

OLIGOMENORRHOEA AND SECONDARY AMENORRHOEA

- Prevalence 3-4% of women in reproductive age
- Suspect oligomenorrhoea if menses >35 days apart for 4 months or more
- Suspect secondary amenorrhoea
- Cessation of menstruation for 3 months in women with previously normal and regular menses
- Cessation of menstruation for 6 months in women with previous oligomenorrhoea

Initial investigations:

1. Detailed history of menses, diet and exercise, symptoms or signs of androgen excess, risk factors for premature ovarian insufficiency (radiotherapy, chemotherapy, autoimmune disease), chronic medical conditions, gynaecology surgical history and drug history
2. Examination: BMI, abdominal and pelvic examination, signs of androgen excess/virilisation or thyroid dysfunction
3. Pelvic ultrasound scan
4. Blood serology: thyroid function tests, prolactin, FSH, LH, total testosterone, serum estradiol
5. Pregnancy test (if appropriate). If positive manage as per early pregnancy.

Suspected diagnosis:
Hypothalamic Hypogonadotrophism

Low FSH and LH / low E2

Often caused by stress, diet, excess exercise

Lifestyle advice and refer to Gynaecology at Kingston Hospital

Suspected diagnosis:
Polycystic Ovarian Syndrome

Normal FSH, normal raised LH, raised Testosterone

Diagnosis requires 2 of the 3 Rotterdam criteria: 1) Oligo/amenorrhoea, 2) Clinical or biochemical evidence of androgen excess, (Testosterone 2.5-5 nmol/L) 3) Polycystic ovaries on USS

Please refer to PCOS primary care management pathway

Suspected diagnosis:
Premature Ovarian Insufficiency (POI)

Raised FSH

Raised FSH >20 or 25 IU/ 4-6 w apart in women below the age of 40 years
<https://www.eshre.eu/Guidelines-and-Legal/Guidelines/Management-of-premature-ovarian-insufficiency.aspx>

Refer to Gynaecology or Fertility at Kingston (depending on patient primary concern).

Suspected diagnosis:
Ashermans Syndrome or IU Adhesions

Normal FSH, LH, Normal E2

History of recent/repeated uterine surgery (e.g. ERPC) or pelvic infection / endometritis

Refer to Gynaecology at Kingston Hospital

Suspected diagnosis:
Thyroid cause – manage in primary care first as per local guidance

Abnormal prolactin-serum prolactin level greater than 1000 mIU/L, or 500–1000 mIU/L on two occasions

Testosterone > 5 nmol; or signs of Cushing's syndrome

Refer to Endocrinology at Kingston Hospital

References:

<https://cks.nice.org.uk/topics/amenorrhoea/diagnosis/when-to-suspect-secondary-amenorrhoea/>

Patient resources:

<https://www.stgeorges.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2013/11/Amenorrhoea.pdf>