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Steroids

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Synonyms

[Sex hormone](#)

Definition

Naturally occurring steroids are estrogen, cortisol, progesterone, and testosterone. Estrogen and progesterone are primarily produced in the ovary and placenta while testosterone is primarily produced in the testes. Pharmacologically, they are used in several ways: alter steroid metabolism via statins to help lower cholesterol; as corticosteroids to help control inflammation, asthma, and lupus; and other forms to help hormone deficiency, such as delayed puberty, as well as diseases that

result in loss of lean muscle mass, such as cancer and AIDS. Anabolic steroids, often abused, are used to increase muscle mass and can cause many psychological and physical problems.

Cross-References

- [Pharmacodynamics](#)
- [Pharmacokinetics](#)
- [Psychopharmacology](#)

References and Readings

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