



Let us give health  
to every woman

Issue -5  
(May - 2013)

Journal of DGF

INSIDE PAGES

PCOS  
in Adolescents

“Women’s Health is in Women’s Hand”

# DGF NEWS LETTER



Dr. Sharda Jain



Dr. Sangeeta Gupta

## PCOS in Adolescents

Adolescent health is quite important as the adolescent girl becomes the young woman who has to be in prime health to manage the Reproductive years, Job & Home – all at same time.

**Appropriate education is essential** to avoid harmful habits, to have better nutrition, to avoid becoming obese which is a major public health issues at present time. She should also know of her menstrual problems, contraception & related women health issues.

**POLYCYSTIC OVARY SYNDROME (PCOS)** - most common endocrinological problem in adolescents, is the a heterogenous syndrome & the leading cause of anovulation, hirsutism and infertility in women. PCOS is increasingly being recognized as **BIG PROBLEM** in adolescent girls, seeking treatment for signs **and** symptoms of hyperandrogenism, obesity & delayed periods.

The etiology of PCOS remains unknown, There appears to be a strong genetic predisposition.

Gynaecologist should address this issues on war footing as 50% treatment is weight control only. If adolescents have understood their long term problem of PCOS, its wider implications & also know that weight reduction & weight control is **SIMPLEST REMEDY** - the problem of Gynaecologists & of country is half won.....

If your young ones have all the wealth in the world but loose their self-esteem due to disfigured body, ( overweight, hirsutism & acne) - is it worth having it ?

**Responsibility & Strong Action go together .....**

let us make “PCOS Club” & shoot information for our girls from time to time from Facebook of D.G.F.- WOW INDIA & its website [www.wowindia.info](http://www.wowindia.info)



Dr. Sangeeta Gupta

# PCOS IN ADOLESCENT



Dr. Nupur Gupta

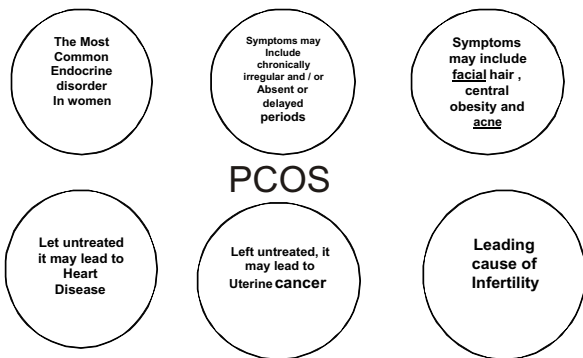
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**Most frequent endocrine problem in this age group**

**In 5-15% women of reproductive age group (12-45 years)**

Consensus on women's health aspects of polycystic ovary syndrome (PCOS): the Amsterdam ESHRE/ASRM-Sponsored 3rd PCOS Consensus Workshop Group. Fertility and Sterility Vol. 97, No. 1, January 2012. Bart C. J. M. Fauser et.al.

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## Ultrasound for PCOS

10%–48% of adolescents who do not have PCOS may have polycystic-appearing ovaries

Mortensen M, Rosenfield RL, Littlejohn E. Functional significance of polycystic-size ovaries in healthy adolescents. J Clin Endocrinol Metab. 2006;91:3786–3790

Blank SK, Helm KD, McCartney CR, Marshall JC. Polycystic ovary syndrome in adolescence. Ann N Y Acad Sci. 2008;1135:76–84

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## Hyperandrogenism

**Clinical signs of androgen excess**

□ Hirsutism

□ Acne

□ Androgenic alopecia

**Biochemical signs of Androgen excess**

□ ↑ Free testosterone

□ ↑ Total testosterone

□ ↑ Free androgen index

□ ↑ Androstenedione

□ ↑ DHEAS

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## Clinical presentation

**Adolescent Period**

- Menstrual Irregularity
- Obesity
- Cosmetic Concerns
  - Acne
  - Hirsutism
  - Hair Loss

