It has been postulated that the nasal mucosa, similarly to other human tissues, is affected by hormones such as estrogen. Some authors have studied the “Hormonal Rhinitis” that has been related to pregnancy and oral contraceptives use. One mechanism for the estrogen to exert profound effects on the physiology of diverse target cells can be mediated by two estrogen receptor subtypes.

Thus, the aim of this study is to evaluate the presence of specific estrogen receptors (types alpha and beta) in inferior turbinate mucosa of women taking oral contraceptives.

### MATERIAL AND METHOD

Samples of nasal inferior turbinate were removed from women in reproductive age, undergoing septoplasty surgery. These samples were immunohistochemically analyzed for detection of estrogen receptors alpha and beta. Two groups of 32 women with regular menstrual cycles were selected. One group was taking oral contraceptives and the other was not.

### RESULTS

There was a decrease of beta receptors only in lamina propria cells of oral contraceptive users. In both groups there was a predominance of beta-receptors, and the other results were quite similar.

### CONCLUSION

Women who took oral contraceptives showed a decrease of beta-receptors in some cells of lamina propria. These findings show us the possibility of effects of contraceptive pills on the cells such as fibroblasts, mast cells, plasmocytes and other inflammatory cells.

### REFERENCES:


