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DIVISION OF ENDOCRINOLOGY AND DIABETES

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▶ I have no actual or potential conflict of interest in relation to this program/presentation.

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▶ What is complete androgen insensitivity (CAIS)  
▶ Review specific case presentation of CAIS  
▶ Additional considerations in CAIS  
▶ Questions/Discussion

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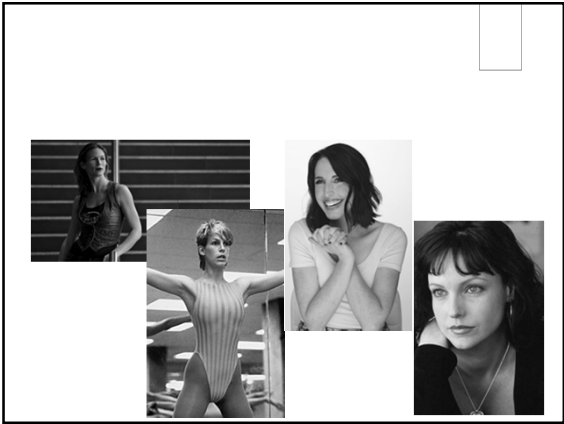
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- ▶ Disorder of sex development (DSD)
  - ▶ Genetically male (46, XY)
  - ▶ Unable to respond to androgens → develop female sex characteristics
    - ▶ Formerly called testicular feminization
- ▶ Prevalence: 2 to 5 per 100,000 people who are genetically male
- ▶ Complete or partial

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- ▶ **Complete:** body cannot use androgens at all
  - ▶ External sex characteristics of females
    - ▶ Short blind pouch vagina, no uterus, fallopian tubes, or ovaries
  - ▶ Internal male sex organs (undescended testes in abdomen or pelvis)
  - ▶ Sparse or no pubic hair, axillary hair, or body odor
- ▶ **Partial:** body partially sensitive to androgens
  - ▶ Appearance of external genitalia may vary

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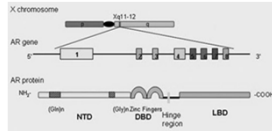
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- ▶ AR gene provides instructions for making a protein called an androgen receptor
- ▶ Androgen receptors allow cells to respond to androgens, which direct male sexual development
- ▶ Mutations in the AR gene prevent androgen receptors from working properly
- ▶ Inherited in an X-linked recessive pattern




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▶ **Complete AIS**

- ▶ May be picked up at birth if:
  - ▶ Baby develops an inguinal hernia
  - ▶ Female newborns w/ prenatal 46, XY karyotype
- ▶ Usually not identified until child reaches puberty
  - ▶ Amenorrhea, lack of pubic hair and axillary hair

▶ **Partial AIS**

- ▶ Usually identified after birth due to atypical genital appearance

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- ▶ L.C. was referred to adolescent medicine in February 2017, at age 16 years 7 months for evaluation of primary amenorrhea

▶ Primary amenorrhea

- ▶ The absence of menses at age 15 years in the presence of normal growth and secondary sexual characteristics

▶ Differential for primary amenorrhea:

Turner syndrome	PCOS	Anorexia nervosa	Pituitary tumor	Cushing's
MRKH syndrome	GnRH deficiency	CAIS	CAH	Other
Constitutional delay	Transverse vaginal septum	Hyperprolactinemia	Hypothyroidism	

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- ▶ Elevated testosterone (319 ng/dL)
  - ▶ Tanner 5 Female range: 20-38
- ▶ Elevated DHEA(S) (462 ug/dL)
  - ▶ Tanner 5 Female range: 44 - 248
- ▶ LH/FSH not elevated
  - ▶ No evidence of gonadal failure
- ▶ 17OHP and Androstenedione WNL
  - ▶ Can rule out CAH
- ▶ Estradiol WNL
- ▶ TFS WNL
- ▶ Prolactin not elevated

Component	1/9/2017	2/21/2017
LabCorp Refs & Units		
Testosterone, Serum (Total)		319
ng/dL		
% Free Testosterone		1.1
%		
Free Testosterone, S		35
ng/dL		
Sex Hormone Bind Glob (SHBG)		83.5
nmol/L		
FSH		5.0
mIU/mL		
Luteinizing Hormone (LH) ECL		16
mIU/mL		
Prolactin		11.6
ng/mL		
LH		3.070
IU		
17-OH Progesterone		1.05
ng/dL		
17 Androstenedione		57
ng/dL		
Androstenedione, Ser		141
ng/dL		
Female Stimulating Horm		4.4
mIU/mL		
Luteinizing Hormone		14.9
mIU/mL		
Estradiol		22.0
pg/mL		
DHEA-Sulfate, LCMS		462
ug/dL		

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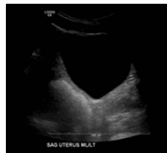
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- ▶ The uterus is not well visualized. On the sagittal images, there is a small, linear, hypochoic structure which measures 1.4 mm in AP dimension x 1.8 cm in length. There is soft tissue in the region of the cervix which measures 4.7 mm in AP dimension. A normal vaginal stripe is noted. The ovaries are not visualized.
- ▶ Impression: Findings suggestive of a hypoplastic uterus. The ovaries are not visualized which may be related to morphology.