**Reproductive Period**

- Infertility
- Early Pregnancy loss
- During pregnancy
  - PIH
  - GDM

**Menopausal**

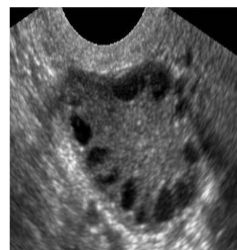
- Metabolic Syndrome
- Ca Endometrium

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## Ultrasound

### ROTTERDAM CRITERIA

- In one or both ovaries ovarian volume > 10 ml
- ≥ 12 follicles, 2-9mm in diameter
- Echo dense stroma



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## USG for PCOS

Trans abdominal ultrasound –Technical limitation especially in overweight and obese girls

Given the apparent lack of specificity of USG in adolescents, USG should not be recommended as a first line for diagnosis in this age group.

PCOS –evidence based guidelines- Australia- 2011

| PCOS Definition 1990 - 2009 | Hyperandrogenism (Clinical or Biochemical) | Oligo- menorrhea or Oligo-Ovulation | Polycystic Ovaries on USG |
|-----------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| NIH (1990)                  | yes  | yes                                 | no                        |
| Rotterdam (2003)            | yes  | Yes<br>2 of the 3 criteria          | yes                       |
| AE-PCOS Society (2009)      | yes  | Yes<br>1 of 2 criteria              | yes                       |

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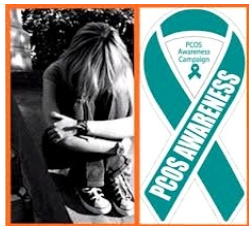
# PCOS IN ADOLESCENT



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## 9 Other Etiologies

- ☐Thyroid dysfunction
- ☐Hyper prolactinemia
- ☐Congenital adrenal hyperplasia
- ☐Androgen secreting tumors
- ☐Cushings syndrome
- ☐Drug induced Androgen excess



## 11 Interpretation of androgen lab values

|                       |        |   |  |
|-----------------------|--------|---|--|
| Testosterone          | Mild   | ↑ | in pcos                                      |
| DHEAS                 | Marked | ↑ | androgen<br>Secreting<br>adrenal tumor       |
| 17-OH<br>Progesterone |        |   | Late onset congenital<br>adrenal hyperplasia |

## 13 Hyperinsulinaemia & Hyperandrogenaemia

|                              |                 |
|------------------------------|-----------------|
| Insulin Receptor Dysfunction | Hypothalamus    |
| Pancreas                     | LHRH            |
| Hyperinsulinaemia            | Pituitary       |
| Liver                        | ↑ LH FSH        |
| Reduced SHBG                 | Adrenal         |
| Elevated DHEAS               | Stroma Follicle |
|                              | Androgens       |
| ↑ Free androgens             |                 |

## 15 Menstrual Irregularity

Defined as menses that occur at interval of greater than **6-8 weeks** in the absence of thyroid, adrenal or other pituitary dysfunction .

Difficult to distinguish from puberty associated menstrual irregularity

## 10 Testing in Adolescents Presenting with PCOS-Like Symptoms

TSH  
Prolactin  
Total and free testosterone  
DHEAS  
17-OH progesterone  
Ultrasound of ovaries  
(not essential if other 2 criteria are met)  
FSH, LH, estradiol (in amenorrheic Adolescents)

## 12 Androgen estimation

### Follicular phase

levels may rise during mid cycle

### Morning levels

diurnal variation

## 14 Management of PCOS in adolescents

### Objectives of Treatment

Management of **menstrual irregularity**

Management of **Acne and Hirsutism**

Prevention of **long term complications**

In adolescent women (<18 years) ,**after 2 years** of irregular cycles ,following the onset of menarche PCOS should be considered and appropriate evaluation should started



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## 17 Treatment of Menstrual irregularity

Combined OCP'S

**Avoid androgenic progesterone**

Cyclical progesterone

**5-10 mg for 10-14 days**

**Non Androgenic Progestogens:**

Desogestrel (*novelon , femilon*)

