

Response to Reviewers comments:

Thanks a lot for thoroughly reviewing our manuscript and providing us with great suggestions. All the modifications have been done in the manuscript as per suggestions and highlighted. These are as follows:

Reviewer 1:

1. This work was part of MD thesis project of Dr. Deepika Dalal under supervision of Dr. Kiran Dahiya and co-supervision of Dr. Vani Malhotra and Dr. Sameer Aggarwal. It was duly reviewed for all aspects including ethical ones and was approved by Institutional PG Board of Studies.
2. Changes have been done in materials and methods section to incorporate the recruitment of patients and details of NO by Griess reaction. NO, being a volatile compound was measured as nitrite (which also is not a very stable compound) was analyzed the same day along with the thyroid profile. It has been mentioned in the text. The reference for estimation has been replaced as suggested.

Reviewer 2:

1. Abstract has been revised as suggested.
2. Materials and Methods has been revised inserting Sub-headings. Age was comparable for the groups as $p > 0.05$ and there was a single female with age 46 years in group B and she was found to fulfill all the inclusion criteria and hence, was enrolled. The 1-2 years postmenopausal females were recruited only after confirmation by careful history and physical examination by the consultants in Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology and Dept. of Endocrinology. The participants were not subjected to FSH estimation for this.

Reviewer 3:

1. Aim and Conclusion of abstract has been revised.
2. In Introduction section, the sentence has been modified as suggested.
3. In discussion, reference has been added to the study as very rightly pointed out.
4. Full forms of eNOS and nNOS have been added at their first use in the introduction.
5. In table1, p value has been expressed as <0.001
6. In figure, X and Y axes have been defined.
7. References and citations have been rechecked and corrected.
8. Reference for Griess reaction has been replaced with a more appropriate one.

Hope the manuscript is now suitable for publication.

Thanks again.

Dr. Kiran Dahiya

Corresponding Author