

Polycystic Ovary Syndrome

A case study - what happens next?

Kate Davies

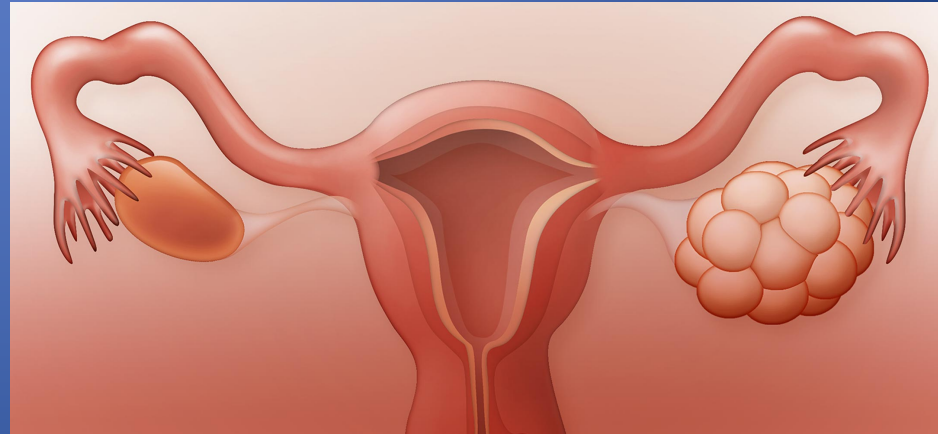
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Introduction

- Case study
- Points to consider for discussion
- PCOS information
 - Diagnosis
 - Management
 - Future management



Polly

- Presented to the General Practitioner (GP) aged 13 years May 2014
 - ‘High BMI’
 - Gaining weight
 - Mum ‘very strict – diet and exercise’
 - Menarche – 11 years
 - Regular / heavy
 - Started on Logynon - improvement
- ? PCOS
 - Did not want an ultrasound
- No other abnormalities – endocrine cause? Referral..
- Bullying

Thoughts / questions / next steps?

Thoughts..

- Oral contraceptive pill
 - Decreases hyperandrogenism by reducing production of androgens

De Melo, 2017

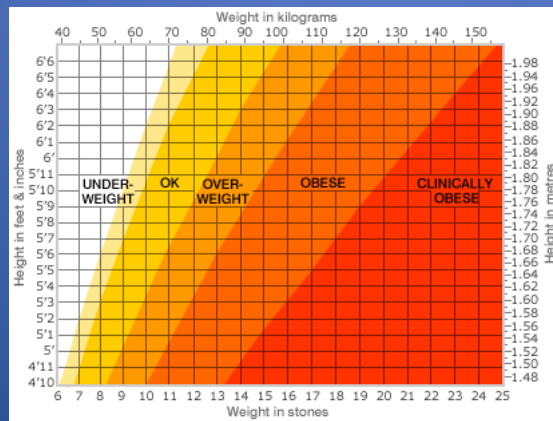
NHS, 2019

- Young teenage girl..?

- Body Mass Index measurements in children
 - “Problematic in growing youth as great divergence is evident in bone, muscle, and adipose tissue development”

Brown, 2017

- ?Stopped growing
- Accurate measurement ?



Referral to Paediatric Endocrinology

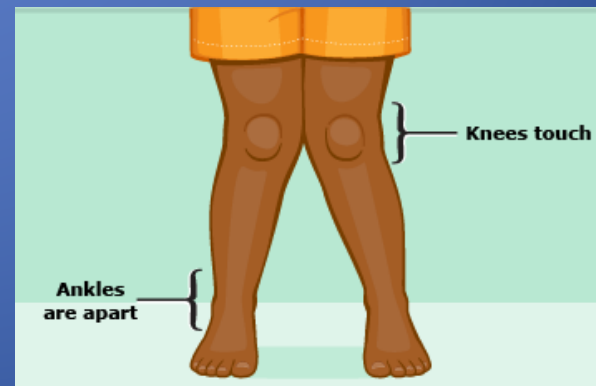
July 2014

History

- Weight increasing since age 8 years
 - Parents separated
- Birth
 - 2.3kg at 41 weeks
- Second of 4 children
- Weight problems on Dad's side
 - Grandmother – 'diabetes'
- Still on OCP
 - No other medication

On examination

- Overweight
- No other clinical indications
 - Acne
 - Hirsutism
 - Acanthosis
- Genu valgum 'knock knees'



Next steps?

