

2.3 to 2.3 - Hypophyseal adenoma

- Common disorder due to increased secretion of pituitary. Most common in women with long standing menstrual disorders. Less in men.
- PRL is sparingly secreted in circulation because its secretion is under inhibition by a PRL Inhibiting factor.

Causes:

- i) Lactotroph adenoma (Prolactinoma)
- ii) Lactotroph hyperplasia
- iii) Chord wall injury and spinal cord lesion
- iv) Chronic renal failure
- v) Cirrhosis
- vi) Empty sella syndrome
- vii) Drugs: Chlorpromazine and oral contraceptives
- viii) Increased prolactin in pregnancy

Clinical features:

Women → Galactorrhea, Menstrual irregularities, Infertility, Amenorrhea, Anovulation, infertility

Men → loss of libido, impotence, azospermia

- local pressure on optic chiasma, optic tract and third ventricle, causes visual field defect, Headache, papilloedema, obstructive hydrocephalus.

Hook effect → To differentiate prolactinoma from nonfunctioning adenoma.

Diagnosis:

Serum Prolactin level above 20 ng/dl.

Thyroid function test, CT, MRI, PET.