

SERUM HALOPERIDOL LEVEL AND CLINICAL EFFECTS  
IN CHRONIC SCHIZOPHRENIA

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Haloperidol was given orally in doses of 5 mg or 10 mg a day to 18 Korean chronic schizophrenics. Diagnostic criteria for schizophrenia was DSM-III-R. Patients' conditions were evaluated in a double blind condition with positive and negative syndrome scale (PANSS) for schizophrenia and CGI in two-week intervals. Side effects were also monitored. After 8 weeks' treatment, the serum level of haloperidol was measured by radioimmunoassay. After 8 weeks' treatment with haloperidol, PANSS and CGI scores decreased significantly. The serum haloperidol level showed various ranges from 3.06 ng/ml to 11.91 ng/ml. The haloperidol level significantly correlated positively with the serum prolactin level. However, it did not significantly correlate with the improvement in either total score or subscores of PANSS, CGI and side effects.