

# Polycystic Ovarian Syndrome

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## THE PREVALENCE OF OVARIAN VARICES IN PATIENTS WITH ENDOMETRIOSIS

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**Purpose:** Endometriosis and ovarian varices manifest with similar symptomologies and the hormone estradiol is implicated in both. We decided to investigate the possible association between them.

**Materials & Methods:** The sample consisted of 48 female patients between the ages of 18 and 50 years old. There were 25 patients who had been diagnosed with endometriosis; 15 had been confirmed by surgery and histopathology and 10 by nuclear magnetic resonance. There were also 23 patients without endometriosis who were considered to be the control group. The study design was an observational case control type.

**Results:** The prevalence of ovarian varices in patients with endometriosis was 80%, whereas, the control group was only 26.1%. The elevated percentage of ovarian varices in patients

with endometriosis is highly significant, with a difference of 53.9% and 95% confidence interval of 30% to 78%. The criteria for the determination of significance that we adopted was the level of 5%. The statistical analysis was processed using the statistical software SAS system, version 6.11 (SAS Institute, Inc., Cary, North Carolina).

**Conclusion:** Our results suggest that ovarian varices play a very important role in the physiopathology of endometriosis. Ovarian varices may evolve with oxidative stress in the function of the ovary, provoking an imbalance in its genetic, hormonal, and immunological aspects, provoking the chronic inflammatory process particular to endometriosis.

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