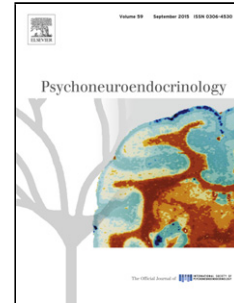


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Authors: Yu-Chi Huang, Chi-Fa Hung, Pao-Yen Lin, Yu Lee,  
Chih-Ching Wu, Su-Ting Hsu, Chien-Chih Chen, Mian-Yoon  
Chong, Chieh-Hsin Lin, Liang-Jen Wang



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## Gender differences in susceptibility to schizophrenia: potential implication of neurosteroids

Yu-Chi Huang<sup>a,g</sup>, Chi-Fa Hung<sup>a</sup>, Pao-Yen Lin<sup>a,b</sup>, Yu Lee<sup>a</sup>, Chih-Ching Wu<sup>c,d</sup>, Su-Ting Hsu<sup>e</sup>, Chien-Chih Chen<sup>a</sup>, Mian-Yoon Chong<sup>a</sup>, Chieh-Hsin Lin<sup>a</sup>, Liang-Jen Wang<sup>f,\*</sup>

<sup>a</sup> *Department of Psychiatry, Kaohsiung Chang Gung Memorial Hospital and Chang Gung University College of Medicine, Kaohsiung, Taiwan*

<sup>b</sup> *Institute for Translational Research in Biomedical Sciences, Kaohsiung Chang Gung Memorial Hospital, Kaohsiung, Taiwan*

<sup>c</sup> *Molecular Medicine Research Center, Chang Gung University, Tao-Yuan, Taiwan*

<sup>d</sup> *Department of Medical Biotechnology and Laboratory Science, Chang Gung University, Tao-Yuan, Taiwan*

<sup>e</sup> *Kaohsiung Municipal Kai-Syuan Psychiatric Hospital, Kaohsiung, Taiwan*

<sup>f</sup> *Department of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, Kaohsiung Chang Gung Memorial Hospital and Chang Gung University College of Medicine, Kaohsiung, Taiwan*

<sup>g</sup> *Chung Shan Medical University School of Medicine, Taichung, Taiwan*

**Running title:** Neurosteroids in schizophrenia

### Highlights

- Compared to healthy males, males with schizophrenia had significantly lower serum levels of DHEA and pregnenolone.
- In males with schizophrenia, serum levels of DHEA and DHEA-S were associated with the age of onset and duration of illness.
- In males with schizophrenia, pregnenolone levels were associated with general symptoms of the PANSS.
- In females, none of the neurosteroid levels were different between schizophrenic patients and controls, nor were they associated with any psychopathology evaluations.
- Neurosteroids may be involved in the gender differences found in the susceptibility to schizophrenia.

Word count:

Abstract-246; Text-3324; 3 Tables, 1 Figures and 61 References

**\* Corresponding Author:**

Liang-Jen Wang, M.D., M.P.H.

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