# Polycystic Ovary Syndrome and Gut Microbiota

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Polycystic ovary syndrome (PCOS) is the most common female endocrine disorder, affecting up to 1 in 5 women. The syndrome is characterized by clinical or biochemical androgen excess, ovulatory dysfunction and polycystic ovarian morphology. At least two of these three features are required to establish a diagnosis after excluding mimicking disorders. PCOS is associated with an adverse cardiometabolic risk profile, including insulin resistance, obesity, dyslipidemia, and increased prevalence of cardiovascular risk factors. Pathogenesis of the syndrome is not fully elucidated. Alterations in composition, diversity and metabolites derived from the gut microbiota have been reported in preliminary animal and human studies of PCOS suggesting that microbiota might potentially be involved in development of the syndrome and its long-term metabolic health consequences. Larger studies are needed to investigate whether dysbiosis has an implication in pathogenesis of PCOS and whether it could give rise to novel treatment opportunities.