**Antiandrogens with progestational activity**

Cyproterone acetate

(EE 30 mcg + C 2 mg -**Diane35**) Drospirinone

(EE 30 mcg + D 3 mg -**yasmin**)

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Women who take contraceptive pills containing cyproterone acetate have a **six- to sevenfold risk of developing thromboembolism** compared to women who do not take any contraceptive pill, and twice the risk of women who take a contraceptive pill containing levonorgestrel

Lidegaard et al. (2011). "Risk of venous thromboembolism from use of oral contraceptives containing different progestogens and oestrogen Doses". *BMJ* **343**: 1–15.

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Girl with oligomenorrhea or amenorrhea –not wishing to take hormonal treatment ??

Treatment is advisable because of risk of *endometrial hyperplasia* . A women should Have withdrawal bleed at least every 3 months

## 23 Prevalence of Hirsutism

1.2 to 18% of women in reproductive age group

**PCOS responsible for 60-90%**

**Of hirsutism**

CAH responsible for 2 to 5%

20% Idiopathic



*Nikolan; Curr Obst & Gyn (2005) 15, 174-182*  
*Azziz R, Endocrine Reviews 21(4): 347-362*

*Ferriman & Gallwey, 1961, J of Clinical Endocrinology*

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## Cyproterone acetate (CPA)

**Potent antiandrogen**

**Competitive antagonism of androgen receptors and inhibition of enzymes in androgen Biosynthesis pathway**

**Mild progestational activity**

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## Drospirinone

**Antimineralocorticoid activity- decreased water retention**

**Mild anti androgen**

**Higher risk of thromboembolism than other OCP's (US –FDA 2011)**

Combined Hormonal Contraceptives (CHCs) and the Risk of Cardiovascular Disease Endpoints ,US-FDA 2011, **CHC-CVD final report 111022v2**

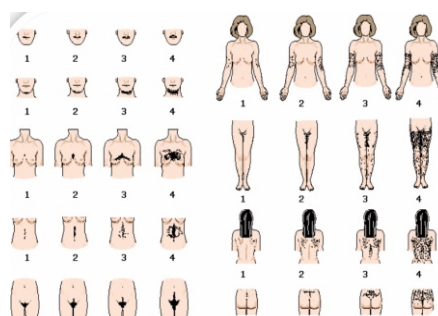
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**PCOS & HIRSUTISM**

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## Scoring Hirsutism: Modified Ferriman Gallway Score



9 sites  
Score 0 to 4  
Max score of 36



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## Scoring hirsutism

Terminal hair defined as coarse pigmented medullated hairs, generally growing > 1 cm in length if uncut

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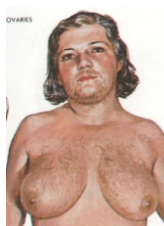
## Antiandrogens

OCP,s with Cyproterone acetate

Spironolactone

Flutamide

Finasteride



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## Spironolactone -Aldosterone antagonist

Aldactone-100 mg/day

Inhibition of androgen receptors

Suppression of adrenal androgen biosynthesis

Inhibition of 5-alpha reductase enzyme

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## Flutamide- androgen receptor blocker

250 -500 mg daily

can lead to severe *hepatotoxicity*

Should not be used as first line drug

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## Management of hirsutism

- Systemic
- Topical
- Dermato-cosmetic therapies



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## OCP's In Hirsutism

Suppression of LH

• Decreased ovarian androgen synthesis

Stimulation of SHBG production

• Decreased free testosterone

Androgen receptor antagonism

• By Cyproterone acetate

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## Spironolactone

Generally well tolerated

BP and serum potassium levels –every 4 weeks in the initial months of treatment

C/I – renal insufficiency and hyperkalemia

Can cause feminization of female fetus –so contraception is must in sexually active women

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## Finasteride- 5-alpha Reductase Inhibitor

2.5-7.5mg/day

Less efficacious than spironolactone ?





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## 33 Glucocorticoids in hirsutism

### Dexamethasone

0.25 to 0.5 mg daily can be prescribed in women  
.....

