INTRODUCTION

Prolactin is an anterior pituitary peptide that has been recognized as a neurostimulant peptide for last few years ***(Lavalle, 1992).***

Prolactin is a potent immunomodulator capable of exerting stimulatory effect up on immune system ***(Berczi, 1993).***

Prolactin may be important in the regulation of both humoral and cell mediated responses and may play a role in the pathogenesis of autoimmune disease including systemic lupus erythematosus ***(Reber, 1993).***

Investigators have surveyed patients with SLE and found that hyperprolactinemia was common in male and female patients with lupus ***(Jara et al., 1991).***

A direct correlation was found between hyperprolactinemia, clinical disease and serological activity ***(Jara, et al., 1992).***

Animal studies show a correlation of high prolactin concentrations with active SLE ***(McMurrary et al., 1991).***

In a recent study it was shown that in 6 of 7 patients with active SLE, 6 months of bromocriptine treatment was efficacious for constitutional cutaneous, circulatory and arthritic manifestations of SLE. Discontinuing the drug was followed by new and unexpected hyperprolactinemia & disease flares ***(McMurray et al., 1995).***

In contrast to these data ***Pauzner et al. (1994)*** suggested that hyperprolactinemia is not associated with disease activity in SLE.