous Unemotional Inventory (CUI) and the salivary cortisol level among group of patients with Conduct Disorder (Forty patients from 12 to 16 years old , diagnosed according to criteria of DSM IV and recruited from Kasr El Aini Psychiatric hospital) and group of control (Forty healthy volunteers) . Both groups were subjected to Callous Unemotional traits Inventory and salivary cortisol level was assessed using ELISA. **Results:** Patient group showed high levels of CU traits compared to control group. Patient group showed significant difference in salivary cortisol level (mean is 3.188 ± 1.1108) compared to control group (mean is 5.01 ± 1.846). This study found correlation between Callous traits and severity of Conduct Disorder. **Conclusions:** The current findings build upon recent research in suggesting that low cortisol level may be a biological marker for patients with Conduct Disorder and high levels of CU traits.

Keywords: callous unemotional traits; conduct disorder; salivary cortisol; disruptive disorder.

Corresponding author and reprint:

• Mohamed Ramadan Soltan M.D., lecturer of Psychiatry, Department of Psychiatry, Faculty of Medicine, Fayoum University. Lives in Berket El Saba city, Menoufia Governorate, Egypt.

Tel: 002-048-2999084;002-01221562006

e-mail: Dr.mohamedsoltan1979@gmail.com

Fund: None

Conflicts of interest: None