1. Hirsutism due to non classical CAH
2. Suboptimal response to OCP's and antiandrogens
3. Exhibit poor tolerance to OCP's
4. Are seeking ovulation induction

## 35 Direct hair removal methods

|           |  |
|-----------|--|
| Temporary | shaving<br>chemical epilation<br>bleaching<br>waxing |
| Permanent | electrolysis<br>Laser                                |

## 37 Topical retinoids

gold standard in acne treatment  
Derivatives of **Vit A**

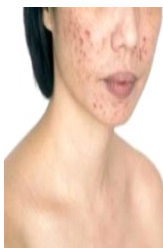
- **Tretinoin**
- **Adapalene** – better tolerated
- **Teazarotene** - most efficacious

Available as creams ,gels and solution  
40-70% reduction in the no.of comedones  
and inflammatory lesions

## 39 Topical antimicrobials in Acne

Potential for bacterial  
Resistance Slow onset of action

So it is recommended  
that topical antibiotics should  
Not be used alone

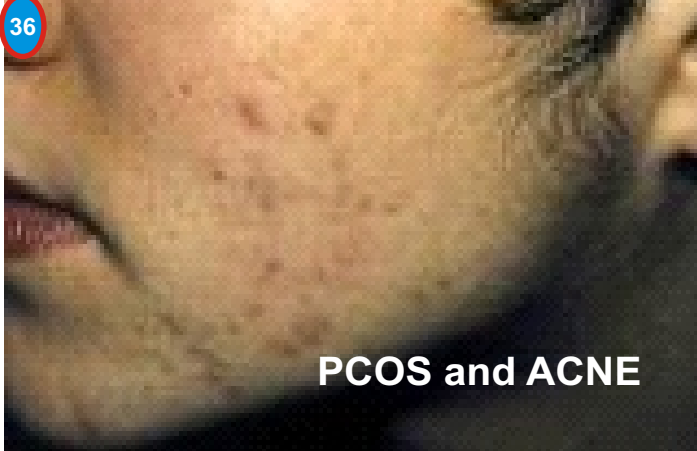


## 34 Topical therapy in hirsutism

**Efflornithine hydrochloride** cream  
13.9% Approved by US-FDA for  
reduction of facial hair

Noticeable results take 6-8 weeks

Adverse effects- itching ,skin dryness



PCOS and ACNE

## 38 Topical antimicrobials in acne

Clindamycin  
Erythromycin  
Tetracycline  
Benzoyl peroxide  
Azelaic acid

Combination of topical antimicrobials with  
Retinoids or benzoyl peroxide- more effective

## 40 Oral Antibiotics in Acne

Tetracycline  
Doxycycline - 50-100mg daily  
Minocycline  
Erythromycin

Reduce P.acnes in the follicles  
Antibiotic resistance of P.acnes steadily  
increasing



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## Acne

OCP's with antiandrogen activity -  
50-60% reduction in acne

Isotretinoin

naturally occurring derivative of vit A

Indicated in severe nodular acne

0.5-2mg/day- 4-6 months

Proven teratogen

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## Criteria – metabolic syndrome

WHO

ATP-III (adult treatment panel)

IDF (international diabetes federation)

45

## Metabolic Syndrome IDF 2006

Plus any 2 of the following 4 factors

Triglycerides > 150 mg/100 ml

HDL Cholesterol <50 mg/100 ml in females

BP Systolic > 130 mmHg

Diastolic > 85 mmHg

F BS > 100 mg/dl

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## Metabolic syndrome

Prevalence of MBS is high in women with PCOS (43-46%) ...even after adjusting for obesity

All women with PCOS should be screened for metabolic syndrome

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## Long term management

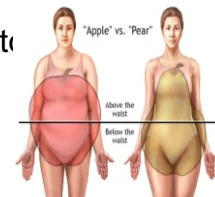
## PCOS & Metabolic Syndrome

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## Metabolic Syndrome – IDF 2006

