

Altogether  
to Beat  
Cushing's  
Syndrome



## Viaggio alla (ri)scoperta della Sindrome di Cushing

Terza Edizione

Sorrento, 27-30 maggio 2014

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**mercoledì 28 maggio 2014**

**17.00-18.00 SESSIONE 4: IL CUSHING DOPO LA GUARIGIONE**

Moderatori: **Dario Giugliano, Andrea Isidori**

**17.00-17.15 LA DEFINIZIONE DI GUARIGIONE**

**Monica De Leo**

**17.15-17.30 IL DANNO RESIDUO FISICO**

**Giovanni Vitale**

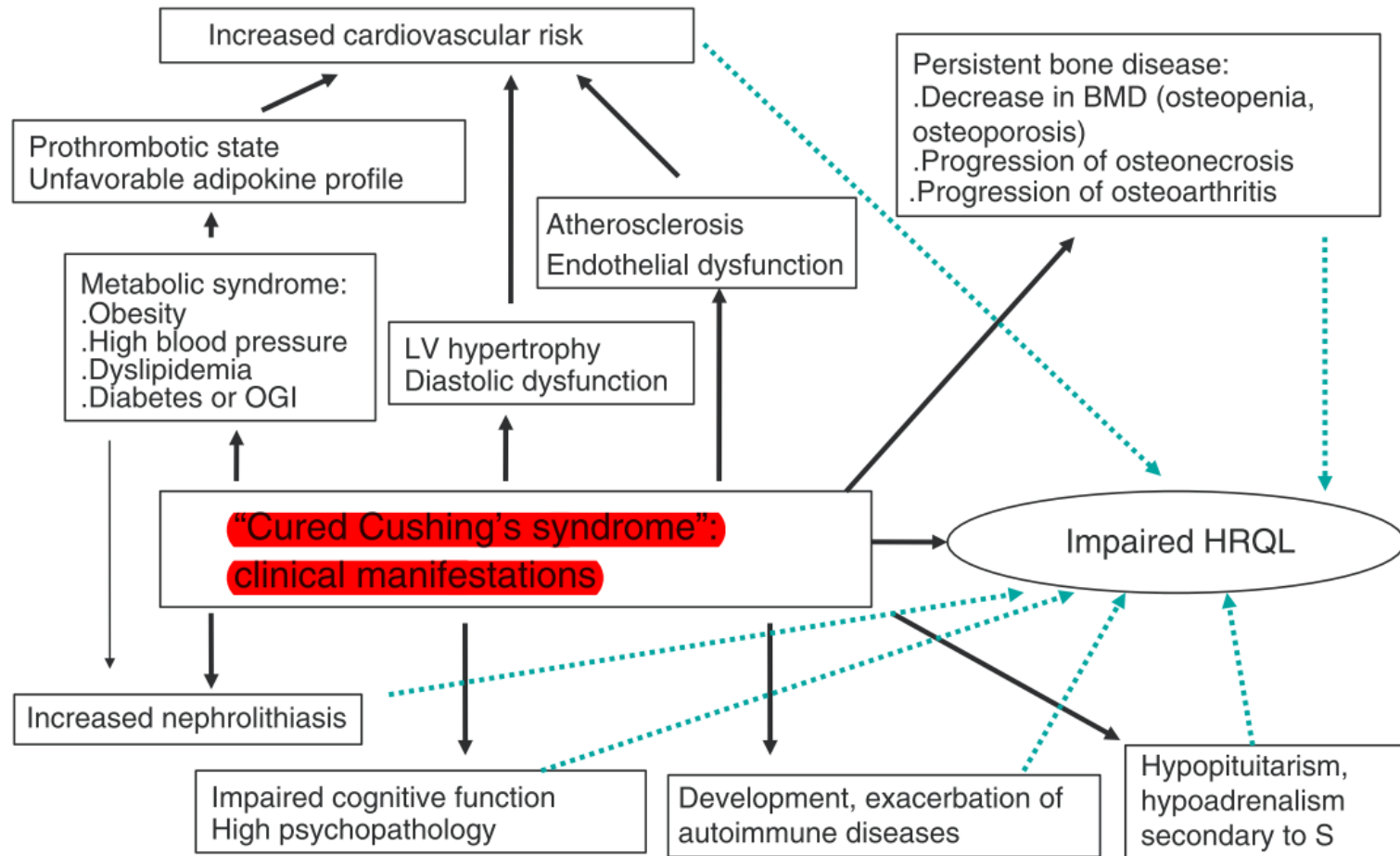
**17.30-17.45 IL DANNO RESIDUO PSICHICO ED ESTETICO**

**Laura Trementino**

**17.45-18.00 Discussione**



Anna Aulinas<sup>a,\*</sup>, Elena Valassi<sup>b</sup>, Susan M. Webb<sup>a,b</sup>



**Figure 1** Schematic representation of the potential clinical manifestations and consequences despite the "cure" of hypercortisolism.



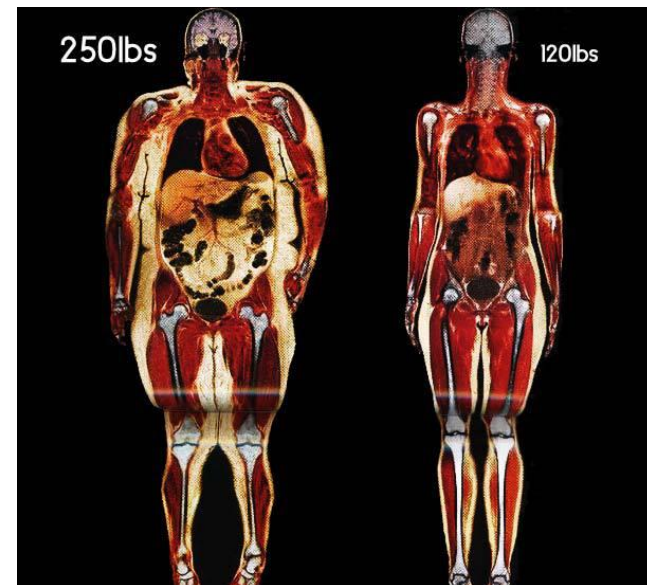


# Body Composition and Cardiovascular Risk Markers after Remission of Cushing's Disease: A Prospective Study Using Whole-Body MRI

Eliza B. Geer, Wei Shen, Erika Strohmayer, Kalmon D. Post, and Pamela U. Freda

J Clin Endocrinol Metab, May 2012, 97(5):1702–1711

**Fourteen CD patients were studied prospectively: before surgery (active disease) and again postoperatively 6 months after discontinuing oral glucocorticoids (remission).**



**TABLE 2.** Body composition measurements

| Measure (kg)             | Active CD          | Remission          | Difference | Change (%) | Value decreased (no. of patients) | <i>P</i> value <sup>a</sup> |
|--------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|------------|------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| VAT                      | 4.59 ± 2.68        | 3.21 ± 2.05        | −1.38      | −29.3      | 12                                | 0.004                       |
| Pelvic BMAT <sup>b</sup> | 0.26 ± 0.11        | 0.19 ± 0.09        | −0.07      | −20.5      | 11                                | 0.012                       |
| TrSAT                    | 19.54 ± 7.35       | 15.72 ± 7.92       | −3.82      | −21.9      | 12                                | 0.0005                      |
| Limb SAT                 | 13.82 ± 7.33       | 12.01 ± 7.29       | −1.81      | −14.8      | 13                                | 0.001                       |
| Total SAT                | 33.36 ± 14.10      | 27.69 ± 14.33      | −5.67      | −19.1      | 13                                | 0.0001                      |
| TAT                      | 39.21 ± 14.15      | 32.00 ± 15.43      | −7.21      | −20.5      | 12                                | 0.0002                      |
| IMAT                     | 1.18 ± 0.46        | 1.10 ± 0.57        | −0.08      | −4.8       | 9                                 | 0.512                       |
| SM                       | 21.18 (19.4–22.9)  | 19.58 (18.6–23.2)  | −1.60      | −4.5       | 10                                | 0.02                        |
| Limb SM                  | 11.04 (9.92–12.66) | 10.86 (9.84–11.67) | −0.18      | −2.9       | 10                                | 0.12                        |
| VAT/SM                   | 0.20 ± 0.09        | 0.14 ± 0.07        | −0.06      | −26.1      | 12                                | 0.006                       |
| VAT/TAT                  | 0.13 ± 0.09        | 0.11 ± 0.08        | −0.02      | −13.9      | 13                                | 0.04                        |



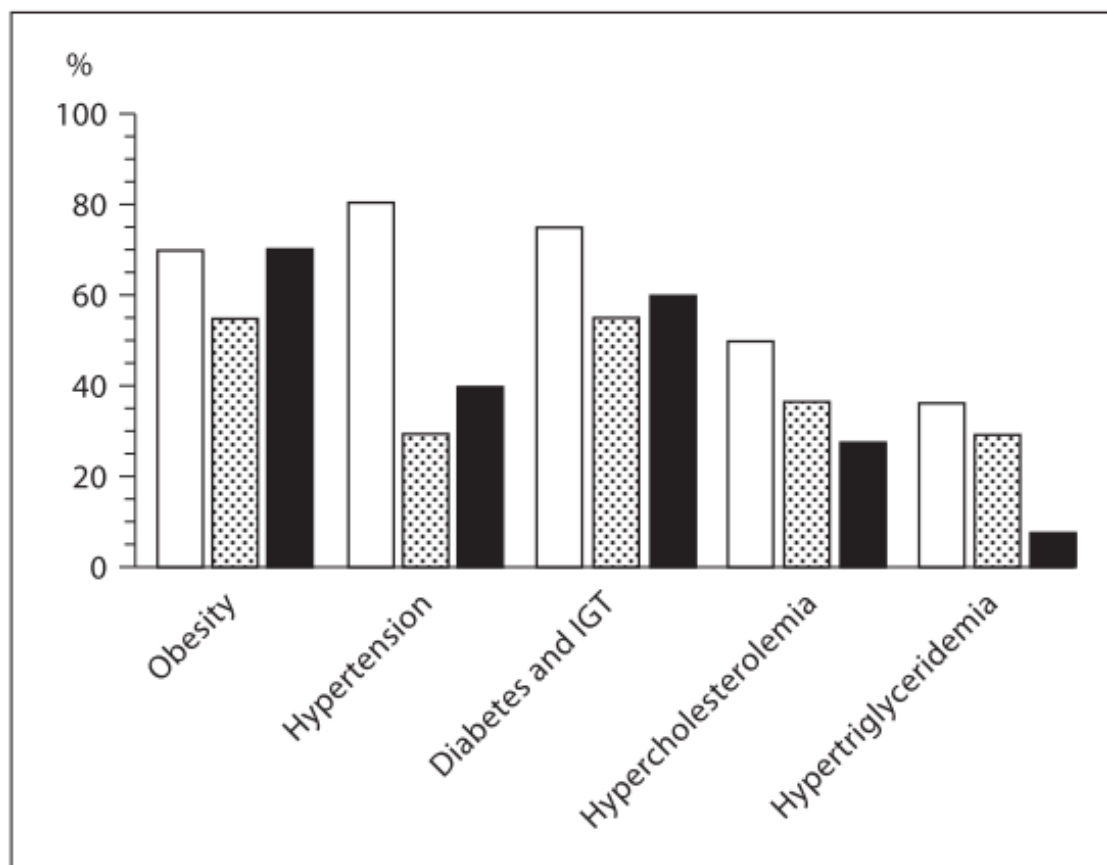
# Persistence of Increased Cardiovascular Risk in Patients with Cushing's Disease after Five Years of Successful Cure

*J Clin Endocrinol Metab* 84: 2664–2672, 1999

ANNAMARIA COLAO, ROSARIO PIVONELLO, STEFANO SPIEZIA, ANTONGIULIO FAGGIANO, DIEGO FERONE, MARIAGIOVANNA FILIPPELLA, PAOLO MARZULLO, GAETANA CERBONE, MARCELLO SICILIANI, AND GAETANO LOMBARDI

**TABLE 3.** Clinical, biochemical, and hormonal features of the three groups of subjects included in the study

| Parameters                                 | Patients<br>(n = 15) | Sex- and age-matched<br>controls<br>(n = 30) | <i>P</i> | BMI-matched<br>controls<br>(n = 30) | <i>P</i> |
|--|----------------------|--|----------|-------------------------------------|----------|
| Body mass index (kg/m <sup>2</sup> )       | 28.5 ± 1.2           | 23.5 ± 0.5                                   | <0.001   | 28.2 ± 1.0                          | NS       |
| Waist/hip ratio                            | 0.88 ± 0.02          | 0.76 ± 0.02                                  | <0.001   | 0.81 ± 0.02                         | <0.05    |
| Heart rate (beats/min)                     | 75 ± 2.8             | 71.2 ± 2.0                                   | NS       | 70.0 ± 3.0                          | NS       |
| Systolic blood pressure (mm Hg)            | 136.0 ± 4.6          | 117.7 ± 2.9                                  | <0.005   | 127.5 ± 4.0                         | NS       |
| Diastolic blood pressure (mm Hg)           | 91.3 ± 3.6           | 80.7 ± 2.9                                   | <0.05    | 82.2 ± 2.6                          | <0.05    |
| Fasting blood glucose levels (mg/dL)       | 104.9 ± 7.0          | 84.5 ± 1.8                                   | <0.001   | 94.7 ± 3.0                          | NS       |
| Serum triglycerides levels (mg/dL)         | 130.8 ± 17.8         | 107.6 ± 12.7                                 | NS       | 120.5 ± 13.6                        | NS       |
| Total blood cholesterol levels (mg/dL)     | 213.2 ± 10.8         | 175.5 ± 9.4                                  | <0.05    | 189.5 ± 8.9                         | NS       |
| LDL cholesterol levels (mg/dL)             | 139.1 ± 9.5          | 98.9 ± 9.0                                   | <0.01    | 120.5 ± 8.0                         | NS       |
| HDL cholesterol levels (mg/dL)             | 48.0 ± 2.0           | 61.8 ± 4.2                                   | <0.05    | 54.5 ± 2.0                          | <0.05    |
| Total/HDL cholesterol ratio                | 4.5 ± 0.2            | 3.0 ± 0.2                                    | <0.001   | 3.5 ± 0.2                           | <0.05    |
| Prothrombine time (%)                      | 102.4 ± 2.1          | 105.0 ± 3.4                                  | NS       | 103.5 ± 2.0                         | NS       |
| Activated partial thromboplastine time (s) | 28.7 ± 0.7           | 27.2 ± 1.2                                   | NS       | 27.9 ± 1.0                          | NS       |
| Plasma fibrinogen levels (mg/dL)           | 350.8 ± 32.7         | 262.0 ± 14.6                                 | <0.01    | 280.4 ± 18.4                        | <0.05    |
| Serum lipoprotein-a levels (mg/dL)         | 153.3 ± 5.0          | 119.0 ± 10.2                                 | <0.05    | 147.5 ± 3.7                         | NS       |
| Plasma ACTH levels (ng/L)                  | 35.9 ± 6.1           | 42.3 ± 5.6                                   | NS       | 33.4 ± 5.0                          | NS       |
| Serum cortisol levels (μg/L)               | 144.8 ± 11.5         | 135 ± 10.9                                   | NS       | 156.5 ± 10.4                        | NS       |
| Urinary cortisol levels (μg/24 h)          | 99.1 ± 8.5           | 85.5 ± 7.9                                   | NS       | 120.4 ± 9.5                         | NS       |
| Fasting serum insulin levels (micro-U/mL)  | 25.1 ± 5.8           | 10.5 ± 3.1                                   | <0.05    | 18.7 ± 4.2                          | NS       |



**Fig. 1.** Prevalence of various components of metabolic syndrome in patients with Cushing's disease before treatment  $\square$ , 1 year after cure of Cushing's disease  $\blacksquare$  and 5 years after cure of Cushing's disease  $\text{▨}$ . IGT = Impaired glucose tolerance. Adapted from Pivonello et al. [9].

