

Sex hormones. (Adrenal Gland)

The inner layer, zona reticularis of Cortex part (Adrenal Gland) is made up of irregular network of rows of cells. These secrete Sex hormones - Androgen & Estrogen (Both Men & Women) - These primarily affect Secondary Sex Characteristics in their specific target- Organs. The primary Adrenal Androgens are Dehydroepiandrosterone (DHEA) and Androstenedione. These cause retention of Nitrogen (a protein-anabolic effect), phosphorus, potassium, Na & chloride. If present in excessive amount - they also lead to masculinisation in the female, called Adrenogenital Syndrome, characterised by hirsutism, deep voice, small breasts, enlarged clitoris, heavy arms & legs. In male same traits occur as in females plus, there is a rapid development of the sexual organs. Adrenal Estrogen, influence the development & maintenance of the Secondary Sex characters in females. The primary Estrogen is Estradiol, derived from Androstenedione.