- Bloods
- Dietician referral
- Pelvic ultrasound

Bloods

Thyroid function tests

Vitamin D levels

Bone profile

Adrenal androgens

Testosterone

SHBG

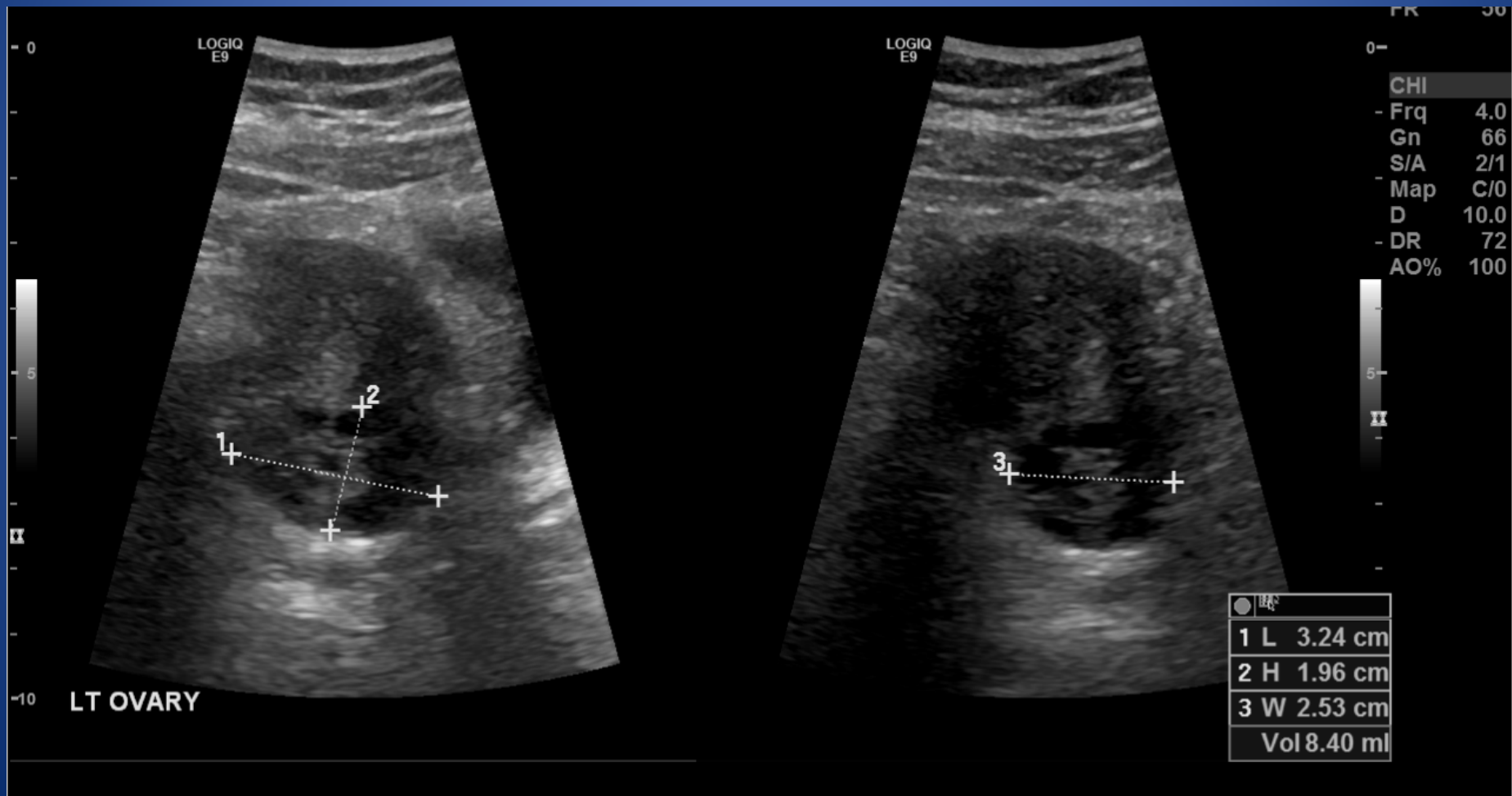
LH / FSH



Pelvic ultrasound – right ovary



Pelvic ultrasound – left ovary

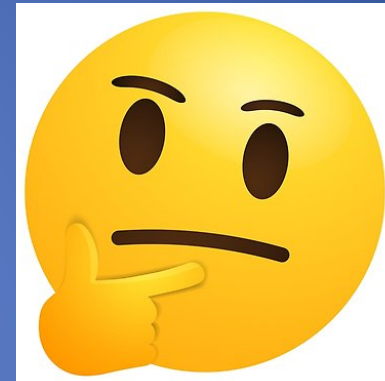


Pelvic ultrasound - report

- Both ovaries were visualized and appeared bulky with multiple microcysts, most of which were arranged around the periphery. Appearance are suggestive of polycystic ovaries
- Right ovary: 34 x 27 x 20mm
- Left ovary: 32 x 19 x 25mm
- Largest follicle is 7mm, in left ovary

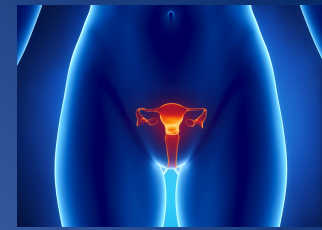
Paediatric endocrinology – March 2015

- Pelvic ultrasound reviewed
- Bloods 'normal'
- Regular periods
 - Still heavy
 - 'At least they are regular'
- Mum wanted no further endocrine follow up
- Referral back to GP for dietician referral..



Thoughts?

