## ASSESSMENT OF THERAPEUTIC, PROLONGED AND OVERDOSE TREATMENT WITH DIAZEPAM ON LIPID PROFILE AND GONADAL STEROID LEVEL OF MATURED MALE ALBINO RATS

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## **ABSTRACT**

The effect of therapeutic, prolonged and overdose treatment with diazepam on lipid profile and gonadal steroid (Testosterone) level of matured male albino rats was evaluated. A total number of 20 male rats (average weight of 160g) were grouped into four of 5 rats each. Group A received a normal therapeutic dose of 0.012 mg/Kg body weight. Group B received an Overdose of 0.036mg/kg body weight. Group C received a prolonged dose of 0.012mg/kg body weight for 28 days. Group D did not receive any treatment and served as the control group. Groups A and B were treated for two weeks while Group C was treated for four weeks. Blood samples were collected from Groups A and B after two weeks and from groups C and D at the end of week 4. Analysis for cholesterol (CHOL), triglycerides (TRYG), Lowdensity lipoproteins (LDL-C), high-density lipoproteins (HDL-C) and Testosterone hormone were evaluated. Results obtained showed a significant increase (p<0.05) in plasma CHOL level in groups that received the Prolonged dose (1.12  $\pm$  0.13mg/dl) and overdose (1.10  $\pm$ 0.14 mg/dl) when compared to the control (0.93  $\pm$  0.10 mg/dl). There was a significant reduction (p>0.05) in TRYG for the groups that were administered with normal and prolonged normal doses. The LDL-C levels for the groups administered with overdose (0.68 + 0.13mg/dl) and prolonged dose (0.68 + 0.13) was significantly increased when compared with the control (0.48  $\pm$  0.05mg/dl). However, there was a significant decrease in the value of HDL-C for the overdose and prolonged dose groups when compared with the control. The results obtained for testosterone showed that there was a significant decrease (p<0.05) in the groups that received overdose (0.95  $\pm$  0.10mg/dl) and prolonged (0.83 $\pm$  0.05mg/dl) doses of diazepam respectively when compared to the control group (1.45  $\pm$  0.06mg/dl). This study has provided evidence of the adverse effects of overdose and prolonged intake of diazepam on lipid profile and testosterone which is reproductive hormone in matured male albino rats.

**Keywords:** Lipid profile, testosterone, diazepam, therapeutic dose, prolonged dose, overdose.