# Persistent Body Fat Mass and Inflammatory Marker Increases after Long-Term Cure of Cushing's Syndrome

J Clin Endocrinol Metab, September 2009, 94(9):3365–3371

María-José Barahona, Nuria Sucunza, Eugenia Resmini, José-Manuel Fernández-Real, Wifredo Ricart, José-Maria Moreno-Navarrete, Teresa Puig, Jordi Farrerons, and Susan M. Webb

**Patients with CS (27 of pituitary and 10 of adrenal origin) after a mean of 11 yrs of successful control of endogenous hypercortisolism.**

**TABLE 1.** Comparison in women between cured and active CS patients and normal matched controls

|                                | Cured CS         | Active CS        | Controls         | P                     |
|--------------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------------|
| n                              | 37               | 14               | 85               |                       |
| Total fat mass (%)             | 39.7 ± 7.4       | 39.4 ± 5.8       | 35.7 ± 6.9       | <0.01 <sup>a</sup>    |
| Trunk fat mass (%)             | 40.8 ± 9         | 40.4 ± 7.3       | 34.5 ± 8.8       | 0.001 <sup>a</sup>    |
| Lean body mass (kg)            | 37.6 ± 6.4       | 39.7 ± 3.9       | 40.1 ± 5.3       | NS                    |
| Adiponectin (ng/ml)            | 12.4 (5–32.4)    | 12.6 (8.2–26.2)  | 18.2 (4.5–56.5)  | <0.05 <sup>a,b</sup>  |
| Visfatin (ng/ml)               | 15 (8.5–24.5)    | 14 (9.4–36)      | 13.4 (7–59)      | NS                    |
| sTNF-R1 (ng/ml)                | 1.71 (1.07–4.28) | 1.61 (1.12–2.12) | 1.21 (0.79–2.47) | <0.001 <sup>a,b</sup> |
| sTNF-R2 (ng/ml)                | 2.92 (1.65–11)   | 2.97 (1.05–7)    | 2.74 (1.62–5.59) | NS                    |
| IL-6 (pg/ml)                   | 0.5 (0.07–11.09) | 0.44 (0.17–6.74) | 0.3 (0.07–1.48)  | <0.001 <sup>a,b</sup> |
| Insulin (pmol/liter)           | 54 (14–134)      | 66 (14–212)      | 35 (14–241)      | <0.05 <sup>a,b</sup>  |
| HOMA-IR                        | 1.61 (0.38–4.48) | 2.08 (0.36–7.09) | 1.09 (0.36–8.36) | NS (0.07)             |
| Total cholesterol (mmol/liter) | 5.8 ± 0.9        | 5.4 ± 0.7        | 5.4 ± 0.9        | NS                    |
| HDL-c (mmol/liter)             | 1.6 (1.2–2.8)    | 1.6 (1.2–2.5)    | 1.7 (0.8–3.2)    | NS                    |
| LDL-c (mmol/liter)             | 3.5 ± 0.9        | 3.2 ± 0.7        | 3.2 ± 0.8        | NS                    |
| Triglycerides (mmol/liter)     | 1.1 (0.4–2.8)    | 1.0 (0.5–3.8)    | 0.8 (0.4–3.9)    | NS                    |
| ApoB (g/liter)                 | 1.01 ± 0.21      | 0.96 ± 0.16      | 0.89 ± 0.22      | <0.05 <sup>a</sup>    |
| Lipoprotein a (mg/liter)       | 165 (70–1144)    | 455 (70–900)     | 136 (70–1177)    | NS                    |
| Systolic BP (mm Hg)            | 130 (100–160)    | 135 (100–145)    | 120 (90–154)     | <0.05 <sup>a,b</sup>  |
| Diastolic BP (mm Hg)           | 70 (60–100)      | 77.5 (70–100)    | 70 (59–94)       | <0.05 <sup>b,c</sup>  |
| BMI (kg/m <sup>2</sup> )       | 25.2 (18.7–45.5) | 29.6 (23.7–34)   | 25.4 (19–43)     | NS                    |
| Current age (yr)               | 50 ± 14          | 46 ± 12          | 50 ± 12          | NS                    |
| Menopause (%)                  | 43               | 46               | 50               | NS                    |

Results are expressed as mean ± SD or median (range). NS, Not significant; HOMA-IR, HOMA of insulin resistance.

<sup>a</sup>  $P < 0.05$  between cured CS and controls.

<sup>b</sup>  $P < 0.05$  between active CS and controls.

<sup>c</sup>  $P < 0.05$  between cured CS and active CS.



**TABLE 2.** Comparison in estrogen-sufficient women between cured and active CS patients and normal matched controls: role of estrogens

|                      | Cured CS      | Active CS      | Controls        | P                    |
|----------------------|---------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| n                    | 20            | 6              | 43              |                      |
| Total fat mass (%)   | 36.8 ± 7      | 39.6 ± 5       | 33.9 ± 7        | NS                   |
| Trunk fat mass (%)   | 36.2 ± 9      | 39.8 ± 5       | 31.5 ± 8        | NS                   |
| Lean body mass (kg)  | 38 ± 6        | 40.6 ± 4       | 40 ± 5          | NS                   |
| Adiponectin (ng/ml)  | 11.5 (5–32)   | 13 (9.8–26)    | 17.6 (4.5–49)   | NS                   |
| sTNF-R1 (ng/ml)      | 1.4 (1–2.7)   | 1.8 (1.4–2)    | 1.18 (0.8–2.4)  | 0.001 <sup>a,b</sup> |
| sTNF-R2 (ng/ml)      | 2.8 (1.6–6)   | 3.3 (2–7)      | 2.7 (2–5)       | NS                   |
| IL-6 (pg/ml)         | 0.5 (0.1–1.8) | 0.5 (0.15–0.8) | 0.37 (0.17–1.4) | <0.05 <sup>a</sup>   |
| Insulin (pmol/liter) | 43 (14–86)    | 78 (28–115)    | 35 (14–131)     | NS                   |
| HOMA-IR              | 1.4 (0.4–2.5) | 2.5 (0.8–3.7)  | 1.06 (0.4–4)    | NS                   |
| SBP (mm Hg)          | 110 (100–140) | 140 (130–145)  | 111 (100–140)   | <0.01 <sup>b,c</sup> |
| DBP (mm Hg)          | 65 (60–85)    | 80 (75–100)    | 70 (60–90)      | <0.01 <sup>b,c</sup> |
| Current age (yr)     | 41 ± 10       | 37 ± 9         | 40 ± 8.5        | NS                   |

Results are expressed as mean ± sd or median (range). HOMA-IR, HOMA of insulin resistance; NS, not significant; SBP, systolic BP; DBP, diastolic BP.

<sup>a</sup>  $P < 0.05$  between cured CS and controls.

<sup>b</sup>  $P < 0.05$  between active CS and controls.

<sup>c</sup>  $P < 0.05$  between cured CS and active CS.

**TABLE 3.** Comparison in estrogen-deficient women between cured and active CS patients and normal matched controls: role of estrogens

|                      | Cured CS      | Active CS      | Controls        | P                    |
|----------------------|---------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| n                    | 17            | 8              | 42              |                      |
| Total fat mass (%)   | 43 ± 6        | 39.2 ± 7       | 37.5 ± 7        | <0.05 <sup>a</sup>   |
| Trunk fat mass (%)   | 46 ± 6        | 40.8 ± 9       | 37.4 ± 8        | 0.001 <sup>a</sup>   |
| Lean body mass (kg)  | 37 ± 7        | 39 ± 4         | 40 ± 5          | NS                   |
| Adiponectin (ng/ml)  | 16 (7–31)     | 13 (8–19)      | 19 (5–56)       | NS                   |
| sTNF-R1 (ng/ml)      | 2 (1.2–4.2)   | 1.5 (1–2)      | 1.2 (0.8–2.2)   | <0.01 <sup>a,b</sup> |
| sTNF-R2 (ng/ml)      | 3.5 (2–11)    | 3 (1–3)        | 3 (2–5)         | NS                   |
| IL-6 (pg/ml)         | 0.5 (0.07–11) | 0.38 (0.2–6.7) | 0.29 (0.07–1.2) | <0.05 <sup>a</sup>   |
| Insulin (pmol/liter) | 68 (14–134)   | 58 (14–212)    | 34 (14–241)     | NS                   |
| HOMA-IR              | 2.2 (0.4–4)   | 1.8 (0.3–7)    | 1.1 (0.3–8)     | NS                   |
| SBP (mm Hg)          | 140 (110–160) | 130 (100–135)  | 130 (90–154)    | <0.01 <sup>a,b</sup> |
| DBP (mm Hg)          | 75 (60–100)   | 72.5 (70–75)   | 70 (59–94)      | NS                   |
| Current age (yr)     | 60 ± 10       | 53 ± 10        | 60 ± 7.4        | NS                   |

Results are expressed as mean ± sd or median (range). HOMA-IR, HOMA of insulin resistance; NS, not significant; SBP, systolic BP; DBP, diastolic BP.

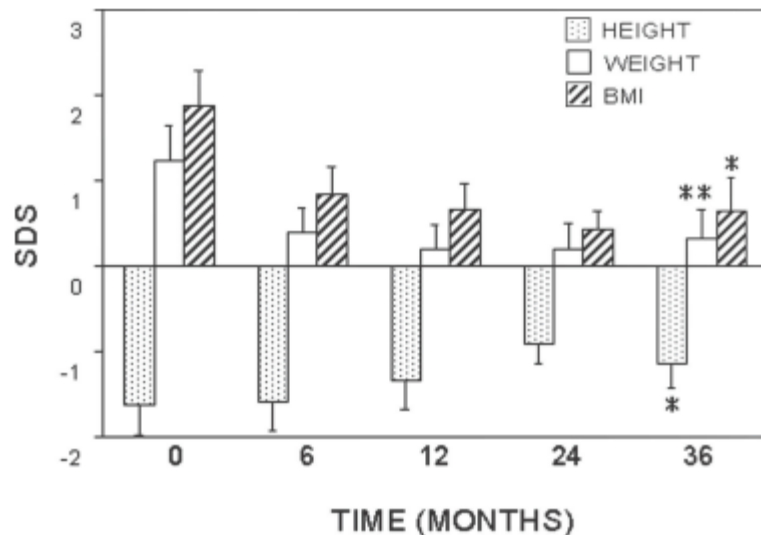
<sup>a</sup>  $P < 0.05$  between cured CS and controls.

<sup>b</sup>  $P < 0.05$  between cured CS and active CS.

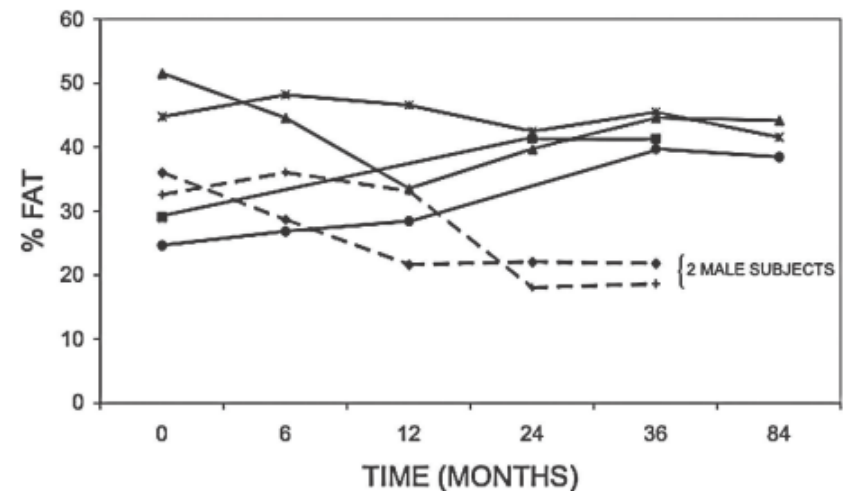
# Effects of Child- and Adolescent-Onset Endogenous Cushing Syndrome on Bone Mass, Body Composition, and Growth: A 7-Year Prospective Study Into Young Adulthood

JOURNAL OF BONE AND MINERAL RESEARCH  
Volume 22, Number 1, 2007

Gary M Leong,<sup>1,2</sup> Veronica Abad,<sup>1</sup> Evangelia Charmandari,<sup>1</sup> James C Reynolds,<sup>3</sup> Suvimol Hill,<sup>4</sup> George P Chrousos,<sup>1</sup> and Lynnette K Nieman<sup>1</sup>



**FIG. 1.** Prospective changes in height, weight, and body mass index in 14 children at diagnosis and during 3 years of follow-up in remission from endogenous CS. Values are expressed as SD scores compared with age- and sex-matched normal control children.<sup>(32)</sup> Height and BMI, \* $p < 0.05$ ; weight, \*\* $p < 0.01$ .



**FIG. 5.** Changes in total body percent fat as measured by DXA in six subjects (four females and two males in dashed lines as indicated) from diagnosis and during 3-7 years of follow-up.

