

AN AGE RELATED VARIATION IN PROLACTIN IN  
Presumably FERTILE SRI LANKAN MEN

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We have previously reported a significant increase in serum FSH and a significant increase in serum FSH and a significant reduction in serum testosterone concentrations with advancing age in presumably fertile Sri Lankan men. In view of these findings and varied actions of prolactin on the reproductive system, serum prolactin concentrations were studied in presumably fertile healthy Sri Lankan men in age groups 21 - (n=34) 41 - (n=26) and 61-85 (n=15) years. Venous blood samples (5 ml) were collected from all subjects between 09.00-14.00 hours, serum was separated and prolactin concentrations were measured using an immunoenzymetric assay. Prolactin concentrations (geometric mean and 95% confidence limits) were 138.1 (123.0-141.2), 120.2 (112.5-128.5) and 204.2 (190.5-218.8) mIU/I in the 21-, 41- and 61-85 year groups respectively. Prolactin concentrations between 21 and 41 - year groups. Further studies will be required to ascertain whether this age related rise in prolactin is secondary to the changes in the reproductive system or to the reduction in biogenic amines in the hypothalamus seen with advancing age.

References: 1. Tennekoon K.H. & Karunanayake, E.H. (1989)  
Proc. Sri Lanka Assoc. Adv. Sc. Part I, pp11.