

LETTER TO EDITOR

Chronic Musculoskeletal Pain in Females as A Manifestation of Vitamin D Deficiency in Saudi Arabia

Aisha M. Siddiqui

Department of Medicine, King Abdulaziz University Hospital, P.O. Box 80215, Jeddah 21589, KSA

Corresponding author: Aisha M. Siddiqui Email: medconf@yahoo.com

Published: 01 November 2010

Ibnosina Journal of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences 2010, 2(6):293

Received: 17 September 2010

Accepted: 01 October 2010

This article is available from: <http://www.ijmbs.org>

This is an Open Access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution 3.0 License, which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original work is properly cited.

To the Editor

I would like to thank Dr. Eledrisi for his interest in our recent publication (1) and his valuable comments (2) about said article. It is true that the study lacked a control group for comparison, which was a drawback of the study, and it would have been more convincing and methodologically appropriate. I agree that a double-blinded placebo controlled study of comparative groups would have provided more scientifically sound results and would have effectively eliminated the issue of a placebo effect. That being said, it does not seem likely that our patients' response was due to placebo effect because they have been seeing other health care centers for more than six months and have been administered a variety of medications without any benefit. Serum levels of 25-OH were not measured after treatment and improvement of symptoms because our patients were treated with One Alpha Cholecalciferol and not vitamin D3, therefore the test was not appropriate. Patients were not given the same dose of vitamin D. Different doses of

One Alpha treatment were given to the patients according to their deficiency for a minimum of six months and thereafter changed to maintenance doses of vitamin D3 and subsequently followed up regularly.

References

1. Siddiqui AM. Chronic Musculoskeletal Pain in Females as a Manifestation of Vitamin D Deficiency in Saudi Arabia. *Ibnosina J Med BS* 2010;2(5):205-9.
2. Eledrisi MS. Chronic Musculoskeletal Pain in Females as a Manifestation of Vitamin D Deficiency: Letter to the editor. *Ibnosina J Med BS* 2010;2(6):291-2.