| Steroid, ng/mL | NFA (n=92) | CS (n=30) | PA (n=40) | P value |
|---------------|------------|-----------|-----------|---------|
| 17α-OHP       | 0.7 (0.3–1.3) | 0.8 (0.6–1.3) | 1.0 (0.6–1.5) | 0.235   |
| Corticosterone | 2.3 (1.4–4.8) | 3.7 (1.7–8.2) | 3.2 (1.9–6.2) | 0.115   |
| 11-DeoxyF     | 0.4 (0.2–0.7) | 0.7 (0.3–1.0)* | 0.6 (0.2–0.7) | 0.020   |
| THE           | 39.2 (23.8–48.7) | 20.4 (13.0–51.1)* | 10.0 (7.1–30.5)* | <0.001  |
| 20α-DHF       | 2.2 (1.2–3.0) | 2.6 (1.2–5.5)* | 1.7 (1.2–2.3) | 0.041   |
| 18-OHF        | 0.5 (0.3–0.8) | 0.4 (0.2–0.6)* | 1.0 (0.5–1.4)* | <0.001  |
| THF           | 22.0 (16.3–28.4) | 26.1 (13.4–35.6)* | 15.2 (12.4–21.8) | 0.006   |
| Allo-THF      | 20.3 (10.4–32.5) | 14.5 (9.1–21.9) | 18.7 (13.8–25.4) | 0.126   |
| Cortisol (F)  | 87.3 (57.3–123.1) | 93.9 (60.1–135.5) | 95.5 (55.0–111.2) | 0.668   |
| Cortisone (E) | 18.3 (13.9–21.1) | 15.3 (12.2–20.1) | 15.7 (11.7–19.8) | 0.289   |
| 6β-OHF        | 0.6 (0.4–0.7) | 0.7 (0.4–1.6)* | 0.4 (0.3–0.6) | 0.006   |
| DHEA          | 1.3 (0.6–2.0) | 0.4 (0.1–1.6)*a | 2.4 (1.8–4.2)* | <0.001  |
| Androstenedione | 1.1 (0.8–1.6) | 0.9 (0.5–1.4) | 1.1 (0.9–1.4) | 0.260   |
| DHEA-S        | 549.9 (245.9–895.9) | 276.4 (88.9–713.9)*ab | 1,130.3 (518.9–1,903.9) | <0.001  |
| Preg-S        | 22.4 (13.5–31.5) | 22.4 (9.2–46.5)* | 28.4 (22.3–62.9) | 0.003   |

Values are expressed as median (interquartile range). The P value indicates group differences by the analysis of covariance (ANCOVA) adjusted by age and gender between NFA, CS and PA. The serum levels of steroids are expressed as ng/mL.

NFA, nonfunctioning adenoma; CS, Cushing’s syndrome; PA, primary aldosteronism; 17α-OHP, 17α-hydroxypregnenolone; 11-deoxyF, 11-deoxycorticosterone; THE, tetrahydrocortisone; 20α-DHF, 20α-dihydrocortisol; 18-OHF, 18-hydroxycortisol; THF, tetrahydrocortisol; 6β-OHF, 6β-hydroxycortisol; DHEA, dehydroepiandrosterone; DHEA-S, DHEA-sulfate; Preg-S, pregnenolone sulfate.

*Difference (P<0.05) from NFA; **Difference (P<0.05) from PA.