**Abdominal Obesity** (waist circumference >80 cm for women)

Plus any 2 of the following 4 factors



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## Metabolic Syndrome

20-25% Of world's adult population has MBS

5 times - Diabetes

3 times heart attack and stroke

A cluster of most dangerous heart attack risk factors

MBS is driving the twin global epidemics of diabetes and CVD

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## Life Style Management



**Diet + Exercise = Weight Loss**



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# PCOS IN ADOLESCENT



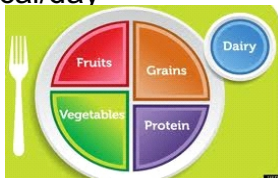
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## Diet

dietary intervention ( high protien, low carbohydrate , low fat diet more effective)

energy deficit of 500-1000Kcal/day



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## Exercise

**American Diabetes Association recommends minimum of :-**



- 150 minutes/week of moderate to vigorous exercise for individuals with IGT.
- Should be distributed over 3 days
- For long term weight reduction – hour/day of exercise is recommended.

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## Role of weight loss



5-7% wt. Reduction effective in restoring normal menses and fertility

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- Overall, the benefits of OCPs outweigh the risks in most patients with PCOS (level B).
- Women with PCOS are more likely to have contraindications for OCP use than normal women (level C).

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## Diet counselling

Goals – **practical,realistic,achievable**

Small frequent meals  
 More fruits/vegetables/fibre(bran)  
 Decreased sugar/fried food /cola  
 Switch to healthy oils  
 More steamed /grilled cooking

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Find simple ways to add physical activity in daily routine



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**Consensus on women's health aspects of polycystic ovary syndrome (PCOS): the Amsterdam ESHRE/ASRM-Sponsored 3rd PCOS Consensus Workshop 2010**

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**There is no evidence for differences in effectiveness and risk among the various progestogens and when used in Combination with a 20 versus 30 mg daily dose of estrogen (level B)**





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□ PCOS is a major risk factor for developing IG and T2D (level A).

□ Obesity (by amplifying insulin resistance) is an exacerbating factor in the development of IGT and T2D in PCOS (level A).

□ The increasing prevalence of obesity in the Population suggests that a further increase in diabetes in PCOS is to be expected (level B).

□ Screening for IGT and T2D should be performed by OGTT (75 g, 0- and 2-hour values). There is no utility for measuring insulin in most cases (level C).

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□ Prolonged (>6 months) medical therapy for hirsutism is necessary to document effectiveness (level B)

□ Antiandrogens should not be used without effective contraception (level B)

□ Flutamide is of limited value because of its dose-dependent hepatotoxicity (level B).

□ Drospirenone in the dosage used in some OCPs is not antiandrogenic (level B).

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## Breast Cancer ??

Limited data exist that do not support the conclusion that women with PCOS are a increased risk for **breast cancer** (level B).

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## Implications of diagnosis at adolescent age

Optimization of lifestyle

Regular metabolic screening

Proactive fertility planning with consideration of planning for conception at an earlier age



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□ Screening should be performed in the following conditions: hyperandrogenism with anovulation, acanthosis nigricans, obesity (BMI >30 kg/m<sup>2</sup>, or >25 in Asian populations), in women with a family history of T2D or GDM (level C).

□ Metformin may be used for IGT and T2 (level A). Avoid use of other insulin sensitizing agents such as thiazolidinediones (GPP).

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There are moderate quality data to support that women with PCOS have a 2.7-fold (95% confidence interval [CI], 1.0–7.3) increased risk **for endometrial cancer**. (level B).

Limited data exist that do not support the conclusion that women with PCOS are at increased risk for **ovarian cancer** (level B).

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PCOS can't be cured



**but the symptoms can be managed**

**50 % by just weight control**

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## PCOS CLUB

**Please shoot Information for teen & young PCOS patients**

**FB : DGF-WOW INDIA**

Few Glimpses of  
PCOS CME at ESIC PGIMSR Basaidarapur  
on 25th April 2013