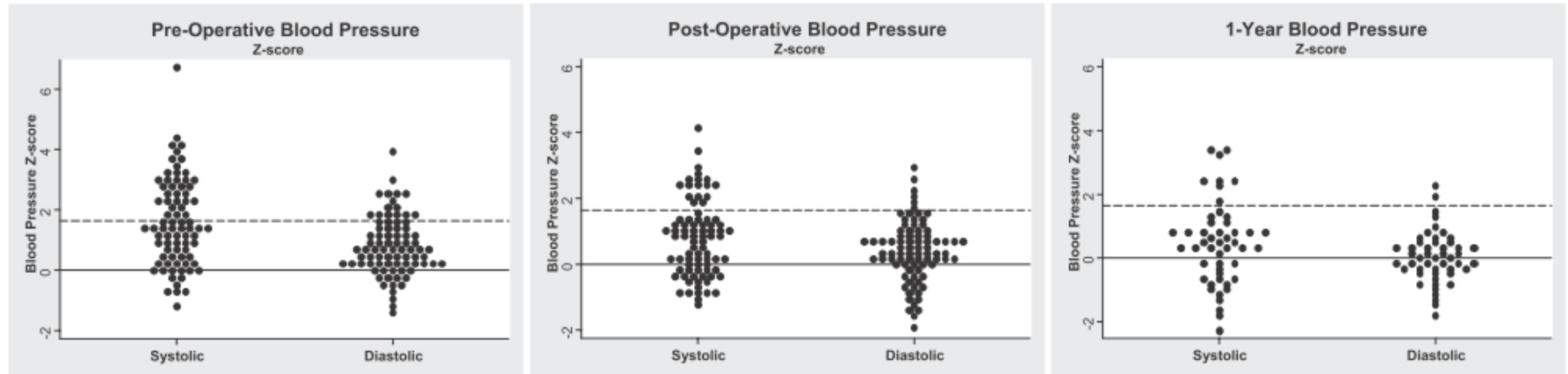
# Blood Pressure in Pediatric Patients with Cushing Syndrome

J Clin Endocrinol Metab. June 2009, 94(6):2002–2008

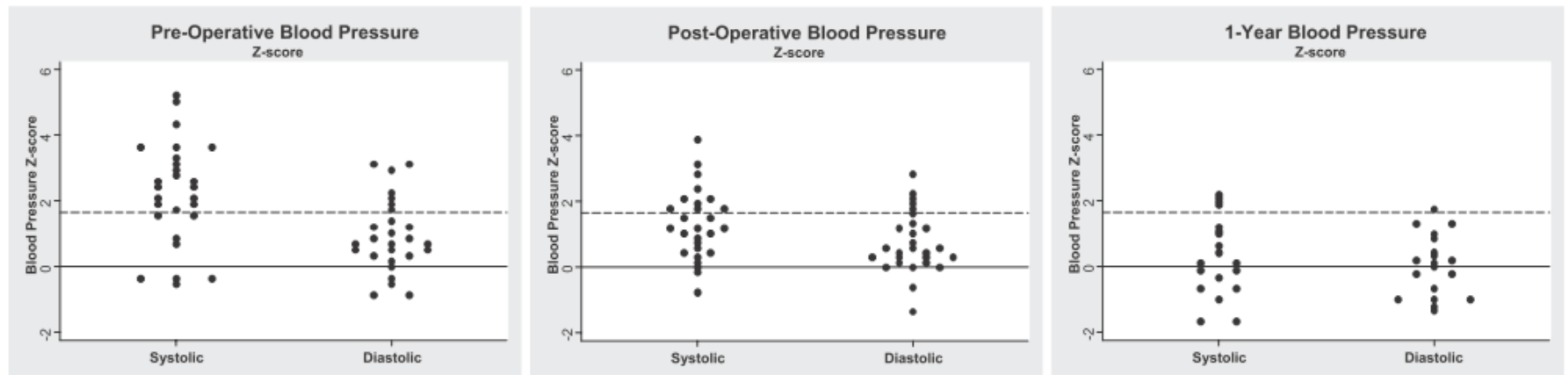
Maya B. Lodish, Ninet Sinaii, Nicholas Patronas, Dalia L. Batista, Meg Keil, Jonelle Samuel, Jason Moran, Somya Verma, Jadranka Popovic, and Constantine A. Stratakis

Data from 86 children with Cushing and 27 children with ACTH-independent CS

A



B



**FIG. 1.** Distributional scatterplots of preoperative, postoperative, and 1-yr systolic BP and diastolic BP z-scores for patients with CD (A) and AICS (B). The figures depict the extent of hypertensive subjects at each interval per patient group. Dashed line corresponds to the 95th percentile z-score, at or above which hypertensive status was defined.

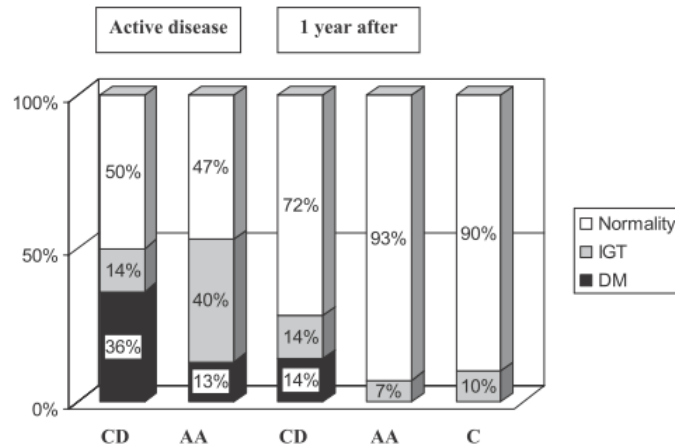
One year postoperatively, both SHTN and DHTN were lower than the preoperative values in all patients, but as many as 16% and 4% of the patients with CD and 21% and 5% of the patients with AICS still had SHTN and DHTN, respectively.



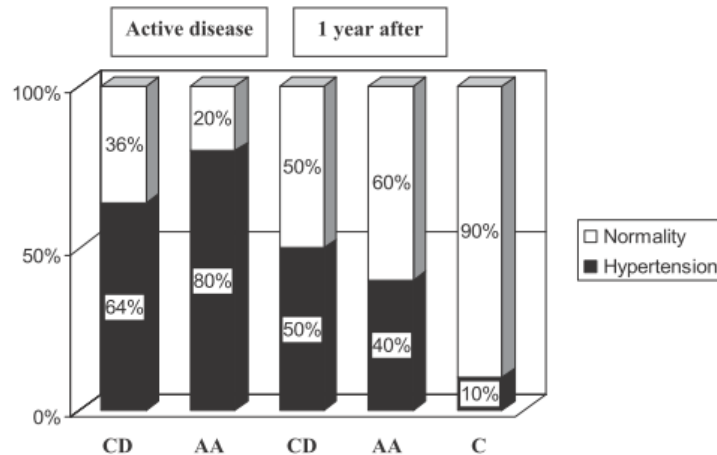
# Metabolic and cardiovascular outcomes in patients with Cushing's syndrome of different aetiologies during active disease and 1 year after remission

Clinical Endocrinology (2011) 75, 354–360

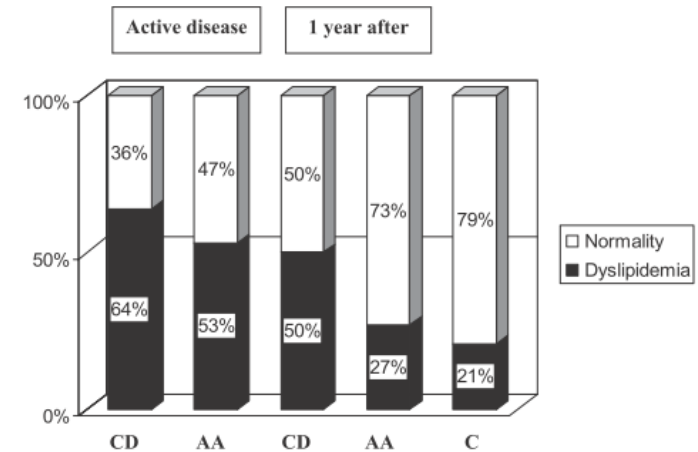
Roberta Giordano\*, Andreea Picut, Elisa Marinazzo†, Valentina D'Angelot, Rita Berardelli†, Ioannis Karamouzist, Daniela Forno\*, Domenico Zinnà†, Mauro Maccariot, Ezio Ghigo† and Emanuela Arvatt



**Fig. 2** Prevalence (%) of impaired glucose tolerance (IGT) and diabetes mellitus (DM) during the active disease and 1 year after hormonal remission in patients with Cushing's disease (CD), patients with Cushing's syndrome caused by adrenal adenoma (AA) and controls (C).



**Fig. 4** Prevalence (%) of hypertension during the active disease and 1 year after hormonal remission in patients with Cushing's disease (CD), patients with Cushing's syndrome caused by adrenal adenoma (AA) and controls (C).



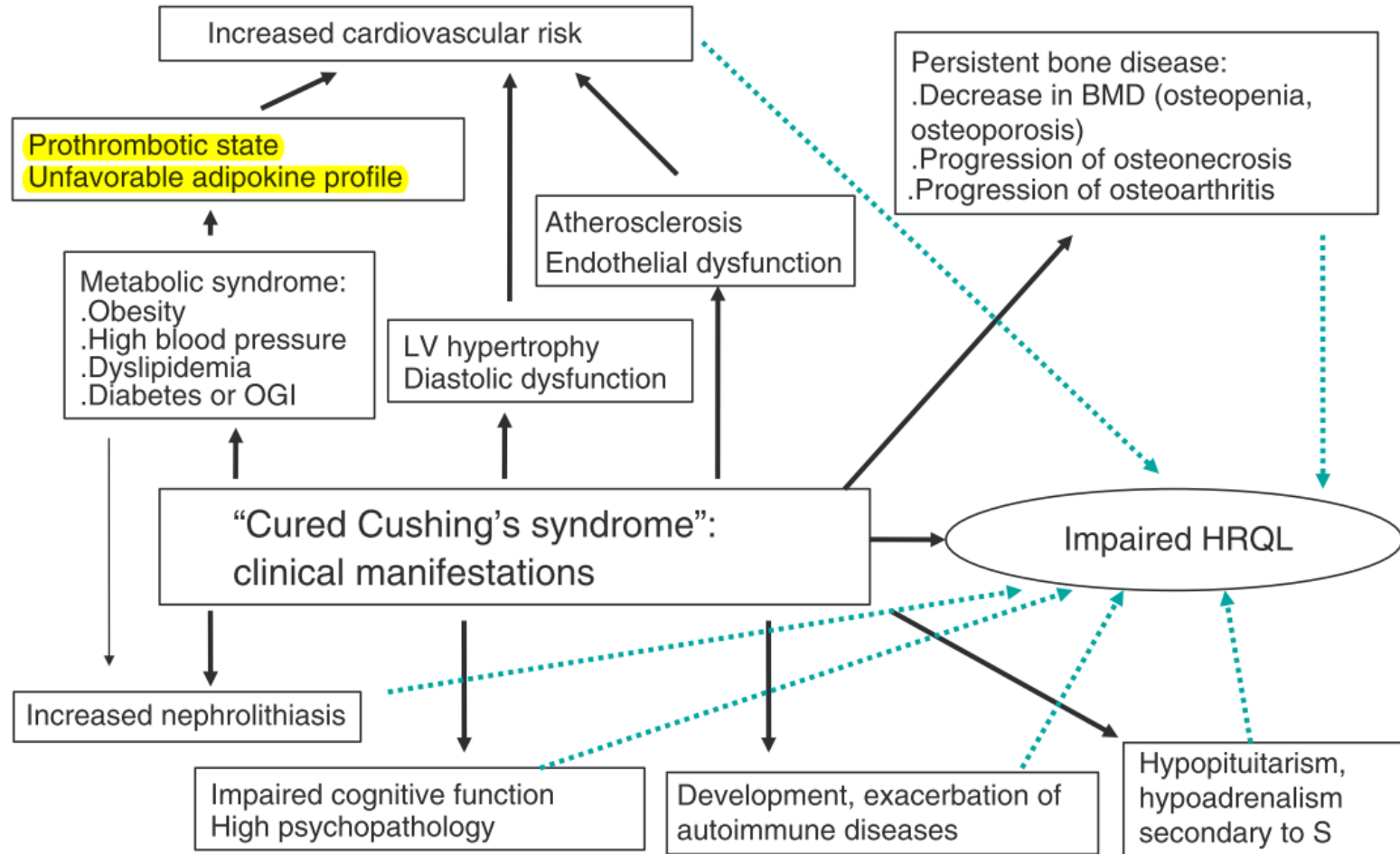
**Fig. 3** Prevalence (%) of dyslipidaemia during the active disease and 1 year after hormonal remission in patients with Cushing's disease (CD), patients with Cushing's syndrome caused by adrenal adenoma (AA) and controls (C).

**Patients with Cushing's syndrome are characterized by a higher prevalence of central adiposity, impaired glucose tolerance, dyslipidaemia and hypertension, if compared with age-, sex- and BMI-matched controls, regardless of its aetiology.**

**However, 1 year after hormonal remission, patients with previous corticotrophinomas seem to maintain worse metabolic and cardiovascular outcomes than patients cured from adrenal cortisol-secreting tumours.**

**We cannot rule out that the less favourable outcome of our patients with previous Cushing's disease may be related to multiple pituitary hormonal deficiencies and/or specific hormonal treatments.**

Anna Aulinas<sup>a,\*</sup>, Elena Valassi<sup>b</sup>, Susan M. Webb<sup>a,b</sup>



**Figure 1** Schematic representation of the potential clinical manifestations and consequences despite the "cure" of hypercortisolism.