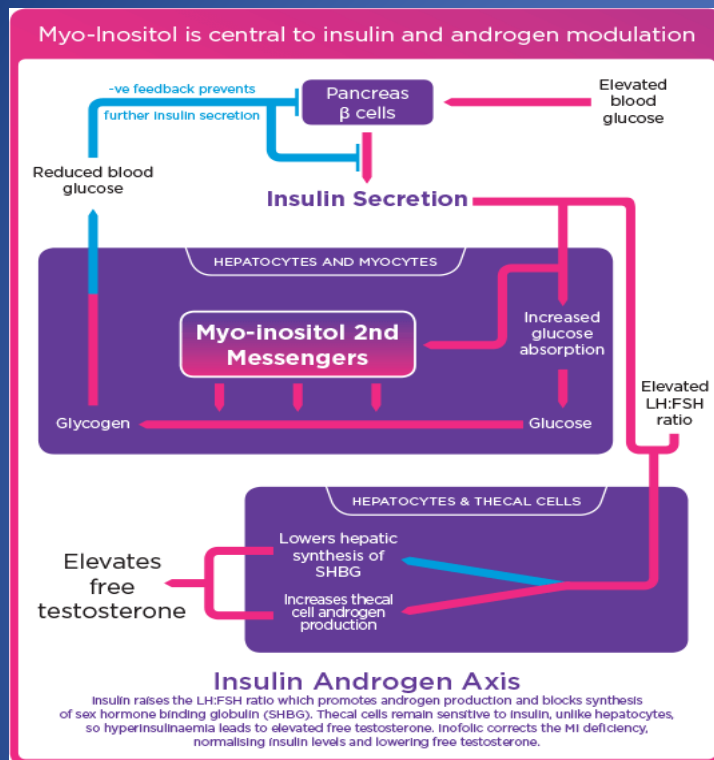
Gynaecology – July 2015



- Amenorrhea since January
- Abdominal pain
- Increased BMI
- On examination
 - Abdomen soft
 - Hirsutism noted
- Investigations
 - Bloods
 - Ultrasound
- Treatment?



Inofolic sachets



- Combination of Folic Acid and Myo-Inositol (MYO)
- MYO
 - Involved in the signal of insulin from the insulin receptor, so important for patients with insulin resistance..
 - Important role in nuclear and cytoplasmic oocyte development
- Helps menstrual cycle disturbances
- Reduces obesity
- Reduces hyperandrogenism

Gynecological Endocrinology, 2012; 28(7): 509–515
 © 2012 Informa UK, Ltd.
 ISSN 0951-3590 print/ISSN 1473-0766 online
 DOI: 10.3109/09513590.2011.650660

informa
 healthcare

PCOS

Effects of myo-inositol in women with PCOS: a systematic review of randomized controlled trials

V. Unfer¹, G. Carlomagno¹, G. Dante² & F. Facchinetti²

¹Gynecology Association Unfer Costabile (A.G.UN.CO.), Obstetrics and Gynecology Center, Rome, Italy and

²Mother-Infant Department, University of Modena and Reggio Emilia, Modena, Italy

Dermatology – July 2017

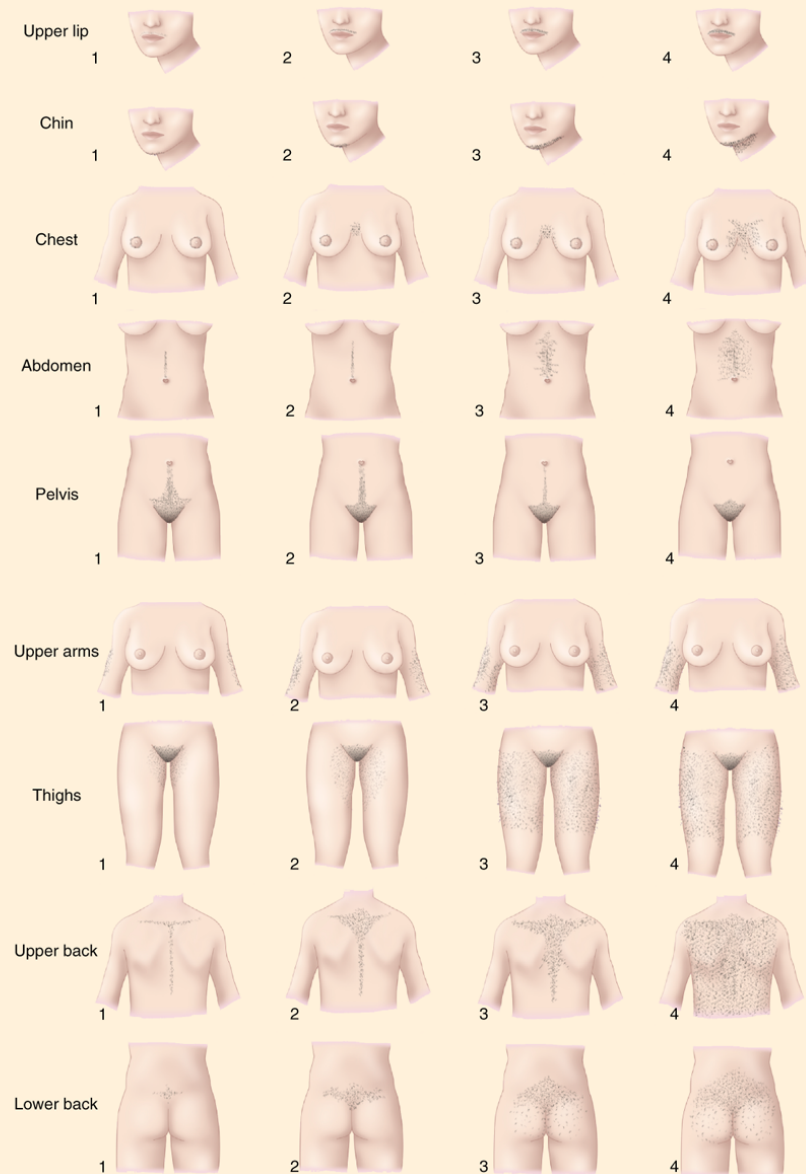
- History of eczema since puberty
- Increased hirsutism
 - Face, arms, legs, back and chest
 - Waxes / hair removal creams
- ‘Velvety thickened skin on neck, between the breasts and axillae’
 - Acanthosis nigricans
- Acne
- No longer on Logynon – but says has lost weight
- No mention of Inofolic sachets

Thoughts?

