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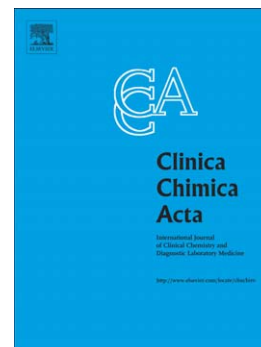
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Corticosteroid-binding globulin cleavage may be pathogen-dependent in bloodstream infection.**Marni A Nenke^{1,2}, John G Lewis³, Wayne Rankin^{1,2,4}, David Shaw⁵, David J Torpy^{1,2}.**¹ Endocrine and Metabolic Unit, Royal Adelaide Hospital, Adelaide, SA 5000 Australia² Discipline of Medicine, University of Adelaide, Adelaide, SA 5000, Australia³ Steroid & Immunobiochemistry Laboratory, Canterbury Health Laboratories, Christchurch, New Zealand⁴ Chemical Pathology Directorate, SA Pathology, Adelaide, SA 5000, Australia⁵ Infectious Diseases Clinical Service, Royal Adelaide Hospital, Adelaide, SA 5000, Australia**Correspondence:**

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Short title: CBG cleavage in bacteraemia**Declaration of Interest:** The authors have nothing to disclose.**Abstract**

Objective: The process of enzymatic cleavage of high- to low-affinity corticosteroid-binding globulin (haCBG to laCBG) by neutrophil elastase leads to local tissue release of cortisol. Recently *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* was shown to instigate CBG cleavage with release of free cortisol *in vitro*. Hence, CBG cleavage with release of anti-inflammatory cortisol in infection may be pathogen-dependent. Our objective was to determine whether haCBG and laCBG levels are altered in infected patients compared with controls, and whether these alterations were particular to causative bacteria.

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