# Adipokines and Cardiovascular Risk in Cushing's Syndrome

**Table 1.** Adipokine patterns in CD

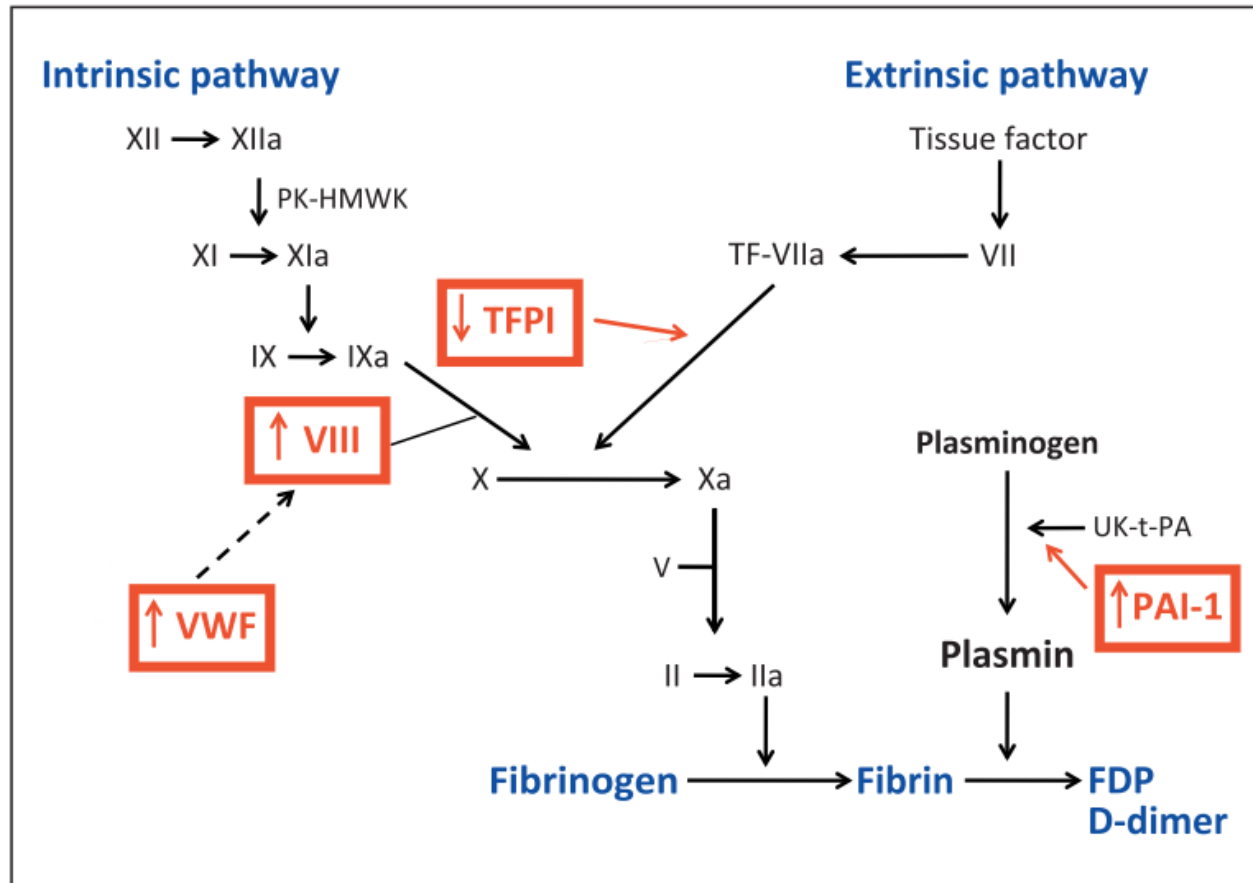
| Adipokines         | Pattern in active CS patients vs. BMI-matched controls   | Pattern in CS after correction of hypercortisolism   |                            |
|--------------------|--|--|----------------------------|
|                    |  | change of levels vs. baseline  | postsurgery time           |
| <b>Leptin</b>      | Increased [56–58, 62]<br>Increased only in men [60]<br>Unchanged [63]                          | Unchanged [58]<br>Decreased [60, 63, 68]   | 10 days<br>9–36 months     |
| <b>Adiponectin</b> | Decreased in non-obese; no difference in obese CD vs. non-obese [87]<br>Unchanged [63, 89, 90] | Unchanged [63, 89, 90]   | 9–132 months               |
| Resistin           | Increased in females [63]  | Unchanged [63]   | 9 months                   |
| <b>TNF-α</b>       | Unchanged [68, 129, 130]<br>Increased sTNF-R1 [90]   | Increased in hypoadrenal patients [129]<br>Increased sTNF-R1 vs. BMI-matched controls [90] | 10 days<br>132 ± 72 months |
| <b>IL-6</b>        | Unchanged [129, 130]   | Increased in hypoadrenal patients [129]<br>Increased vs. BMI-matched controls [90]         | 10 days<br>132 ± 72 months |
| Angiotensinogen    | Increased expression of Ang II receptor 1A [166]   | Not known  |                            |
| PAI-1              | Increased [172]<br>Increased although not significantly [173]                                  | Decreased vs. controls [173]   | 9 months                   |
| Ghrelin            | Decreased [89]<br>Increased; similar to controls with lower BMI [192]                          | Increased [89, 191]  | 3–24 months                |

sTNF-R1 = Soluble TNF-α receptor.

**This unfavorable adipokine profiles may contribute to this state of “low grade” inflammation found in patients cured of their CS, with the resultant persistent increase in cardiovascular risk.**



# Coagulopathy in Cushing's Syndrome



**Fig. 1.** Main prothrombotic alterations of clotting profile in CS. TFPI = Tissue factor pathway inhibitor.

# Hyperhomocysteinemia in Patients with Cushing's Syndrome

J Clin Endocrinol Metab, August 2004, 89(8):3745–3751

MASSIMO TERZOLO, BARBARA ALLASINO, SANDRA BOSIO, ELENA BRUSA, FULVIA DAFFARA, MASSIMO VENTURA, EMILIANO AROASIO, GIANNA SACCHETTO, GIUSEPPE REIMONDO, ALBERTO ANGELI, AND CLARA CAMASCHELLA

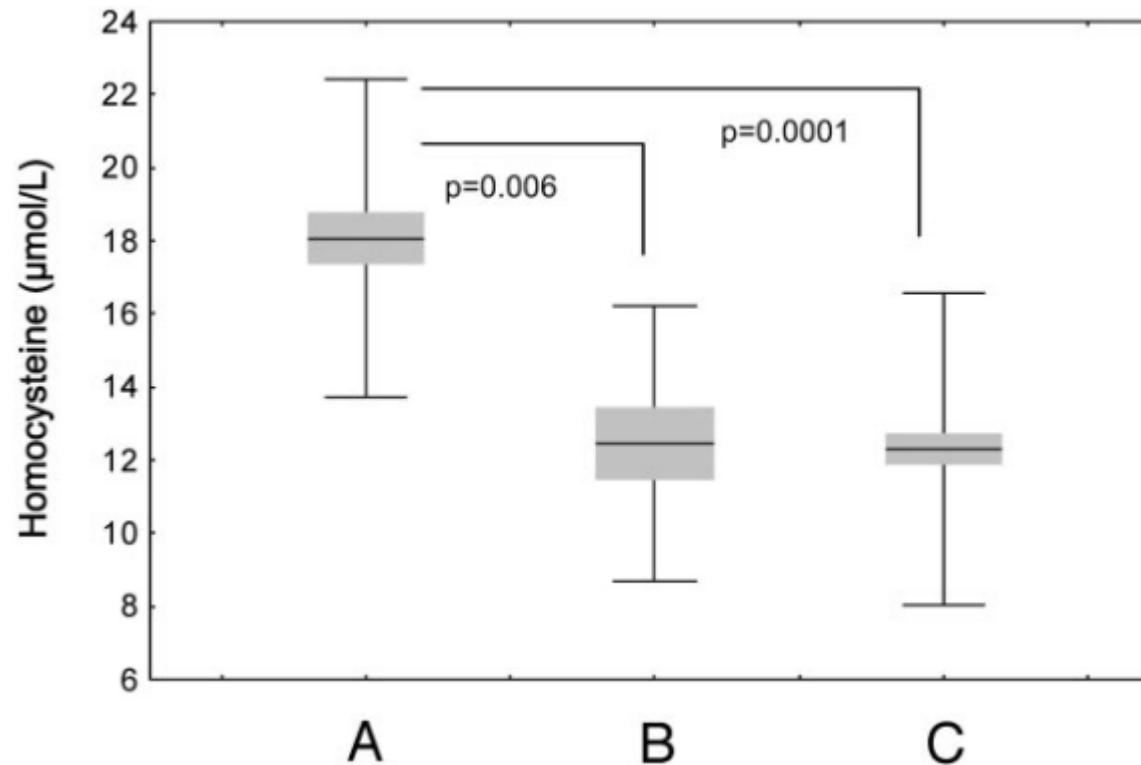


FIG. 1. Serum homocysteine concentrations in patients with active Cushing's syndrome (group A), patients in remission (group B), and healthy subjects (group C). Data are expressed as means  $\pm$  SE (box) and  $\pm$  SD (whisker).

# Incidence of Venous Thromboembolism in Patients with Cushing's Syndrome: A Multicenter Cohort Study

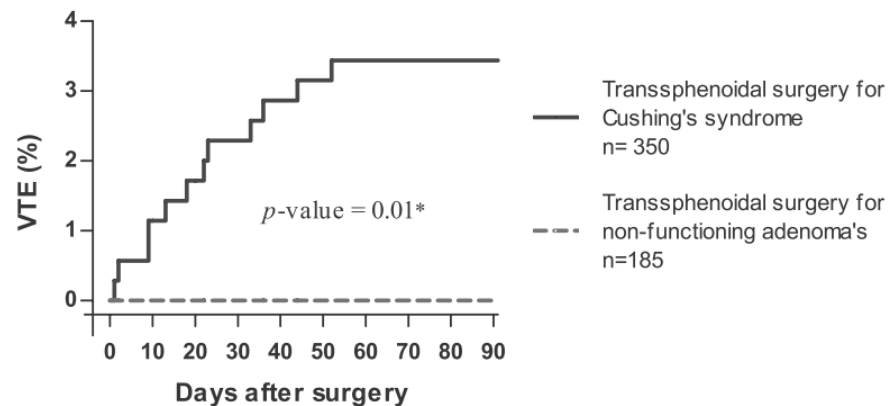
J Clin Endocrinol Metab, November 2011, 96(11):3525–3532

D. J. F. Stuijver,\* B. van Zaane,\* R. A. Feelders, J. Debeij, S. C. Cannegieter, A. R. Hermus, G. van den Berg, A. M. Pereira, W. W. de Herder, M. A. E. M. Wagenmakers, M. N. Kerstens, P. M. J. Zelissen, E. Fliers, N. Schaper, M. L. Drent, O. M. Dekkers, and V. E. A. Gerdes†

**TABLE 2.** Incidence of VTE events in CS

|                          | Cushing patients, n | Person-years | VTE, n | Incidence rate per 1000 person-years | 95% CI    |
|--------------------------|---------------------|--------------|--------|--------------------------------------|-----------|
| Overall incidence        |                     |              |        |                                      |           |
| VTE                      | 473                 | 2526         | 37     | 14.6                                 | 10.3–20.1 |
| DVT and/or PE            | 473                 | 2537         | 33     | 13.0                                 | 9.0–18.2  |
| First-ever VTE           | 463                 | 2477         | 34     | 13.7                                 | 9.5–19.1  |
| First-ever DVT and/or PE | 464                 | 2490         | 30     | 12.0                                 | 8.1–17.2  |
| Prior to treatment       |                     |              |        |                                      |           |
| VTE                      | 473                 | 1344         | 19     | 14.1                                 | 8.5–22.0  |
| DVT/PE                   | 473                 | 1345         | 17     | 12.6                                 | 7.4–20.2  |
| First-ever VTE           | 463                 | 1315         | 17     | 12.9                                 | 7.5–12.6  |
| First-ever DVT and/or PE | 464                 | 1318         | 15     | 11.4                                 | 6.4–18.7  |

The risk of postoperative VTE, defined as risk within 3 months after surgery, was 0% for ACTH-independent and 3.4% (95% CI 2.0–5.9) for ACTH-dependent CS (12 events in 350 patients)



**FIG. 3.** Cumulative incidence of postoperative VTE. \*, From log-rank test.



# The Hypercoagulable State in Cushing's Disease Is Associated with Increased Levels of Procoagulant Factors and Impaired Fibrinolysis, But Is Not Reversible after Short-Term Biochemical Remission Induced by Medical Therapy

J Clin Endocrinol Metab, April 2012, 97(4):1303–1310

R. van der Pas, C. de Bruin, F. W. G. Leebeek, M. P. M. de Maat, D. C. Rijken, A. M. Pereira, J. A. Romijn, R. T. Netea-Maier, A. R. Hermus, P. M. J. Zelissen, F. H. de Jong, A. J. van der Lely, W. W. de Herder, S. W. J. Lamberts, L. J. Hofland, and R. A. Feelders

**TABLE 2.** Hemostatic parameters throughout the study period

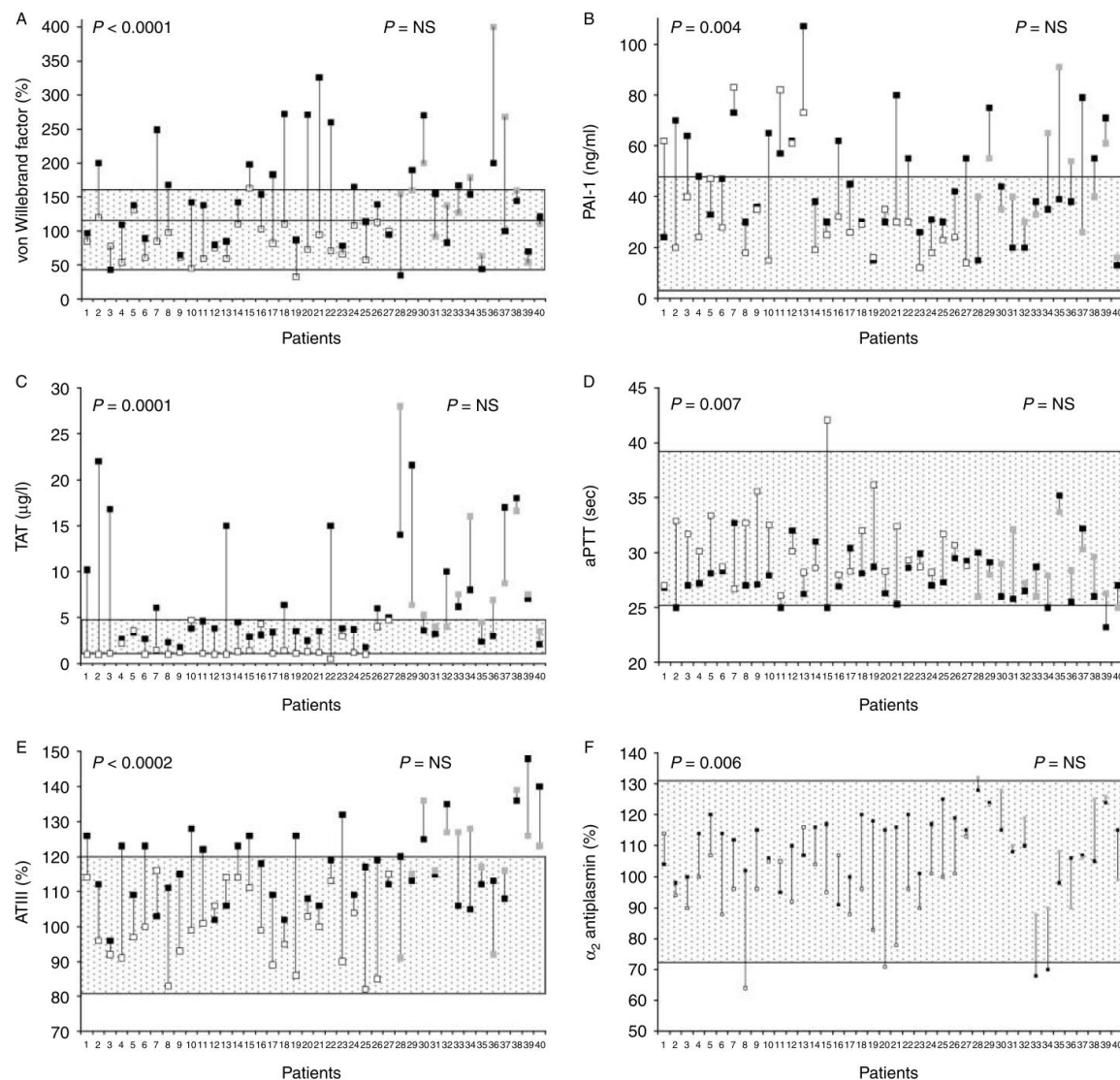
|                       | Day 0        | Day 28       | Day 77       | P value   |           |
|-----------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|-----------|-----------|
|                       |              |              |              | Days 0–28 | Days 0–77 |
| aPTT (sec)            | 31.5 ± 1.97  | 31.1 ± 1.77  | 30.1 ± 1.65  | 0.88      | 0.91      |
| D-dimers (μg/ml)      | 0.10 ± 0.02  | 0.21 ± 0.08  | 0.13 ± 0.02  | 0.05      | 0.48      |
| Fibrinogen (g/liter)  | 3.19 ± 0.20  | 3.05 ± 0.21  | 3.34 ± 0.18  | 0.16      | 0.97      |
| Factor VIII (U/ml)    | 1.11 ± 0.12  | 1.26 ± 0.17  | 1.29 ± 0.13  | 0.47      | 0.22      |
| vWF:Ag (U/ml)         | 1.35 ± 0.14  | 1.35 ± 0.15  | 1.49 ± 0.14  | 0.53      | 0.11      |
| Blood group O         | 1.11 ± 0.30  | 1.03 ± 0.28  | 1.20 ± 0.30  | 0.47      | 0.11      |
| Blood group non-O     | 1.46 ± 0.14  | 1.50 ± 0.15  | 1.54 ± 0.13  | 0.27      | 0.25      |
| Antithrombin (U/ml)   | 1.04 ± 0.04  | 0.95 ± 0.04  | 0.94 ± 0.03  | <0.01     | <0.01     |
| Protein C (U/ml)      | 1.41 ± 0.12  | 1.41 ± 0.12  | 1.33 ± 0.11  | 0.91      | 0.10      |
| Protein S (U/ml)      | 1.04 ± 0.08  | 1.04 ± 0.09  | 0.99 ± 0.07  | 0.59      | 0.13      |
| CLT (min)             | 134.5 ± 16.4 | 145.8 ± 19.2 | 140.6 ± 21.3 | 0.43      | 0.94      |
| TAFI (μg/ml)          | 20.5 ± 0.61  | 19.8 ± 0.88  | 18.8 ± 0.78  | 0.19      | <0.05     |
| PAI-1 (IU/ml)         | 7.70 ± 3.46  | 10.7 ± 3.97  | 7.65 ± 2.46  | <0.05     | 0.38      |
| α2-antiplasmin (U/ml) | 1.25 ± 0.04  | 1.21 ± 0.05  | 1.24 ± 0.04  | 0.21      | 0.33      |