- Recommends referral to endocrinology
 - ? Insulin resistance
 - ? Metformin
- Makes referral to laser hair removal clinic

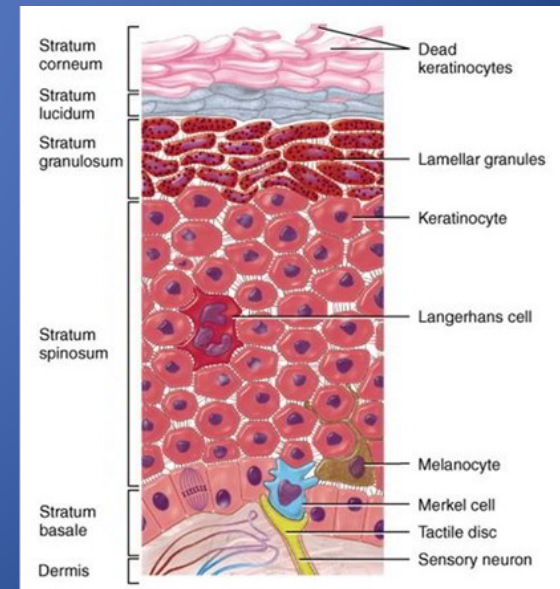
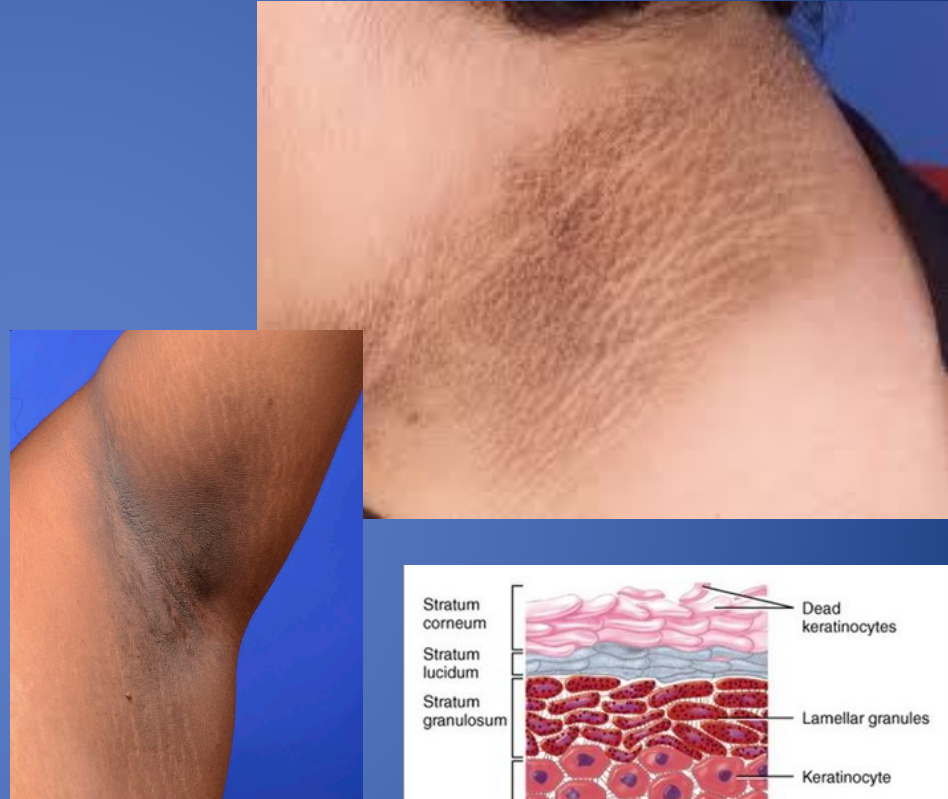
Hirsutism

The Ferriman-Gallwey scale



Acanthosis Nigricans

- Visible marker which strongly suggests Insulin Resistance
 - Higher than normal levels of insulin cause the darkened growth of skin
 - Activates keratinocyte receptors, especially IGF-1
 - Increased IGF may lead to increased keratinocyte and dermal fibroblasts



Metformin

- Used widely to treat Type 2 diabetes
- Increase in insulin action at an intracellular locus
 - Results in decreased hepatic glucose production
- Stimulates tissue uptake of glucose
- Reduces gastro-intestinal absorption of carbohydrate
 - Does not cause hypoglycaemia
 - Not associated with weight gain