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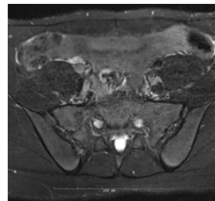
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- ▶ Impression: No uterus or ovaries identified. Testes identified in the bilateral inguinal canals, compatible with androgen insensitivity syndrome. Normal kidneys.




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▶ NP and Attending Endocrinologist met with parents only (no patient)

▶ Karyotype not yet performed

▶ Referred to:

- ▶ Counselor in the Gender and Sexuality Development Clinic
- ▶ Genetics
- ▶ Urology

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▶ Mother and patient met counselor in the Gender and Sexuality Development Clinic

▶ L.C. was informed that there is more information to be gained but we know that she does not have uterus or ovaries, so will be unable to have a period

- ▶ Became upset once she realized this meant that she would not be able to give birth to her own children
- ▶ Also upset with the idea that her parents knew this for a lot longer than she did

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▶ 46, XY

▶ Cytogenetic analysis of PHA stimulated cultures revealed an apparently normal MALE karyotype in all cells examined.




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▶ First time for NP and attending actually meeting and examining the patient

▶ Physical Exam: Breast Tanner IV, PH Tanner 2-3, axillary hair few. Left gonad palpable in inguinal canal. Right gonad non palpable (but patient reports that she has been able to feel it)

▶ At this time, no need for hormone replacement

- ▶ Gonads intact; aromatization of testosterone → estrogen

▶ Referred to Genetics and Urology

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▶ In office physical exam: Normal appearing clitoris, normal vaginal introitus, normal urethra

▶ Recommended exam under anesthesia to evaluate vaginal length/depth

▶ Also discussed monitoring of gonads versus gonadectomy as they present an increased cancer risk

- ▶ Urologist recommends laparoscopic gonadectomy

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▶ Germ cell tumors may develop in the cryptorchid testes

▶ Girls with CAIS have a normal pubertal growth spurt and feminize at the time of expected puberty secondary to aromatization of androgen to estrogen

- ▶ Prophylactic gonadectomy is not recommended at this time because testicular tumors do not usually develop until after puberty

▶ Gonadectomy in women with CAIS is now typically delayed until sexual maturation is complete

- ▶ This approach also respects patient autonomy

▶ Clinical guidelines have not yet been developed on the optimal screening and timing of gonadectomy for patients with gonads in situ

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▶ Vaginal exam under anesthesia performed

- ▶ Shallow vagina measured at approximately 3 cm
- ▶ Vagina was noted to be blind ending without any additional channels and no cervix

▶ Vaginal dilation begins few weeks after EUA

- ▶ Patient able to insert dilator about 2-3 cm with some mild discomfort



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▶ One pathogenic change was identified in the AR gene (c.1771A>T, p.Lys591\*)

- ▶ Reported to be pathogenic for Androgen Insensitivity Syndrome.

▶ Functional studies to determine the level of residual activity of L.C.'s AR could be available to investigate further whether the activity is consistent with complete or partial

- ▶ Determining the level of function could help better clarify options regarding whether surgery is needed

▶ Discussed that there is a chance that Mom is a carrier

- ▶ Whether mom is a carrier impacts whether L.C.'s sister may be a carrier herself, which could have implications for her family planning

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▶ Appointment was scheduled for 4/24/18 to discuss timing of gonadectomy and hormone replacement

- ▶ Two days prior to appointment received message from L.C.'s mother:
  - ▶ "I need to postpone our Tuesday appointment. After some discussion on our end we're holding off for now on surgery so it probably makes sense to wait a bit to discuss hormone replacement and do it when L.C. is ready/available."

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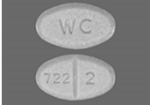
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▶ Hormone treatment is indicated when gonadectomy is performed after puberty or at the time of expected puberty if gonadectomy was performed prepubertally

▶ Low doses of estrogen should be begun to promote feminization and gradually increased to full adult doses, similar to induction of puberty protocols

▶ Adult women can be given full estrogen replacement immediately



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▶ Three ethical principals that apply to the management of DSD:

- ▶ To foster the well-being of the child and the future adult
- ▶ To uphold the rights of children and adolescents to participate in and/or self-determine decisions that affect them now or later
- ▶ To respect the family and parent-child relationships

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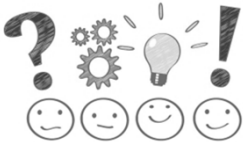
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► "Androgen Insensitivity Syndrome." *U.S. National Library of Medicine, National Institutes of Health*, 3 Apr. 2018. <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/condition/androgen-insensitivity-syndrome/#synonyms>.

► Sabari, Angeliki, et al. "Androgen Insensitivity Syndrome: Clinical Features and Molecular Defects." *Hormones*, vol. 7, no. 3, 2008, pp. 217-229. doi:10.14319/horm.2008.201.

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► Wisemann, Claudia, et al. "Ethical Principles and Recommendations for the Medical Management of Differences of Sex Development (DSD) Intersex in Children and Adolescents." *European Journal of Pediatrics*, vol. 169, no. 6, 2009, pp. 671-679. doi:10.1007/s00431-009-1086-x.

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