Patient characteristics at baseline, d 28, and d 77 of the study period. Both patients that developed pulmonary embolism during the first month of the study were excluded from this analysis, because they were using acenocoumarol both at d 28 and 77. vWF:Ag concentrations were analyzed separately for subjects with blood group O and subjects with blood group non-O because blood group O is associated with lower levels of vWF:Ag (40). Data are expressed as mean ± SEM.

# Changes in coagulation indexes and occurrence of venous thromboembolism in patients with Cushing's syndrome: results from a prospective study before and after surgery

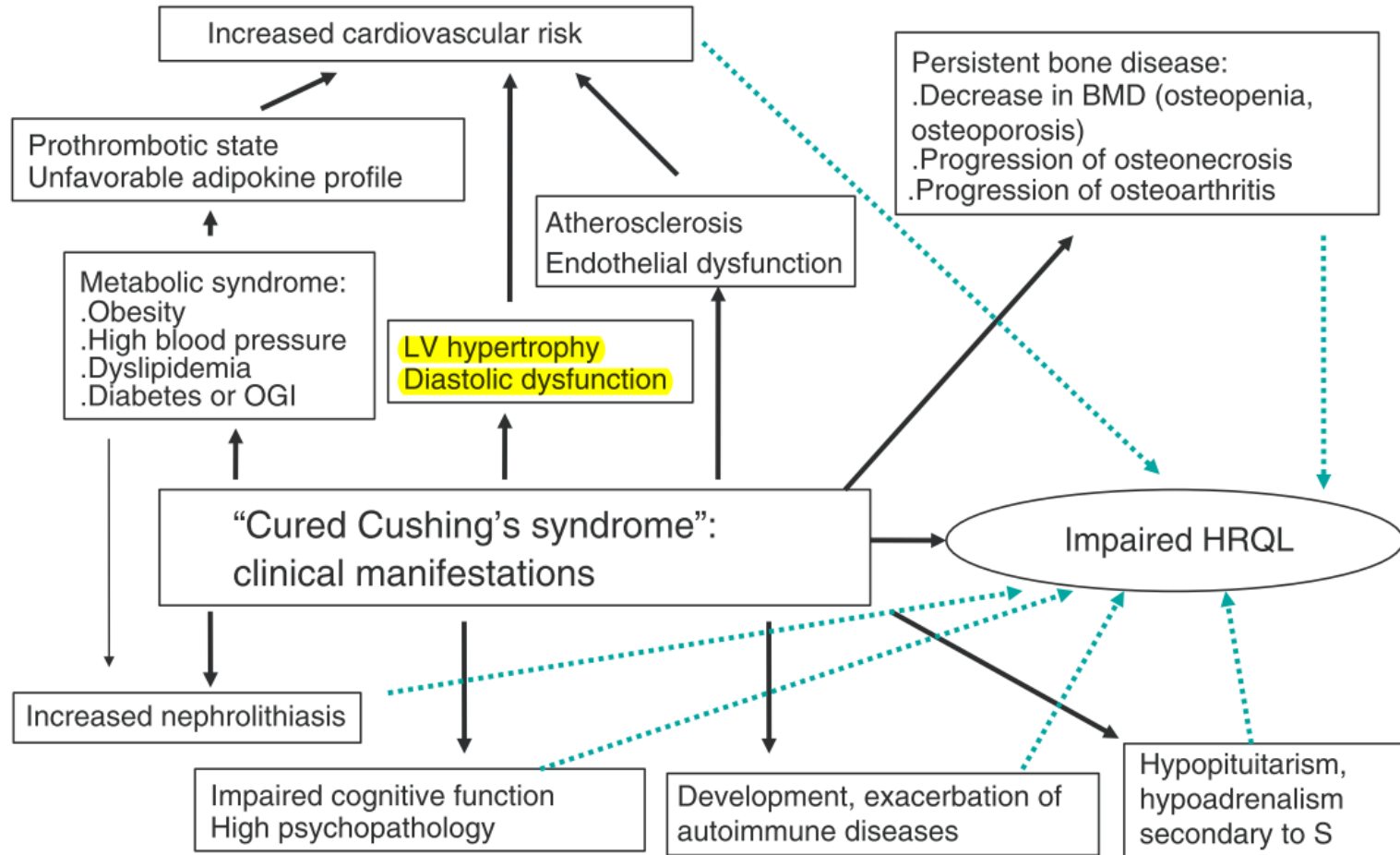
European Journal of Endocrinology (2010) 163 783–791

Luca Manetti, Fausto Bogazzi, Clara Giovannetti, Valentina Raffaelli, Maura Genovesi, Giovanni Pellegrini<sup>1</sup>, Lucia Ruocco<sup>1</sup>, Aldo Iannelli<sup>2</sup> and Enio Martino



**Figure 1** Changes in von Willebrand factor (A), plasminogen activator inhibitor antigen (PAL-1) (B), thrombin–antithrombin complex (TAT) (C), activated partial thromboplastin time (aPTT) (D), antithrombin III (ATIII) (E) and α<sub>2</sub> antiplasmin (F) in untreated patients with Cushing's syndrome before and after surgery. The black, white and grey squares indicate untreated, remission and persistence patients respectively. The grey area indicates the normal limits of each parameter. In (A), were represented two normal ranges for 0 and non-0 blood group.

Anna Aulinas<sup>a,\*</sup>, Elena Valassi<sup>b</sup>, Susan M. Webb<sup>a,b</sup>



**Figure 1** Schematic representation of the potential clinical manifestations and consequences despite the "cure" of hypercortisolism.

# Clinical relevance of cardiac structure and function abnormalities in patients with Cushing's syndrome before and after cure

Clinical Endocrinology (2012) 76, 332–338

Paola M. Toja\*, Giovanna Branzit, Francesca Ciambellotti, Piero Radaelli, Martina De Martin\*, Laura Maria Lonati, Massimo Scacchi\*,‡, Gianfranco Parati,§, Francesco Cavagnini\* and Francesca Pecori Giraldi\*,‡

**Table 2.** Left ventricular parameters recorded in sonograms performed in patients with active Cushing's syndrome, after cure and in controls

|  | Active Cushing's syndrome               | Cured Cushing's syndrome              | Controls                              |
|--|---|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Interventricular septum thickness (% abnormal) | 69%* (10.2 ± 0.17 mm)*                  | 47%† (9.7 ± 0.15 mm)*†                | 39% (9.4 ± 0.17 mm)                   |
| Posterior wall thickness (% abnormal)          | 49%* (9.7 ± 0.16 mm)*                   | 36%* (9.1 ± 0.14 mm)*†                | 9% (8.5 ± 0.12 mm)                    |
| Left ventricular mass index (% abnormal)       | 46%* (46.9 ± 1.63 g/m <sup>2.7</sup> )* | 32% (44.2 ± 1.24 g/m <sup>2.7</sup> ) | 19% (42.2 ± 1.63 g/m <sup>2.7</sup> ) |
| Relative wall thickness (% abnormal)           | 51%* (0.43 ± 0.01)*                     | 33%*† (0.40 ± 0.01)*†                 | 11% (0.37 ± 0.01)                     |
| Ejection fraction (% abnormal)                 | 0.3% (64.3 ± 0.41%)*                    | 0.2% (64.3 ± 0.42%)*                  | 0% (67.9 ± 0.58%)                     |
| Mid-wall fractional shortening (% abnormal)    | 19%* (16.6 ± 0.24%)*                    | 13% (17.0 ± 0.24%)*                   | 5% (18.7 ± 0.35%)                     |
| Left atrial diameter (% abnormal)              | 8% (33.2 ± 0.64 mm)                     | 2% (33.3 ± 0.42 mm)                   | 2% (32.6 ± 0.54 mm)                   |
| E/A ratio (% abnormal)                         | 9% (1.26 ± 0.06)                        | 6% (1.24 ± 0.05)                      | 5% (1.34 ± 0.06)                      |
| E-wave deceleration time (% abnormal)          | 41%* (197.9 ± 6.12 ms)*                 | 35% (194.5 ± 4.44 ms)*                | 23% (165.7 ± 6.16 ms)                 |
| IVRT (% abnormal)                              | 12% (85.0 ± 2.91 ms)                    | 10% (81.1 ± 2.84 ms)                  | 11% (78.9 ± 6.20 ms)                  |

\**P* < 0.05 vs controls, †*P* < 0.05 vs active disease; measurements are given in parentheses. Percentages refer to abnormal findings at cardiac sonogram: 49 sonograms were performed in patients with active Cushing's syndrome, 59 in patients cured of Cushing's syndrome since at least 1 year and 70 in controls. IVRT, isovolumetric relaxation time.

**Concentric hypertrophy and remodelling were still somewhat more prevalent than in controls (27% and 25% vs 12.5% and 8.9% in cardiac ultrasounds performed in patients cured of Cushing's syndrome and controls, respectively).**

**Parameters of systolic function, (ejection fraction and MWFS, were both comprised in the normal range in most cardiac ultrasounds performed in patients in remission, although mean values were still somewhat lower than in controls.**

**The prevalence of impaired relaxation, assessed by E-wave deceleration time, was comparable to controls (35% vs 23%) although mean measurements were still longer.**

# Clinical relevance of cardiac structure and function abnormalities in patients with Cushing's syndrome before and after cure

**Table 4.** Left ventricular parameters according to blood pressure status

|             | Active Cushing's syndrome |               | Cured Cushing's syndrome |               | Controls     |              |
|-------------|---------------------------|---------------|--------------------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|
|             | Normotension              | Hypertension  | Normotension             | Hypertension  | Normotension | Hypertension |
| LVMI        | 42.9 ± 2.34               | 49.3 ± 2.12*† | 42.8 ± 1.36              | 48.7 ± 2.68†  | 39.3 ± 1.91  | 42.1 ± 1.61  |
| IVSd        | 9.5 ± 0.22†               | 10.7 ± 0.19*† | 9.6 ± 0.18†              | 10.1 ± 0.25†  | 8.8 ± 0.26   | 9.2 ± 0.22   |
| PWd         | 9.1 ± 0.21†               | 10.1 ± 0.21*† | 8.9 ± 0.16               | 9.3 ± 0.28†   | 8.5 ± 0.18   | 8.5 ± 0.16   |
| RWT         | 0.41 ± 0.01†              | 0.44 ± 0.01*† | 0.40 ± 0.01              | 0.41 ± 0.01†  | 0.36 ± 0.02  | 0.36 ± 0.01  |
| EF          | 65.2 ± 0.65               | 63.7 ± 0.51†  | 64.7 ± 0.39              | 63.1 ± 0.81†  | 65.9 ± 0.42  | 67.4 ± 0.74  |
| mwFS        | 17.0 ± 0.41†              | 16.4 ± 0.28†  | 17.2 ± 0.27†             | 16.7 ± 0.38†  | 18.5 ± 0.52  | 18.8 ± 0.47  |
| Left atrium | 30.8 ± 0.9                | 34.8 ± 0.74*  | 32.3 ± 0.47              | 35.3 ± 0.68*  | 30.0 ± 0.94  | 33.6 ± 0.58* |
| E/A         | 1.37 ± 0.10               | 1.19 ± 0.07   | 1.35 ± 0.06              | 0.99 ± 0.07*† | 1.48 ± 0.06  | 1.27 ± 0.08* |
| DT E        | 184.7 ± 9.09              | 205.6 ± 7.88  | 192.4 ± 4.05             | 198.5 ± 6.35  | 188.4 ± 8.89 | 172.1 ± 7.50 |

\*vs normotensive counterpart; †vs control counterpart. Percentages refer to abnormal findings at cardiac sonogram: 49 sonograms were performed in patients with active Cushing's syndrome, 59 in patients cured of Cushing's syndrome since at least 1 year and 70 in controls.

