

Chapter V

Conclusion

The results obtained from this study were concluded as follow :

1. Pharmacokinetic theories could help enhancing efficacy and safety of lithium therapy by dosage adjustment in consideration with clinical response for individual patients.

2. Most of the lithium dosage regimens used for Thai inpatients at Srithunya Hospital were within therapeutic level. However, 5 patients' blood lithium levels were in the subtherapeutic range while 3 patients' blood lithium levels were in the overtherapeutic range.

3. The same dosage regimen could resulted in much difference in blood lithium level , so empirical dose was not appropriate for all patients.

4. The blood lithium concentrations were related to the clinical responses (efficacy and adverse effects or toxicities) of patients.

5. There was significant difference between the measured and predicted blood lithium levels. Further study should be studied in a larger number of patients before the usefulness of the proposed equations could be concluded.

6. There was significant difference between lithium clearance calculated from serum creatinine and lithium clearance calculated from measured blood lithium level.

7. Blood lithium levels predicted from lithium clearances were more accurate than those predicted from serum creatinine.