Serological markers of autoimmunity in pregnant women with polycystic ovary syndrome: A pilot study

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Background. Gestational diabetes mellitus (GDM) is highly prevalent in women with polycystic ovary syndrome (PCOS). Women with GDM have considerable risk for developing both type 1 and type 2 diabetes. Aim. To evaluate the prevalence of anti-GAD65 and anti-IA2 auto-antibodies in Chilean pregnant women with GDM, normal pregnancy (NP) and with PCOS (PPCOS) to establish whether in PCOS women GDM is partially induced by autoantibodies. Methods. Women with singleton pregnancies matched by age and gestational age were included: 50 GDM, 59 NP and 50 PPCOS. During gestational weeks 22-28, a 2-h, 75 g oral glucose tolerance test was performed, with measurement of glucose, insulin, lipids and auto-antibodies. Results. A highly prevalence of anti-GAD65 antibodies (12%) was observed in women with GDM. PPCOS and NP women showed a similar distribution of anti-GAD65 antibodies (2.0% and 1.7%, respectively). Anti-IA2 antibodies were present in 4.0% of women with GDM, in 1.7% of NP women and 2.0% PPCOS