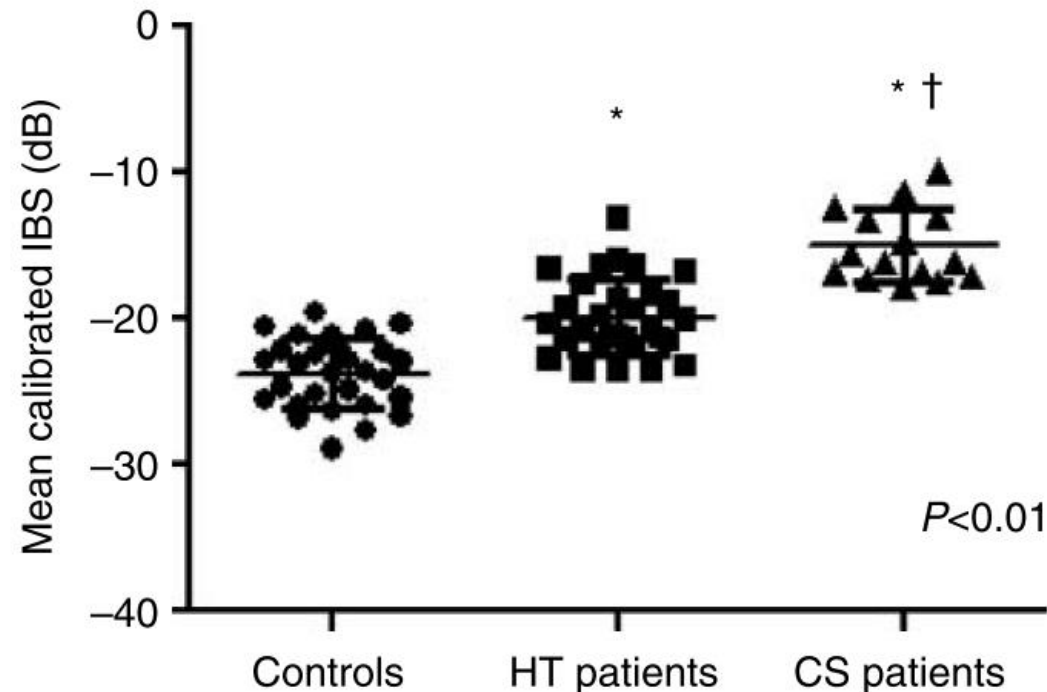
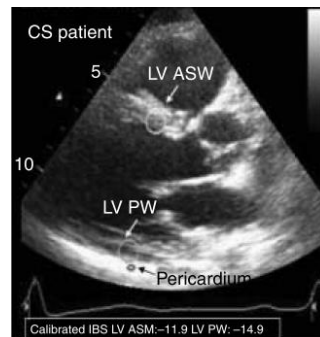
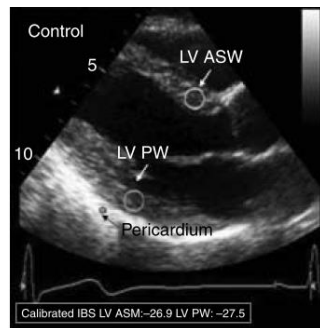
LVMI, left ventricular mass index; IVSd, interventricular septum thickness in diastole; PWd, posterior wall thickness in diastole; RWT, relative wall thickness; EF, ejection fraction; mwFS, mid-wall fractional shortening; E/A, early atrial peak flow velocity ratio; DT E, E-wave deceleration time.



# Increased myocardial fibrosis and left ventricular dysfunction in Cushing's syndrome

European Journal of Endocrinology (2012) 166 27–34

Kai Hang Yiu<sup>1,2,\*</sup>, Nina Ajmone Marsan<sup>1,3,\*</sup>, Victoria Delgado<sup>1</sup>, Nienke R Biermasz<sup>4</sup>, Eduard R Holman<sup>1</sup>, Johannes W A Smit<sup>4</sup>, Richard A Feelders<sup>5</sup>, Jeroen J Bax<sup>1</sup> and Alberto M Pereira<sup>4</sup>

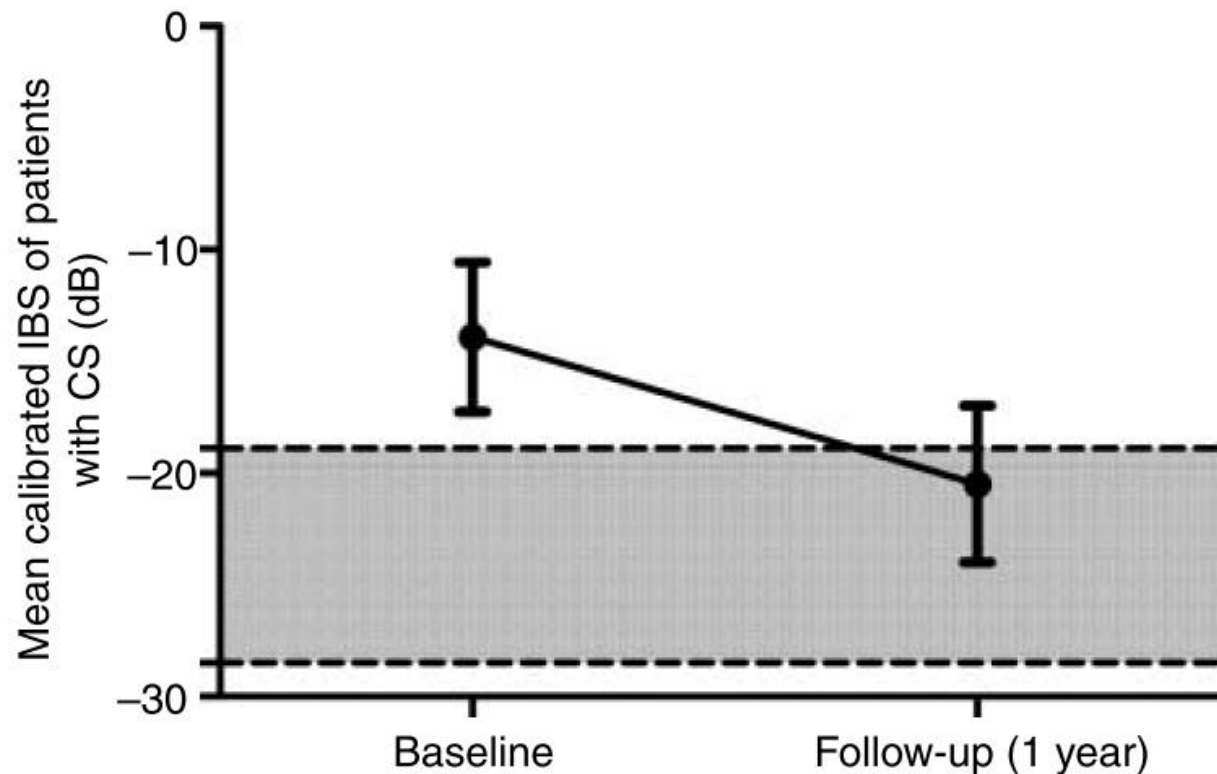


**Figure 2** Comparison of mean calibrated integrated backscatter (IBS) between normal subjects (controls), hypertensive (HT) patients, and patients with Cushing's syndrome (CS) before treatment. Patients with CS show the highest mean calibrated IBS compared with HT patients and controls, suggestive of increased myocardial fibrosis. \*Significant differences with controls; †Significant differences with HT patients.

# Increased myocardial fibrosis and left ventricular dysfunction in Cushing's syndrome

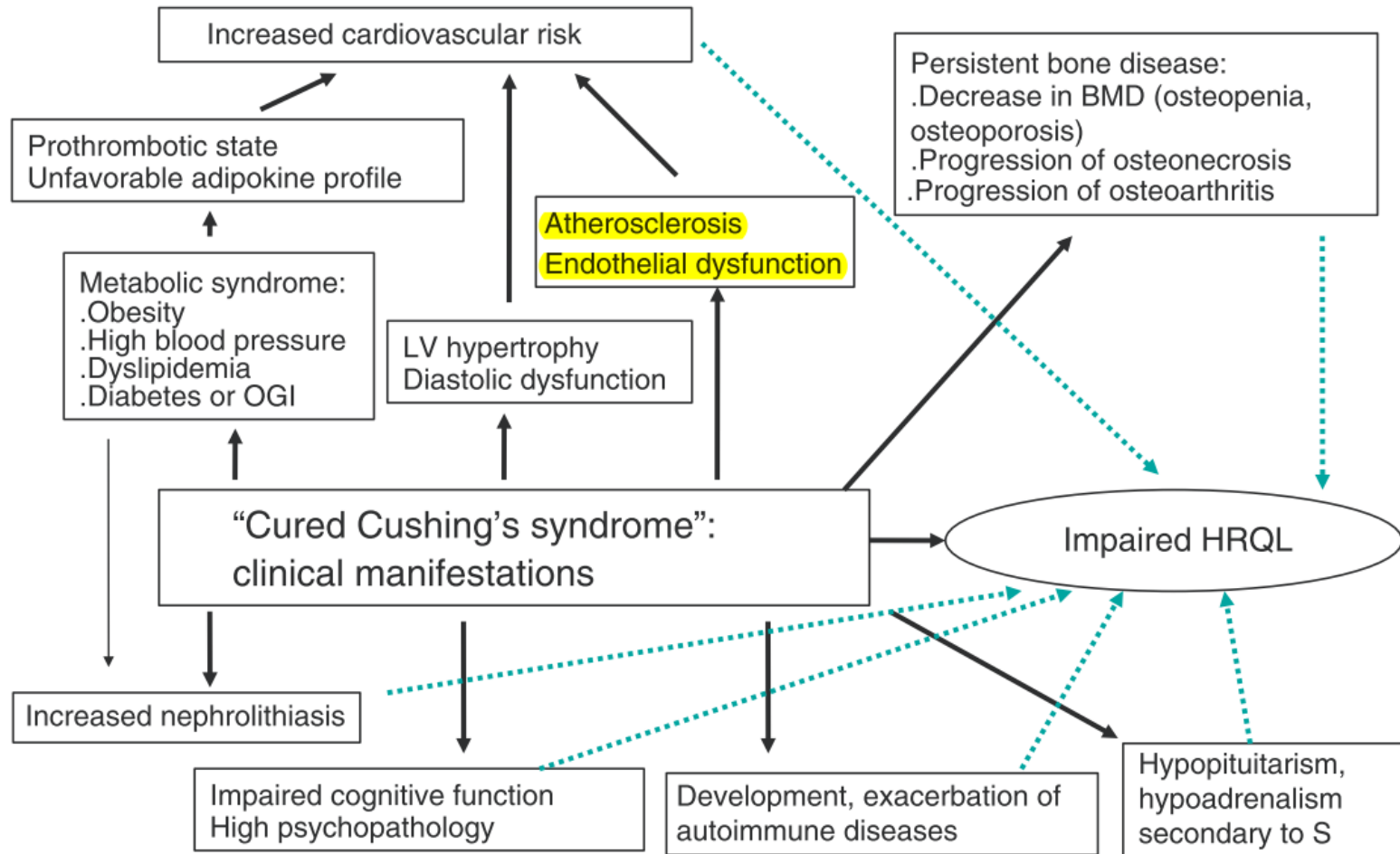
European Journal of Endocrinology (2012) 166 27–34

Kai Hang Yiu<sup>1,2,\*</sup>, Nina Ajmone Marsan<sup>1,3,\*</sup>, Victoria Delgado<sup>1</sup>, Nienke R Biermasz<sup>4</sup>, Eduard R Holman<sup>1</sup>, Johannes W A Smit<sup>4</sup>, Richard A Feelders<sup>5</sup>, Jeroen J Bax<sup>1</sup> and Alberto M Pereira<sup>4</sup>



**Figure 3** Mean calibrated integrated backscatter (IBS) in patients with Cushing's syndrome (CS) before (baseline) and after surgical treatment (follow-up). The shaded area represents the normal range of mean calibrated IBS, derived from the control group as the mean value  $\pm 2$  s.d. Upon successful surgical treatment, the mean calibrated IBS in CS patients significantly decreased ( $P < 0.01$ ) and reached the range of normal values, suggesting the reversibility of myocardial fibrosis.

Anna Aulinas<sup>a,\*</sup>, Elena Valassi<sup>b</sup>, Susan M. Webb<sup>a,b</sup>

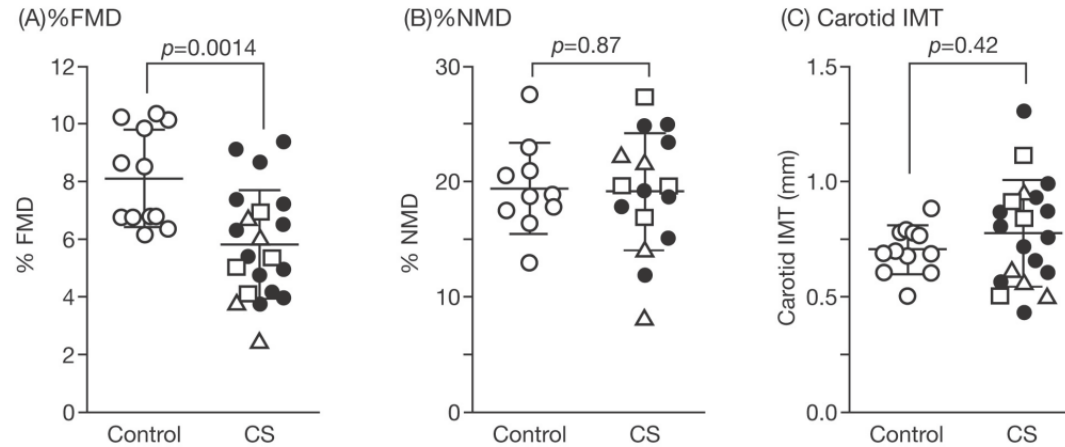


**Figure 1** Schematic representation of the potential clinical manifestations and consequences despite the "cure" of hypercortisolism.

# Endothelial Dysfunction Associated with Hypercortisolism is Reversible in Cushing's Syndrome

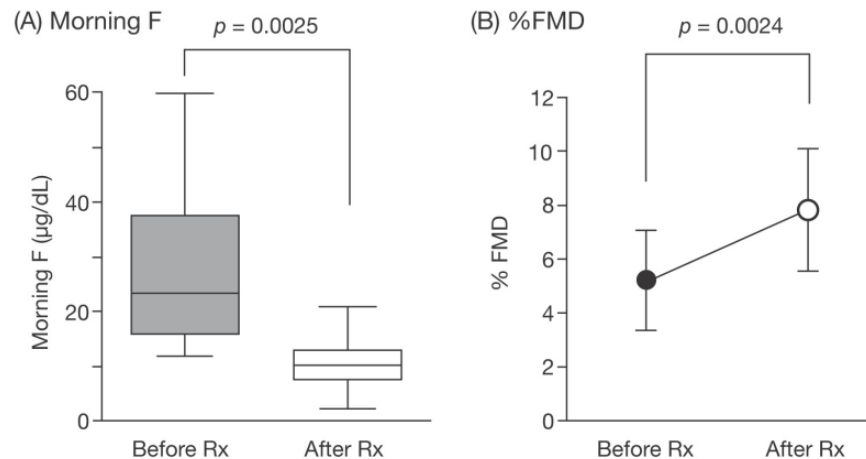
Endocrine Journal 2010, 57 (3), 245-252

ITARU AKAZA, TAKANOBU YOSHIMOTO, KYOICHIRO TSUCHIYA AND YUKIO HIRATA



**Fig. 1. Endothelium-dependent and -independent vasodilation and carotid intima-media thickness (IMT) in control subjects and patients with Cushing's syndrome (CS).**

(A) %FMD, (B) %NMD and (C) carotid IMT are shown in 12 control subjects ( $\circ$ ) and 21 CS patients: ( $\square$ ) Cushing's disease (4), ( $\triangle$ ) ectopic ACTH syndrome (4), ( $\bullet$ ) adrenal adenoma (13).



