

# Precocious pubarche: Experience in 173 cases Pubarquia precoz: Experiencia en 173 casos

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**Background:** Precocious pubarche (PP), defined as the development of sexual pubic hair before 8 years of age in females and before 9 years in males, is usually a benign condition but it can also be the first sign of an underlying disease. **Aim:** To analyze the etiology and perform a short term follow up in a cohort of patients with PP. **Material and methods:** A group of 173 patients (158 females) consulted for PP with a mean age of  $7.4 \pm 0.1$  years. These patients were followed between 15 to 60 months. Anthropometric measurements, bone age, serum levels of total testosterone, 17 OH progesterone (17 OHP) and dehydroepiandrosterone sulphate (DHEAS) were evaluated. **Results:** Mean birth weight and length was  $3024.1 \pm 50.5$  g and  $48.5 \pm 0.3$  cm, respectively. Ten percent of children were small for gestational age at birth. Bone age was accelerated by  $1.1 \pm 0.01$  years. One hundred and twelve patients were classified as having idiopathic PP (64.7%; 105 females), 29 as central precocious puberty (16.8%; only f