



Polycystic Ovarian Syndrome in Perimenopausal Women: A Pilot Study-Observation Regarding Study Approach

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Dear Editor-in-Chief,

As someone who has a particular interest in gynecology/gynecopathology, in current issue of the RS & SD, manuscript titled Polycystic Ovarian Syndrome in Perimenopausal Women: A Pilot Study, catch my certain attention. In this paper, authors have made a pretty good introduction and insight what the PCOS is. They correctly underlined that the PCOS is a complex disorder that affects women in reproductive age, and also listed all risks and conditions that woman may be faced with. The basic disorder in PCOS is abnormal level of woman's hormones, with consequence on periods, ovulation and some metabolic pathways. As I understood, authors have a good intention and aim: to establish an incidence of PCOS in perimenopausal women and associated abnormalities. Unfortunately, in my opinion, authors have lost a core of the topic and title of the manuscript does not cover the content properly. Although results are presented in pretty confused manner, there are some important points.

- Most women in the study did not have a PCOS (88% vs 12% with PCOS).

- Those that have a PCOS, according to the criteria, are mostly not really perimenopausal (50% are aged 35-39). Perimenopausal is individual characteristic and influenced with heritage. In general, perimenopause can begin 8 to 10 years before menopause and usually starts in woman's 40's, so the question is whether they really talk about perimenopausal women.

- All of the perimenopausal women with PCOS had a metabolic disorders and only few of them had abnormal hormonal level "...5 had elevated LH/FSH ratio and 4 women had elevated free testosterone".

- It is hard to conclude how many women with PCOS had a "cystic ovaries" and what are the most common associated metabolic abnormalities in those patients.

- Results are calculated with the most simple statistic methods, and statistical significance are not well presented.

To summarize my suggestions: PCOS in perimenopausal women, as the main idea of authors, is worth of attention, but it was lost in a chaotic results presentation. A low incidence of real PCOS is not a problem, but unfortunately it is not clear what are the most common abnormalities associated with this syndrome in the targeting group. Results would be more clear and more transparent, if the authors used graphics.

The largest number of examined women had no PCOS, therefore some other title might be more appropriate than the current one.

Due to above mentioned reasons, this manuscript, for better organization and transparency should be revised before publishing, particularly results and discussion, and according to the content of manuscript give a thought about different title.