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The Effects of Flutamide on Lipid Profile, Insulin Sensitivity, Hirsutism and Gonadotropins in Women With Polycystic Ovary Syndrome

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Abstract: In this study, we evaluated metabolic changes and the effects of flutamide in 22 women with PCOS. Flutamide was administered for a 6-month period in a dose of 750 mg/day. The basal and after treatment body mass index, waist: hip ratio, blood glucose, insulin, lipids, Ferriman-Gallwey scoring (FGS), gonadotropins, testosterone, trasaminazed and glucose: insulin (G:I) ratio were measured. For comparison, ANOVA was used. The sixth month mean FGS was significantly lower than the basal values  $(18.5 \pm 7.4 \text{ and } 12.5 \pm 4.5, \text{ P<0.01})$ . The mean basal G:I ratio was  $3.31 \pm 1.12$  and  $6.21 \pm 2.53$  at the sixth month. The sixth month G:I ratio was significantly higher (P<0.001). The total and LDL-cholesterol were decreased by flutamide (from  $144 \pm 23$  to  $123 \pm 23$  and from  $88 \pm 32$  to  $60 \pm 25$  mg/dI respectively. P<0.02 and P<0.01), whereas, the HDL-cholesterol level was increased with flutamide (from  $44.8 \pm 3.9$  to  $46.5 \pm 3.2$  mg/dI and P<0.001). LH (from  $14.7 \pm 6.7$  to  $8.4 \pm 3$  mIU/mI), LH/FSH ratio (from  $3.4 \pm 1.7$  to  $1.9 \pm 0.6$ ), total testosterone (from  $0.87 \pm 0.29$  to  $0.61 \pm 0.18$  ng/mI) and free testosterone (from  $4.29 \pm 1.18$  to  $2.14 \pm 0.9$  pg/mI) were decreased by flutamide (P<0.05). Thus, we reached three conclusions:1-Flutamide may improve insulin insensitivity. 2-In PCOS, flutamide decreases total and LDL-cholesterol, and increases HDL-cholesterol. 3-Flutamide may improve the LH/FSH ratio and induce a decrease in testosterone.

Key Words: insulin sensitivity, PCOS, flutamide, hirsutism and lipids.

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