

VOICE CHARACTERISTICS OF WOMEN WITH POLYCYSTIC OVARY SYNDROME

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Purpose: The purpose of this study is to determine the vocal quality of women with polycystic ovary syndrome (PCOS) and to compare the vocal quality with age-matched and body mass index-matched healthy women.

Methods: Women with PCOS and a control group of age-matched and body mass index-matched healthy women are included. The same assessment protocol is used for each participant and consists of videolaryngostroboscopy, audiometry, perceptual voice analysis, maximum performance task, acoustic analysis (of a sustained vowel and continuous speech), voice range profile, Dysphonia Severity Index, Acoustic Voice Quality Index and self-assessment using the Voice Handicap Index. Demographic data, anthropometric measurement, and serum androgens are determined. The acoustic analysis of the sustained vowel and the determination of the voice range profile is performed using the speech lab of Kay. The auditory perceptual analysis and the acoustic analysis of the speech samples are performed using PRAAT.

Results: The study continues until April 2017. Results will be analyzed using SPSS. Voice data of the experimental and control group will be compared using a paired statistical test.

Conclusion: The results of this study will gain insight in the vocal characteristics of women with PCOS and in the differences in vocal quality compared to healthy women.