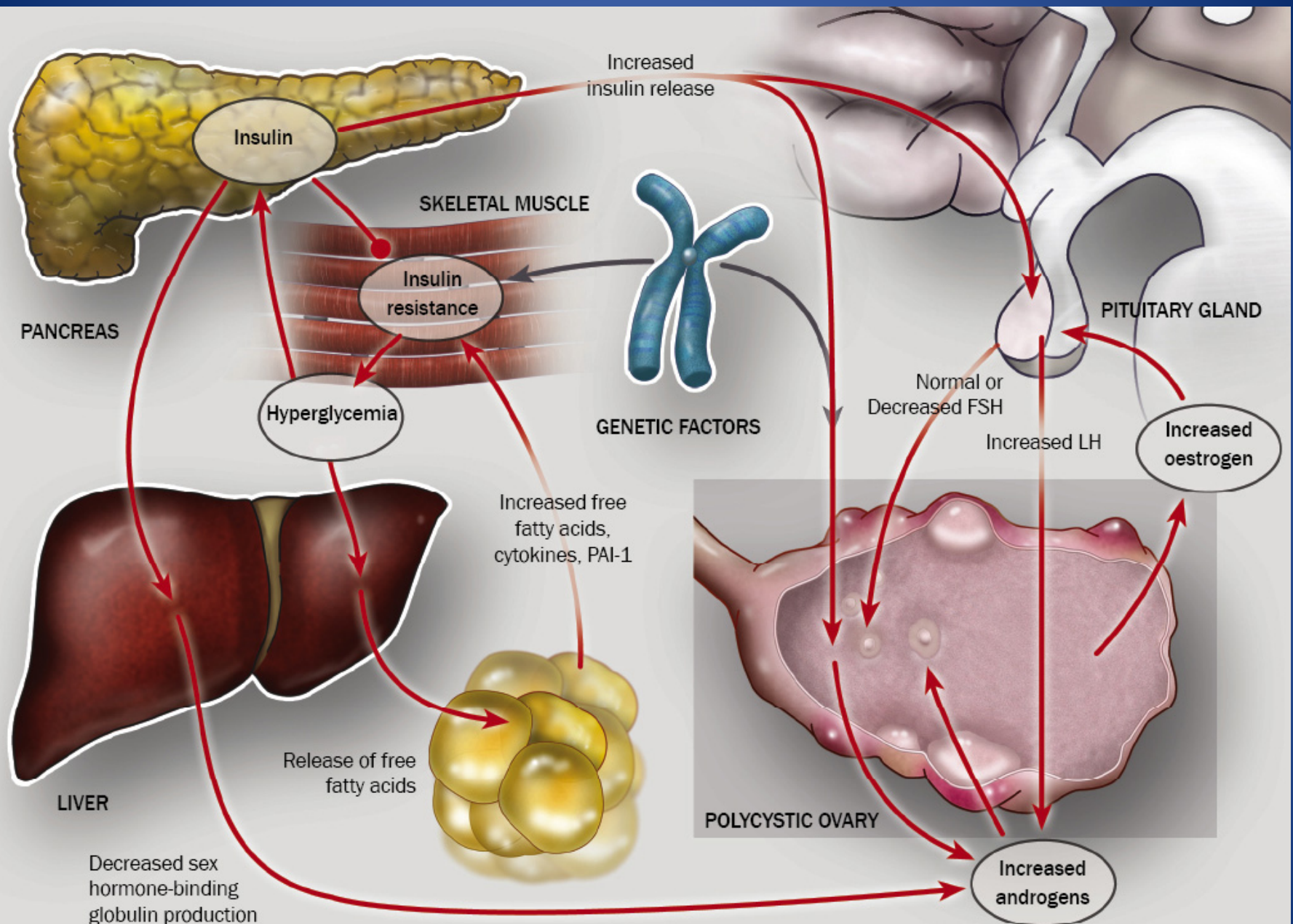
The NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE

CLINICAL THERAPEUTICS

Metformin for the Treatment of the Polycystic Ovary Syndrome

John E. Nestler, M.D.

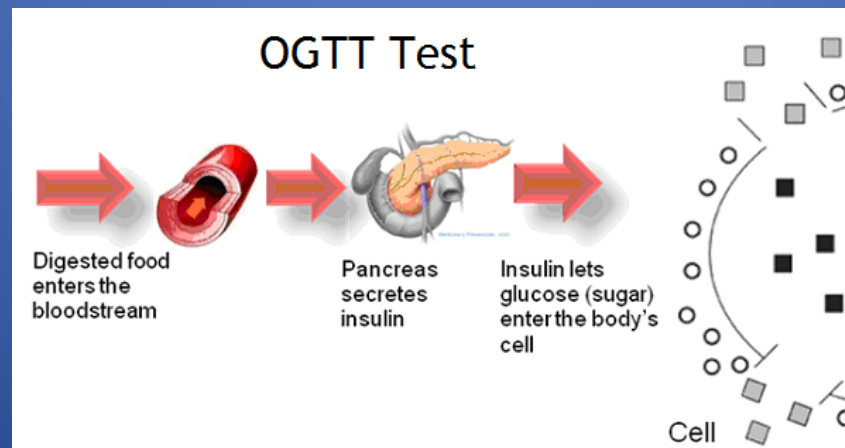




Adapted from Nestler J E, et al. New England Journal of Medicine 2008; 358: 47-54

Paediatric Endocrinology – January 2018

- Oral Glucose Tolerance Test
 - Used to measure how the body can process large amounts of sugar
 - Oral glucose solution
 - 1.75g/kg, up to 75g
 - Baseline, 120 minutes
 - Glucose
 - Insulin
 - Fasting baseline glucose should be below 6.1mmol/L
 - Between 6.1 and 7.0 is borderline
 - 120 minute sample, glucose is normal if below 10mmol/L



