

VITAMINS

# IS VITAMIN D A DRUG OR NOT?

5.12.2022

There is an interesting [retraction notice](#)

The article “Vitamin D supplementation during pregnancy inhibits the activation of fetal membrane NF- $\kappa$ B pathway, by N. Gurkan, published in Eur Rev Med Pharmacol Sci 2022; 26 (16):

5926-5931-10.26355/eurrev\_202208\_29532-PMID: 36066168” has been retracted by the author as she stated that Vitamin D was used in the study as supplement and not a drug without the permission of the Ministry. Although Vitamin D is a commonly used supplement during pregnancy, the Local Ethics Committee accepted it as a drug and asked for it to be approved by the Ministry of Health. Therefore, the manuscript has been withdrawn. The Publisher apologizes for any inconvenience this may cause.  
<https://www.europeanreview.org/article/29532>

In contrast to most other endocrinologists I think that the decision is correct. Vitamin D is a chemically synthesized prohormone, underlies quality control, has benefits and side effects, could be even toxic, so it should be treated as a drug. Cudos to the Local Ethics Committee.