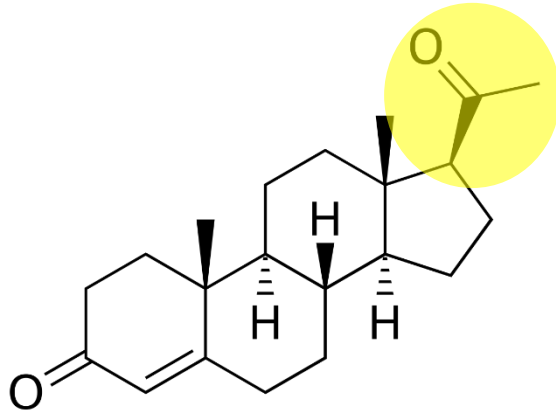
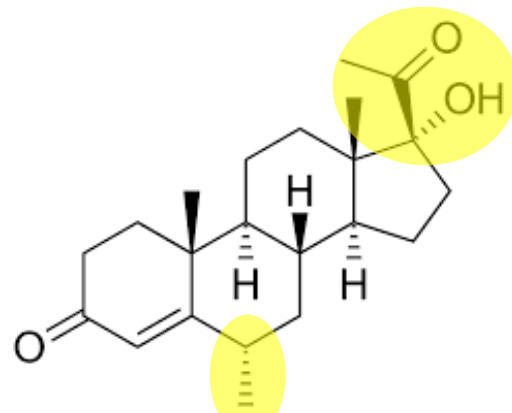


Bioidentical Hormones vs Synthetic Hormones

Most naturally occurring human hormones cannot be patented by pharmaceutical companies in their exact form. To address this, many prescription hormone products undergo chemical modifications. Here are some examples, with the changes clearly highlighted:

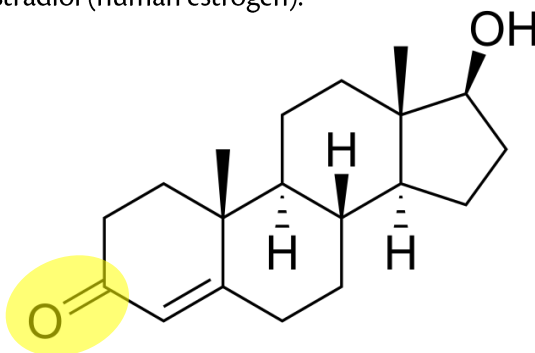


Progesterone
(Human Hormone)

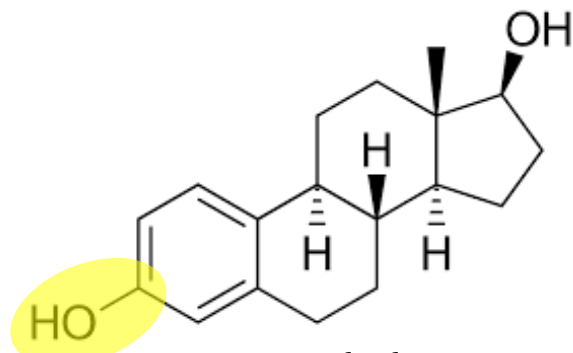


Medroxyprogesterone
(Synthetic Hormone)

These may seem like small or insignificant changes; however, look at the similarity between testosterone and estradiol (human estrogen):



Testosterone
(Primary Male Hormone)



Estradiol
(Primary Female Hormone)

While the difference in chemical structure may seem small, it can lead to dramatically different effects in the body. Hormones and their receptors work like a lock and key—if the key is slightly altered, it might fit but may not turn properly or could even damage the lock. This is similar to how synthetic hormones can behave; they might bind to the receptor but may not produce the desired effect or could cause unwanted side effects.

Bioidentical hormones, on the other hand, are an exact chemical match to the hormones your body naturally produces. Because of this, they mimic the body's natural effects and are more likely to support a proper balance. Maintaining the right balance of hormones has been shown to improve cardiovascular, brain, muscle, and bone health.