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Steroids and Hormones

i) Catabolic hormone → progesterone.

Ans: → progesterone: → It is one of the most important members of gestrones.

Constitution:

i) Molecular formula of progesterone is $C_{21}H_{30}O_2$.

ii) presence of two ketonic group: →
It forms diosime with hydroxylamine.

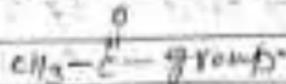
iii) presence of Δ^4 -double bond: →
When catalytically reduced, it takes up three molecules of hydrogen forming diol showing the presence of one double bond. Because two hydrogen molecules are utilised in the formation of two -OH groups. Thus the parent hydrocarbon of progesterone is $C_{21}H_{32}$ which corresponds to the general formula $(C_{n-6}H_{2n-6})$ for tetracyclic compounds.

iv) presence of steroid nucleus: →
X-ray analysis shows the presence of steroid nucleus.

which is further confirmed by its synthesis from cholesterol and stigmasterol.

v7 presence of an α, β -unsaturated ketonic group: \rightarrow The progesterone is very sensitive to alkali indicating the presence of α, β -unsaturated ketonic group.

v8 presence of $\text{CH}_3-\overset{\text{O}}{\parallel}{\text{C}}$ -group: \rightarrow When progesterone is heated with any halogen and then it gives haloform. It undergoes haloform reaction. This reaction indicates that progesterone contains



On the basis of above discussion the structure of progesterone is written as:-

