

VERY LOW HORMONE LEVELS

THE QUESTION: ARE THEY THE CAUSE OR RESULT OF PAIN TREATMENT FAILURE?

Chronic pain treatment failure is defined here as inadequate pain control despite multiple non-pharmacologic measures and a variety of neuropathic agents, anti-inflammatories, antidepressants, muscle relaxants, and a daily opioid dosage equivalent of 80-100 mg of morphine.

Just published (Postgraduate Med, Dec, 2014; were the hormone abnormalities in 61 consecutive treatment failures.

TABLE TWO		
VERY LOW HORMONE LEVELS WERE		
FOUND IN 61 CHRONIC PAIN TREATMENT FAILURES		
HORMONE	NO. PATIENTS	LEVEL
CORTISOL	3	< I.0 mcg/dl
TESTOSTERONE	6	< 3.0 ng/dl
PREGNENOLONE	9	< 5.0 ng/dl

RESULT

All patients with very low hormone levels received hormone replacement plus additional analgesics measures, and all achieved adequate pain control.

THE ANSWER: Both

Very low hormone levels are initially caused by chronic & severe pain but then the patient has so little hormone that opioids and adjunct medications are ineffective.

A vicious cycle!!

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Dr. Hormone says,

"Raise the hormone level to achieve pain control."



