



Original article

**Studies of Clinical and Metabolic Variables in Women with
Clinical Hyperandrogenism**

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ABSTRACT

Polycystic ovary syndrome (PCOS) is the most common form of hyperandrogenism in women, its prevalence varying between 4 to 7% of the female population. It is characterized by ovulatory dysfunction, menstrual disorders, infertility, hirsutism, obesity and insulin resistance, although none of these characteristics are present in 100% of cases. 54 women who consulted for hirsutism, menstrual irregularity or infertility associated with menstrual disorders were studied. Twenty-four presented eumenorrhea and 30 presented oligoamenorrhea. 55.5% of the women were of normal weight while 44.5% were overweight or obese. In 59.3% of the cases there was a history of type II diabetes mellitus in first and second degree relatives. Total testosterone, free androgen index, basal insulin, post-load insulin and HOMA were elevated in 20.4%, 40.7%, 9.3%, 50% and 30.6% of cases, respectively. One patient presented glucose intolerance and there were no cases of type II diabetes mellitus. The comparison of clinical and biochemical parameters between patients with eumenorrhea and those with menstrual disorders showed that there were no significant differences between both groups. This observation allows us to conclude that hyperandrogenism without menstrual disorders, for some called "peripheral hirsutism", does not differ in its pathophysiology from polycystic ovary syndrome with menstrual disorders and that it should be considered a form of presentation of PCOS.

Keywords: Polycystic ovary syndrome, hyperandrogenism, insulin resistance, hirsutism

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