Paediatric Endocrinology – July 2018

Age 17 years

	0	120
Glucose	4.5mmol/L	5.5
Insulin	44miu/L	310

- Periods now regular
- 'Exercises loads'
- Due laser treatment for hirsutism

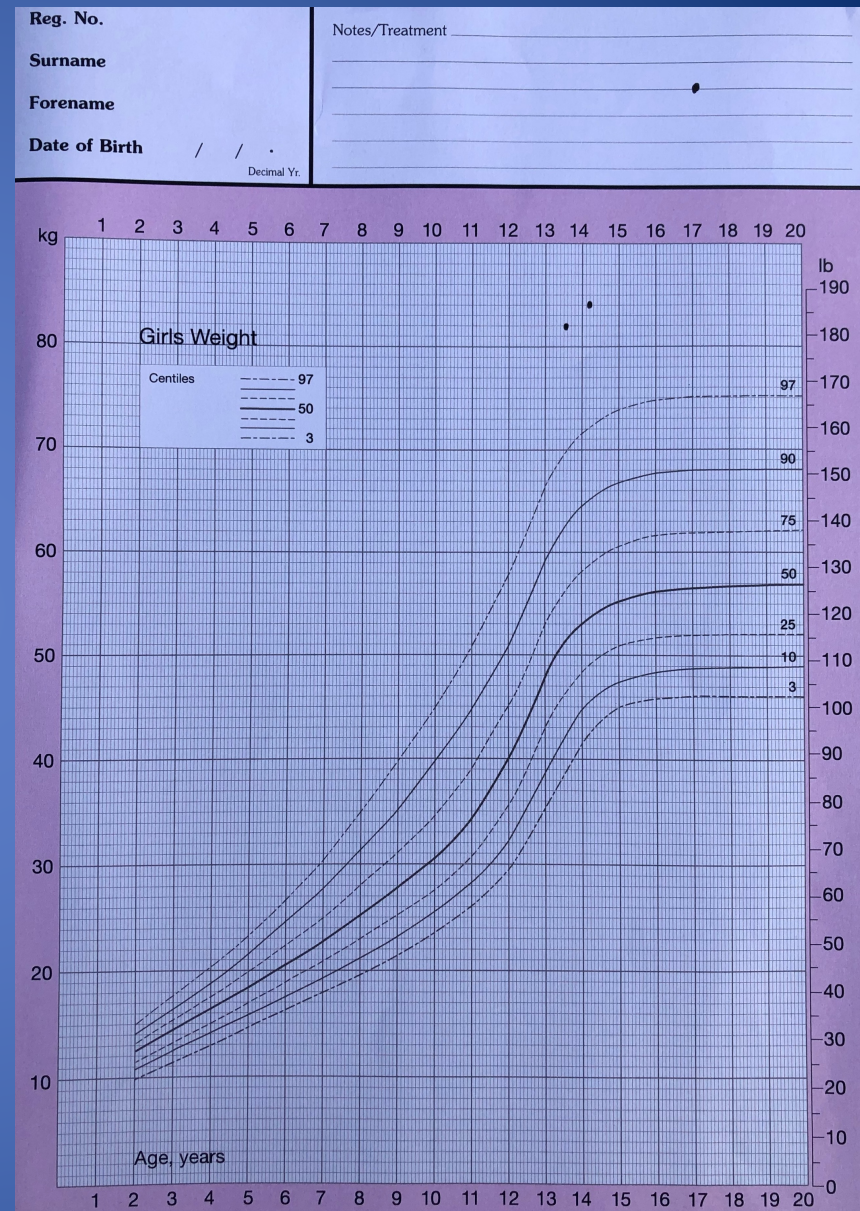
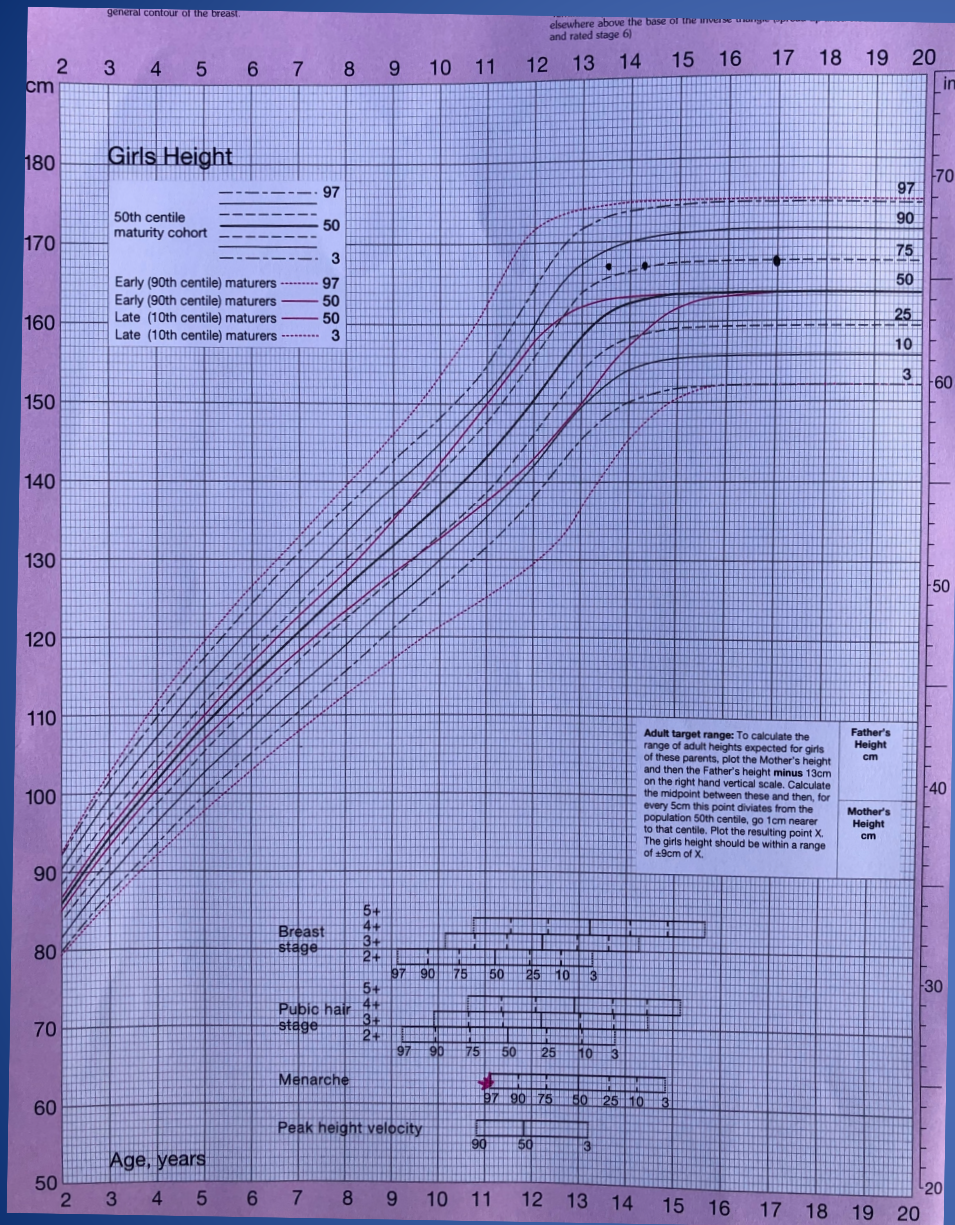
- Androstenedione ↑ 9.3 nmol/L (2-5.4)
- DHEAS N 4.4µmol/L (1.6-7.8)
- SHBG ↓ 14nmol/L (20-130 females)
- Testosterone 2.1nmol/L (0.2-2.9)
- Liver Function, Fasting Lipids
- HbA1c 24mmol/mol (20-41)

