

EFFECT OF CIGAR SMOKING ON URINARY CALCIUM, ASCORBIC ACID AND CREATINE LEVELS IN POST MENOPAUSAL WOMEN

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In Jaffna, especially older women smoke cigars daily. To elucidate the effect of cigar smoking on the above mentioned parameters, studies were carried out in 40 healthy post menopausal woman in the age of 50-70 years. They were grouped into smokers (20) and nonsmokers (20). The non smokers were treated as controls.

Urinary calcium level was measured by orthocresolphalin complexone (CPC) method. A significant increase was

observed in urinary calcium excretion in smokers than controls.

Urinary level of ascorbic acid was measured by DCPIP method. Urinary excretion of ascorbic acid in smokers was less than that of non smokers among post menopausal woman. The difference was statistically significant.

Urine creatinine level was measured by alkaline picrate method. The urinary calcium level of smokers was significantly higher than non smokers.