

Tentative Outline

Special Thematic Issue for Current Women's Health Reviews

Multidisciplinary management of women with Polycystic Ovary Syndrome

Guest Editors: Valentina Lucia La Rosa

Aims & Scope:

Polycystic Ovary Syndrome (PCOS) is a clinical condition characterized by chronic anovulation, insulin resistance and hyperandrogenism, affecting 6–10% of women in reproductive age. Despite many efforts, the etiology of this syndrome is still not fully understood. Nevertheless, accumulating evidence suggests that the cross-talk between metabolic alterations and hormonal disbalance causes hyperandrogenism, anovulation or irregular cycles. In addition, insulin resistance and secondary hyperinsulinemia may play a detrimental role female fertility, leading to reduced oocyte quality and altered developmental competence.

In this scenario, current management of PCOS is aimed to reduce insulin-resistance and compensatory hyperinsulinemia, correct hormonal disbalance and, in this way, ameliorate symptoms and signs and improve fertility outcomes.

Moreover, PCOS symptoms have a significant negative impact on the quality of life of women affected and can lead to the onset of psychological distress conditions such as anxiety, depression and low self-esteem. More specifically, among PCOS symptoms, infertility and alopecia are more associated with anxiety, while acne is mainly associated with depression.

Furthermore, as already highlighted by several studies, hirsutism has the worst impact on quality of life of women with PCOS. Also, body image and self-esteem are strongly compromised due to PCOS, with inevitable relapses on sexuality, especially regarding the areas of desire and excitement. For all these reasons, a multidisciplinary approach is very important for an adequate clinical management of patients with PCOS.

This Special Issue aims to publish both original articles and comprehensive review about etiology, diagnosis and treatment of PCOS, from both the clinical and basic science points of view. Space will also be given to multidisciplinary contributions in order to investigate the impact of PCOS and its treatments on quality of life, psychological well-being and sexuality.

Subtopics:

The subtopics to be covered within this issue are listed below:

- Impact of PCOS treatments on psychological outcomes.
- Quality of life in PCOS patients.
- PCOS symptoms and psychological distress.
- Body image and self-esteem in PCOS patients.
- Sexual function in PCOS patients.

Schedule:

- ✧ Manuscript submission deadline: August 2020
- ✧ Peer Review Due: October 2020
- ✧ Revision Due: November 2020
- ✧ Final manuscripts due: December 2020

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