Thoughts?

DIET

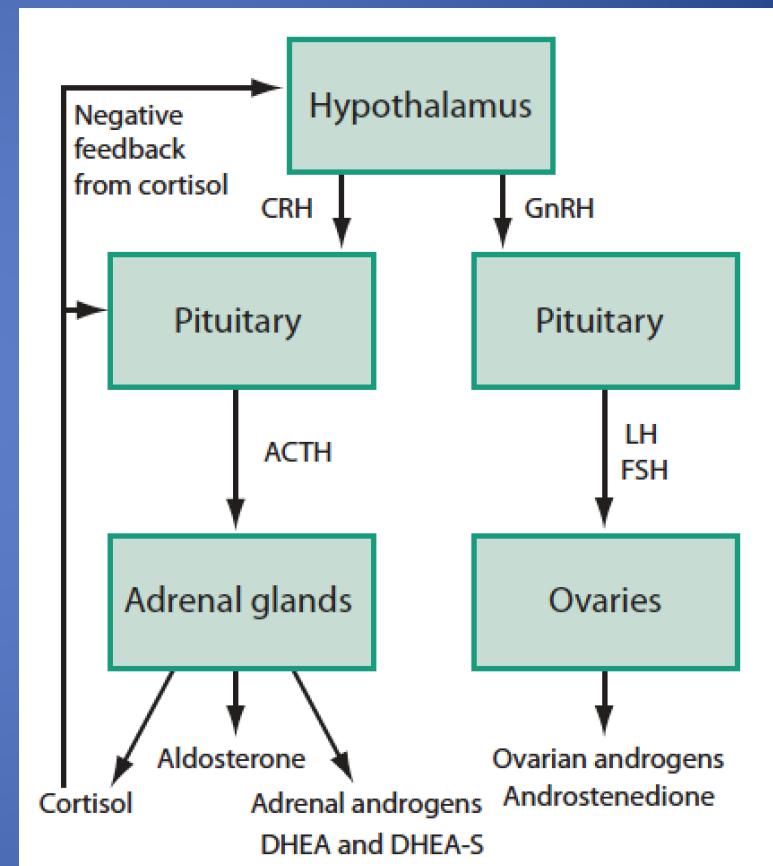
- Skips breakfast
- Snacks on crisps
- Drinks LOTS of juice





Role of Adrenal Androgens

- DHEA is the predominant androgen
 - DHEAS
- Ovary
 - 20% of DHEA
 - 50% of Androstenedione
 - 25% of circulating Testosterone
- Healthy women
 - 80% of circulating Testosterone is bound to SHBG
- PCOS
 - Increased Testosterone
 - Elevated DHEAS
 - Lower SHBG



Meek et al (2013) *The Obstetrician & Gynaecologist*

Sex Hormone Binding Globulin

- Made in the liver
- Usually twice as high in women than in men
- Lower levels in PCOS, because of the androgens and oestrogens
- Decreases with high insulin levels
- Obese girls likely to have an earlier menarche due to the lower SHBG levels