**Fig. 3. Changes of morning F and %FMD in CS patients before and after treatment.**

Changes of (A) morning F before ( $\equiv$ ) and after ( $\boxminus$ ) treatment (Rx), and (B) %FMD (mean $\pm$ SD) before ( $\bullet$ ) and after ( $\circ$ ) Rx in 12 CS patients are shown.

# Cardiovascular Risk Factors and Common Carotid Artery Caliber and Stiffness in Patients with Cushing's Disease during Active Disease and 1 Year after Disease Remission

J Clin Endocrinol Metab, June 2003, 88(6):2527–2533

ANTONGIULIO FAGGIANO, ROSARIO PIVONELLO, STEFANO SPIEZIA, MARIA CRISTINA DE MARTINO, MARIAGIOVANNA FILIPPELLA, CAROLINA DI SOMMA, GAETANO LOMBARDI, AND ANNAMARIA COLAO

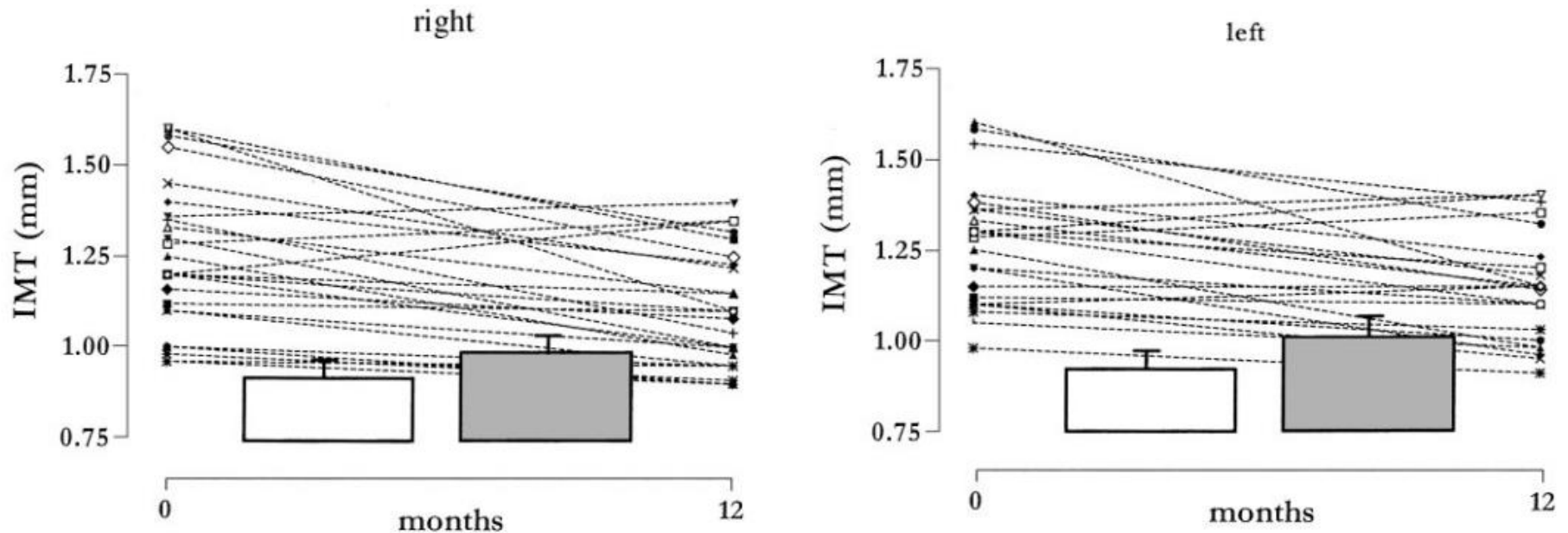


FIG. 1. Individual data of the right and left IMT before and 1 yr after remission from CD, measured by ultrasonography. The *bar* indicates the IMT of control-1 (□) and control-2 (■) subjects expressed as mean  $\pm$  SEM.

32 sex- and age-matched healthy subjects (control-1) and 32 BMI-matched subjects (control-2).



# Coronary Artery Disease Detected by Multislice Computed Tomography in Patients After Long-Term Cure of Cushing's Syndrome

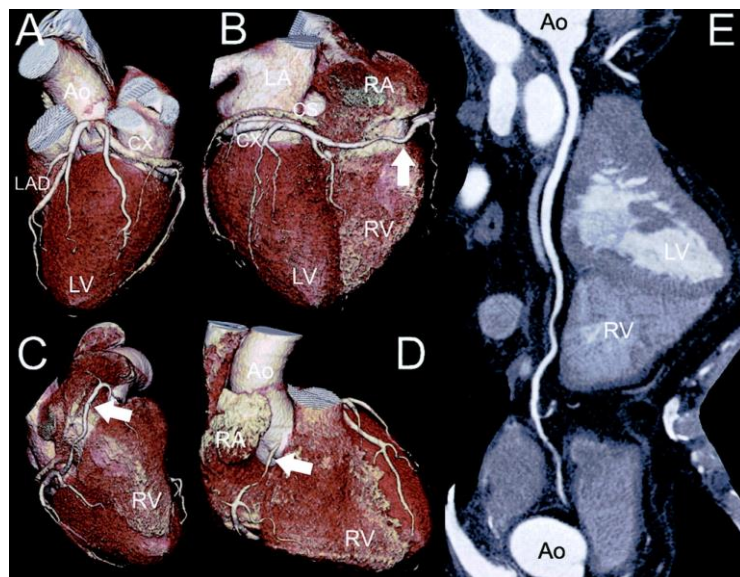
J Clin Endocrinol Metab, March 2013, 98(3):1093–1099

María-José Barahona, Eugenia Resmini, David Viladés, Guillem Pons-Lladó, Rubén Leta, Teresa Puig, and Susan M. Webb

**Table 2.** Comparison Between Cured CS **Women** and Their Respective Controls

|                                    | Cured CS         | Controls       | P    |
|------------------------------------|------------------|----------------|------|
| n                                  | 24               | 34             |      |
| Menopause                          | 45.8%            | 44%            | NS   |
| Smokers                            | 25%              | 38%            | <.05 |
| Diabetes                           | 0                | 0              | NS   |
| Arterial hypertension              | 29%              | 5.8%           | <.05 |
| Body mass index, kg/m <sup>2</sup> | 26.5 (18.8–37.4) | 23.4 (17.5–39) | <.05 |
| Current age, y                     | 50 ± 14          | 46 ± 12        | NS   |
| Coronary calcifications            | 29% (7/24)       | 12% (4/34)     | NS   |
| Agatston score                     | 26 (1–269)       | 33 (3–76)      | NS   |
| Noncalcified plaques               | 17.6% (3/17)     | 6.6% (2/30)    | NS   |
| Significant stenosis               | 0                | 0              | NS   |
| <b>Abnormal MDCT</b>               | 42% (10/24)      | 18% (6/34)     | <.05 |

Abbreviations: MDCT, multidetector computed tomography; NS, not significant. Results are expressed as mean ± SD or median and range in parentheses.

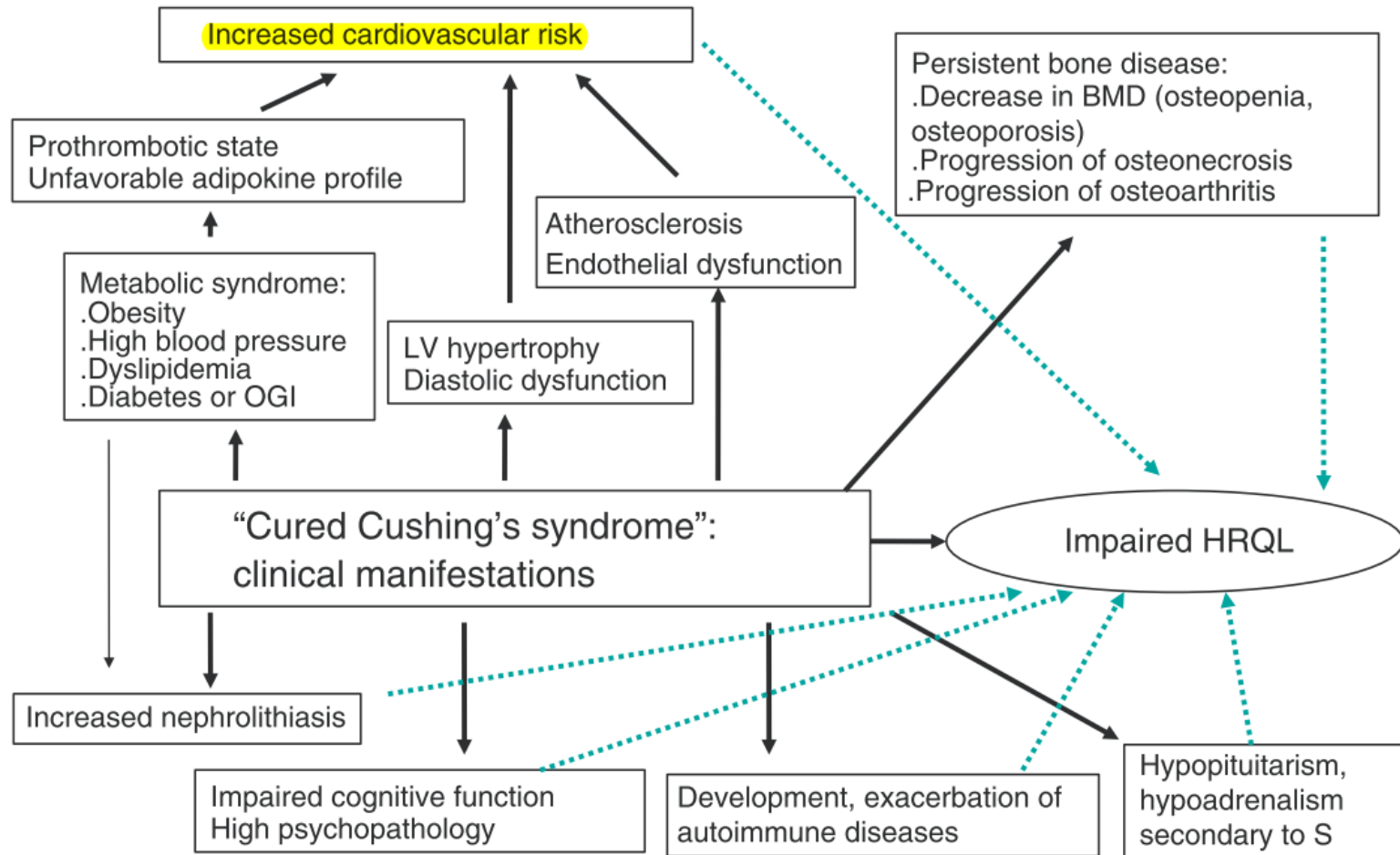


**Table 3.** Comparison Between **Young** Cured CS Patients (<45 y) and Their Respective Controls

|                                    | Cured CS         | Controls       | P   |
|------------------------------------|------------------|----------------|-----|
| n                                  | 10               | 20             |     |
| Sex (male/female) (n)              | 1/9              | 4/16           |     |
| Smokers                            | 40%              | 35%            | NS  |
| Diabetes                           | 0                | 0              | NS  |
| Arterial hypertension              | 0                | 0              | NS  |
| Body mass index, kg/m <sup>2</sup> | 24.5 (18.8–35.6) | 23 (17.8–35.5) | NS  |
| Current age, y                     | 36.6 ± 6         | 35.3 ± 5       | NS  |
| Coronary calcifications            | 0                | 0              | NS  |
| <b>Noncalcified plaques</b>        | 30% (3/10)       | 0              | .01 |
| Significant stenosis               | 0                | 0              | NS  |
| <b>Abnormal MDCT</b>               | 30% (3/10)       | 0              | .01 |

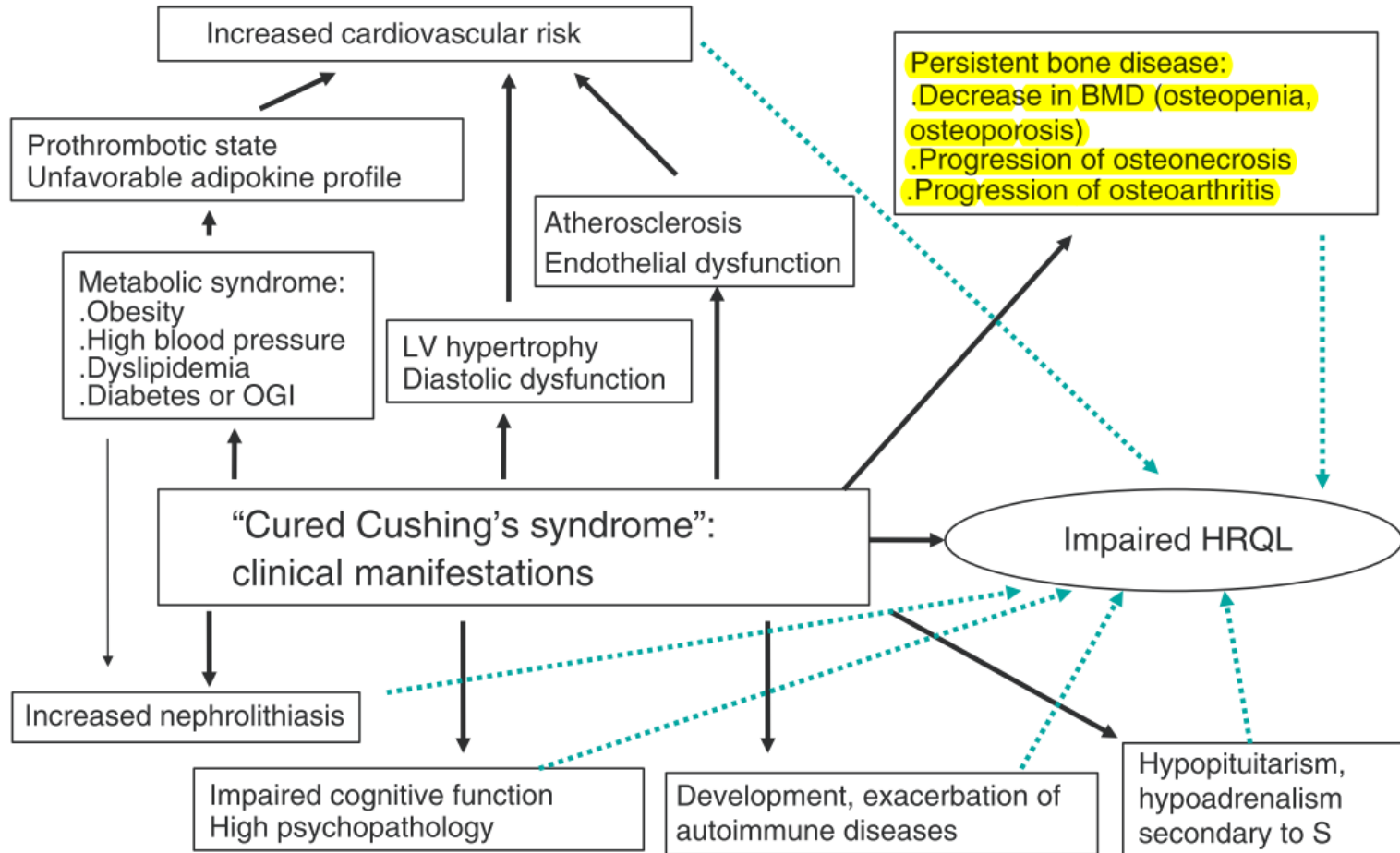
Abbreviations: MDCT, multidetector computed tomography; NS, not significant. Results are expressed as mean ± SD or median and range in parentheses.

