Central precocious puberty: revisiting the diagnosis and therapeutic management

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INTRODUCTION

Duberty is a period of physical, hormonal, and psychological transition from childhood to adulthood, with accelerated linear growth and achievement of reproductive function. It is a complex and multifactorial process that includes genetic, metabolic, environmental, ethnic, geographic, and economic factors and results in reactivation of the hypothalamic-pituitary-gonadal (HPG) axis. effective pubertal onset requires pulsatile hypothalamic secretion of GnRH stimulating the secretion of gonadotropins by the anterior pituitary gland (LH = luteinizing hormone and FSH = follicle-stimulating hormone). Gonadotropins stimulate the gonads and exert a negative feedback effect on the hypothalamus, whereas gonadal steroids (T = testosterone, produced by the testis, and E2 = estradiol, produced by the ovaries) inhibit both hypothalamus and anterior pituitary gland. This process is named gonadarche (1-3).

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