Review Article

Ann Clin Biochem 1990; 27: 532-541

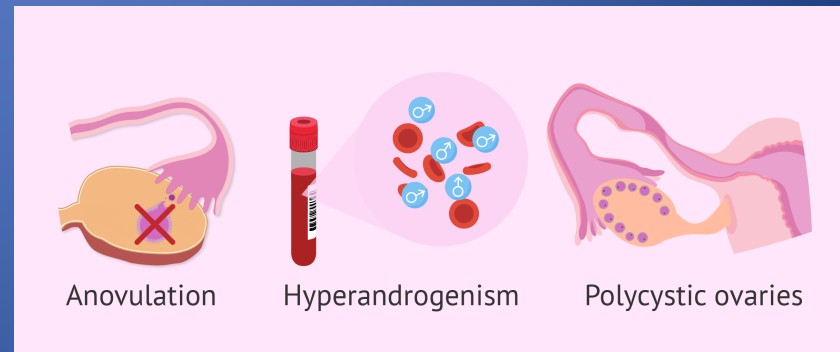
Sex hormone binding globulin: origin, function and clinical significance

Colin Selby

From the Department of Clinical Chemistry, City Hospital, Hucknall Road, Nottingham NG5 1PB, UK

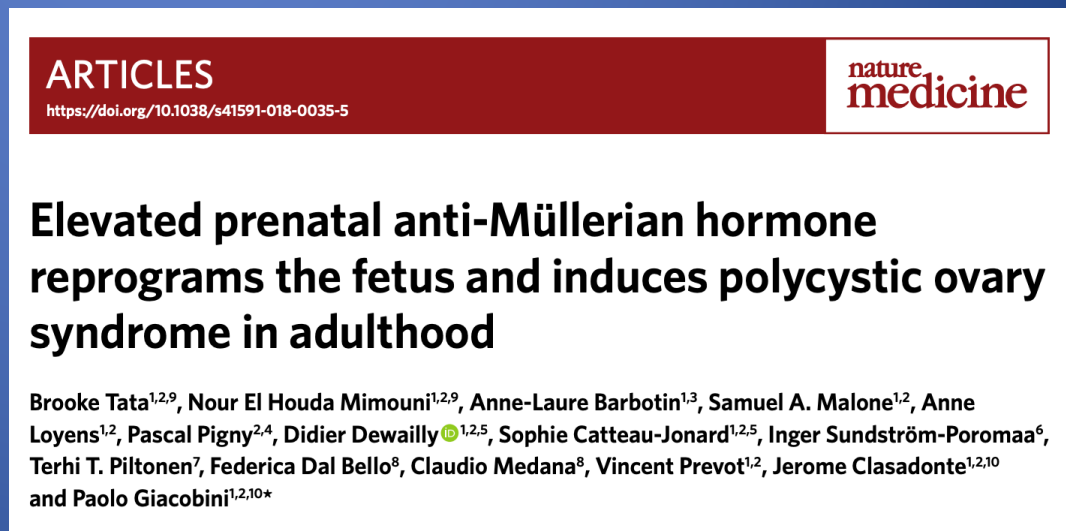
What is PCOS?

- 8 – 13 % of all women
- Increased prevalence as BMI increases
- 2 of the 3 Rotterdam criteria are required for diagnosis
 - Polycystic ovaries
 - 12 or more follicles measuring 2-9mm in diameter, or increased ovarian volume
 - Oligomenorrhoea / anovulation
 - Reduced periods / failure to release eggs)
 - Hyperandrogenism
 - Clinically
 - Biochemically



What causes it?

- Strong family history
 - Genetics?
 - Studies still in their infancy



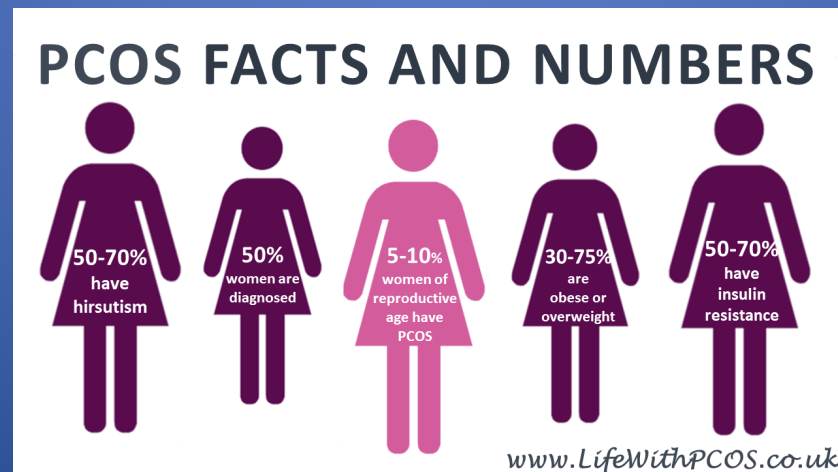
Management – multidisciplinary approach

- Hyperandrogenism
- Metabolic
 - ↑risk of cardiovascular disease, T2D, abnormal lipids, obstructive sleep apnoea
- Reproductive -
 - Oral contraceptive pill
 - Reduce ovarian androgen production by suppressing GnRH
 - Oestrogens increase the SHBG levels
- Psychological
 - ↑ depression
 - Anxiety
 - Psychosexual dysfunction
 - Disordered eating
 - Feminine identity challenged
- Cognitive behavioural therapy, psychotherapy, support groups

Where next for Polly?

- No Metformin
- Discharge back to the General Practitioner, but keep under review
- Refer to adult obesity clinic in 6 months

Thoughts?



Conclusion

- PCOS management – complex
- Education
- Support

