

Endogenous progesterone is associated to amyotrophic lateral sclerosis prognostic factors. [Gargiulo Monachelli G](#), [Meyer M](#), [Rodríguez GE](#), [Garay LI](#), [Sica RE](#), [De Nicola AF](#), [González Deniselle MC](#)

201101 123(1):60-7 Language: eng Country: Denmark Laboratory of Neuroendocrine Biochemistry, Instituto de Biología y Medicina Experimental, CONICET, Buenos Aires, Argentina Neurology Department, J.M. Ramos Mejía Hospital, Buenos Aires, Argentina Department of Human Biochemistry, School of Medicine, University of Buenos Aires, Buenos Aires, Argentina Department of Science and Technology, School of Medicine, University of Buenos Aires, Buenos Aires, Argentina.

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include advanced age, shorter time from disease onset to diagnosis, bulbar onset and rapid progression rate.

Objective - To compare progesterone (PROG) and cortisol serum levels in patients and controls and ascertain its relationship to prognostic factors and survival. Methods - We assessed serum hormonal levels in 27 patients and 21

controls. Results - Both hormones were 1.4-fold higher in patients. PROG showed a negative correlation with age, positive correlation with survival and positive trend with time to diagnosis. Increased PROG was observed in spinal

onset and slow progression patients. No correlation was demonstrated with cortisol. Conclusion - Increased

hormonal levels in patients are probably due to hypothalamic-pituitary-adrenal axis activation. Nevertheless, in this

preliminary report only PROG correlated positively with factors predicting better prognosis and survival. We

hypothesize endogenous PROG and cortisol may be engaged in differential roles, the former possibly involved in a neuroprotective response.

