PCOS Community Education Event September 21, 2025





Adult PCOS Treatment Menu Katie McKenney, MD

Reproductive System Health	Metabolic Health	Behavioral Health & Body Image
Get more information about menstrual cycle health - talk to a doctor about how PCOS affects reproductive health - learn about menstrual cycle charting - take tests to determine whether you are ovulating - take tests to evaluate brain-ovary communication axis - take tests for androgen hormones (testosterone and DHEA-S; only valid if not using hormones or hormone blockers)	Get more information about metabolic health and long-term health risk - talk to a doctor about the meaning of PCOS for long term health - insulin resistance/diabetes testing: HbA1c, glucose challenge test - check cholesterol panel - check liver and kidney function	Evaluate and treat mood and/or anxiety disorders - psychotherapy or counseling - seeing a psychiatrist - antidepressant medications - anti-anxiety medications (SSRI, SNRI, buspirone)
Protect the endometrium (prevent endometrial hyperplasia & cancer) - learn about menstrual cycle charting - use cycles of progesterone pills to provoke periods - use hormonal birth control (pill, patch, vaginal ring, arm implant, intrauterine device-IUD, injection)	Treat insulin resistance - talk to a dietitian about nutritional approaches - physical activity - metformin - estrogen containing birth control - inositol (supplement)	Improve sleep quantity & quality - talk to a health psychologist for strategies to treat insomnia - talk to a psychiatrist about medications to treat insomnia - referral for a sleep study
Evaluate & treat infertility - ovulation tests - tests of ovarian reserve (blood tests: AMH, FSH, estradiol) - pelvic ultrasound to evaluate uterus - HSG test to evaluate fallopian tubes - metformin to help promote ovulation - low monitoring letrozole (ovulation induction pill) - referral for advanced fertility care (monitored ovulation induction, intrauterine insemination, or IVF)	Evaluate for sleep disordered breathing (obstructive sleep apnea) - complete a screening questionnaire - referral for a sleep study	Address disordered eating - talk to a health psychologist about relationship with food - talk to a registered dietitian about mindful/'Intuitive' eating strategies and why diet culture is harmful
Optimize health for pregnancy - review medications & other health conditions for pregnancy safety - folic acid supplementation - review how to 'try to conceive' to optimize chances of pregnancy - learn about pre-pregnancy genetic testing (carrier testing)	Target weight loss (optional – weight is not a direct indicator of health!) - talk to a dietitian about nutritional approaches - physical activity - referral for 'Weight loss' medications	Treat skin, hair, and body image concerns - dermatologist referral to help treat acne, unwanted hair growth, scalp hair loss, skin discoloration, and skin boils - estrogen containing birth control - spironolactone - talk to a health psychologist about body image