Anna Aulinas<sup>a,\*</sup>, Elena Valassi<sup>b</sup>, Susan M. Webb<sup>a,b</sup>



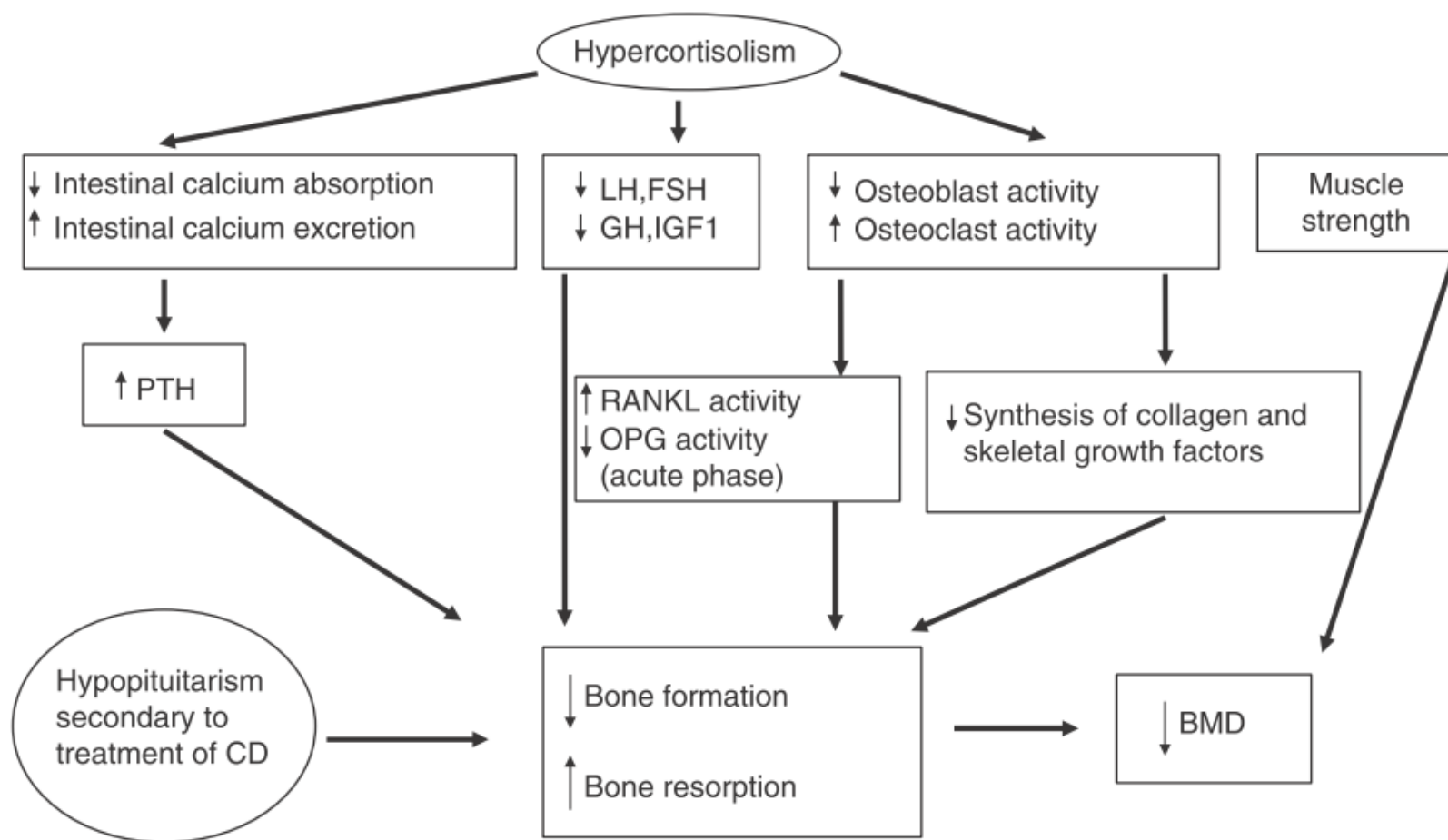
**Figure 1** Schematic representation of the potential clinical manifestations and consequences despite the "cure" of hypercortisolism.

Anna Aulinas<sup>a,\*</sup>, Elena Valassi<sup>b</sup>, Susan M. Webb<sup>a,b</sup>



**Figure 1** Schematic representation of the potential clinical manifestations and consequences despite the "cure" of hypercortisolism.

Anna Aulinas<sup>a,\*</sup>, Elena Valassi<sup>b</sup>, Susan M. Webb<sup>a,b</sup>



**Figure 2** Pathogenesis of bone disease in CD. BMD: bone mineral density; CD: Cushing's disease; FSH: follicle-stimulating hormone; GH: growth hormone; IGF-1: insulin-like growth factor type 1; LH: luteinizing hormone; OPG: osteoprotegerin; PTH: parathyroid hormone; RANKL: receptor activator of nuclear factor-kappa B-ligand.

# Skeletal involvement in adult patients with endogenous hypercortisolism

J. Endocrinol. Invest. 31: 267-276, 2008

I. Chiodini<sup>1</sup>, M. Torlontano<sup>2</sup>, V. Carnevale<sup>3,4</sup>, V. Trischitta<sup>2,5</sup>, and A. Scillitani<sup>2</sup>

Table 1 - Studies evaluating bone turnover and mass in patients with Cushing's syndrome.

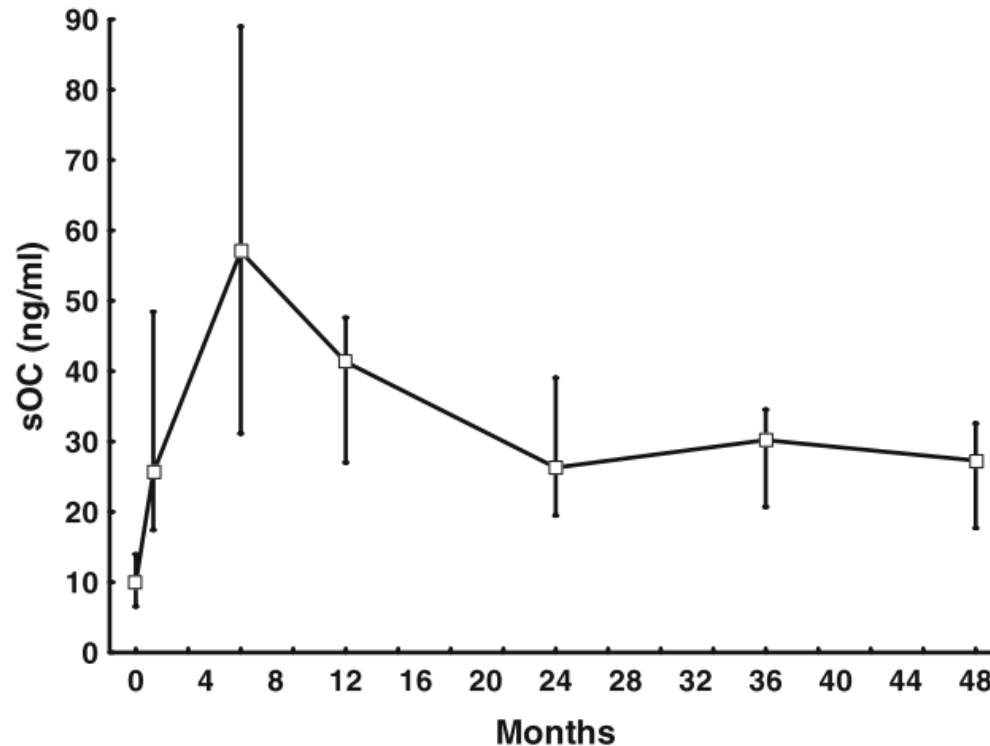
| Study                  | Design                     | No. | F/M Eug/hyp |       | Bone apposition |     |              | Bone resorption |     |      |     |     | Bone mass |           |           |           |            |     |
|------------------------|----------------------------|-----|-------------|-------|-----------------|-----|--------------|-----------------|-----|------|-----|-----|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|-----|
|                        |                            |     |             |       | BGP             | ALP | PICP<br>PINP | ICTP            | HOP | DPyr | NTX | CTX | LS<br>QCT | LS<br>DXA | FN<br>DXA | FA<br>DXA | tFA<br>QCT | QUS |
| Piovesan, 1994 (29)    | Cross-sectional controlled | 12  | 10/2        | 6/6   | ↓               | -   | ↓            | -               | -   | -    | -   | -   | -         | -         | -         | -         | -          | -   |
| Hermus, 1995 (30)      | Longitudinal intervention  | 20  | 16/4        | 18/2  | N               | N   | N            | N               | ↑   | -    | -   | -   | -         | ↓         | ↓         | -         | -          | -   |
| Osella, 1997 (31)      | Cross-sectional controlled | 18  | 15/3        | 13/5  | ↓               | ↓   | N            | N               | -   | -    | -   | -   | -         | -         | -         | -         | -          | -   |
| Sartorio, 1998 (32)    | Cross-sectional controlled | 12  | 10/2        | -     | ↓               | -   | -            | ↓               | -   | -    | -   | -   | -         | -         | -         | -         | -          | -   |
| Chiodini, 1998 (23)    | Cross-sectional controlled | 18  | 18/0        | 18/0  | ↓               | -   | -            | -               | ↑   | ↑    | -   | -   | ↓         | ↓         | ↓         | -         | ↓          | -   |
| Di Somma, 1998 (33)    | Longitudinal intervention  | 39  | 18/21       | 14/25 | ↓               | -   | -            | -               | -   | -    | ↑   | -   | -         | ↓         | ↓         | -         | -          | -   |
| Godang, 1999 (34)      | Cross-sectional controlled | 23  | 17/6        | -     | ↓               | -   | N            | ↑               | -   | -    | -   | ↑   | -         | ↓         | ↓         | ↓         | -          | -   |
| Tauchmanová, 2001 (35) | Cross-sectional controlled | 34  | 20/14       | 34/0  | -               | N   | -            | -               | -   | -    | -   | -   | -         | ↓         | ↓         | -         | -          | ↓   |
| Cortet, 2001 (36)      | Cross-sectional controlled | 23  | 20/3        | 21/2  | ↓               | N   | N            | N               | -   | -    | -   | ↓   | -         | ↓         | ↓         | -         | -          | ↓   |
| Francucci, 2002 (37)   | Cross-sectional controlled | 15  | 15/0        | 7/8   | ↓               | N   | -            | -               | -   | N    | -   | -   | -         | ↓         | ↓         | -         | -          | -   |
| Kristo, 2002 (16)      | Cross-sectional controlled | 33  | 24/09       | 15/18 | N               | -   | -            | -               | -   | -    | -   | ↑   | -         | ↓         | ↓         | ↓         | -          | -   |
| Di Somma, 2003 (24)    | Longitudinal controlled    | 9   | 6/3         | 9/0   | ↓               | -   | -            | -               | -   | -    | ↑   | -   | -         | ↓         | -         | -         | -          | -   |
| Minetto, 2004 (38)     | Cross-sectional controlled | 38  | 30/8        | 19/11 | -               | -   | -            | -               | -   | -    | -   | -   | -         | ↓         | -         | -         | -          | -   |
| Karavitaki, 2004 (39)  | Cross-sectional controlled | 29  | 29/0        | 13/16 | -               | -   | -            | -               | -   | -    | -   | -   | -         | -         | -         | N ↓<br>*  | -          | N   |
| Tauchmanova, 2006 (25) | Cross-sectional controlled | 80  | 49/51       | -     | ↓               | -   | -            | -               | ↓   | -    | -   | -   | -         | ↓         | ↓         | -         | -          | -   |
| Kristo, 2006 (40)      | Longitudinal intervention  | 33  | 24/9        | 18/15 | ↓               | -   | -            | -               | -   | -    | -   | ↑   | -         | ↓         | ↓         | -         | -          | -   |

F: female patients; M: male patients; Eug: eugonadal patients; Hyp: hypogonadal patients; BGP: bone Gla-protein (osteocalcin); ALP: alkaline phosphatase; PICP: carboxy-terminal propeptide of type 1 procollagen; PINP: amino-terminal propeptide of type 1 procollagen; ICTP: carboxyterminal cross-linked telopeptide of type 1 collagen; HOP: urinary hydroxyproline; DPyr: urinary deossi-pyridinoline; NTX: urinary cross-linked amino-terminal telopeptides of type 1 collagen; CTX: carboxy-terminal telopeptides of type 1 collagen; LS: lumbar spine; QCT: quantitative computed tomography; DXA: dual x-ray absorptiometry; FN: femoral neck; FA: forearm; tFA: trabecular bone at forearm; QUS: quantitative ultrasonography; N: comparable in respect to controls' levels; \*in post-menopausal women.

# Bone turnover in patients with endogenous Cushing's syndrome before and after successful treatment

Osteoporos Int (2010) 21:637–645

Á. Szappanos · J. Tóke · D. Lippai · A. Patócs · P. Igaz ·  
N. Szücs · L. Fütő · E. Gláz · K. Rácz · M. Tóth

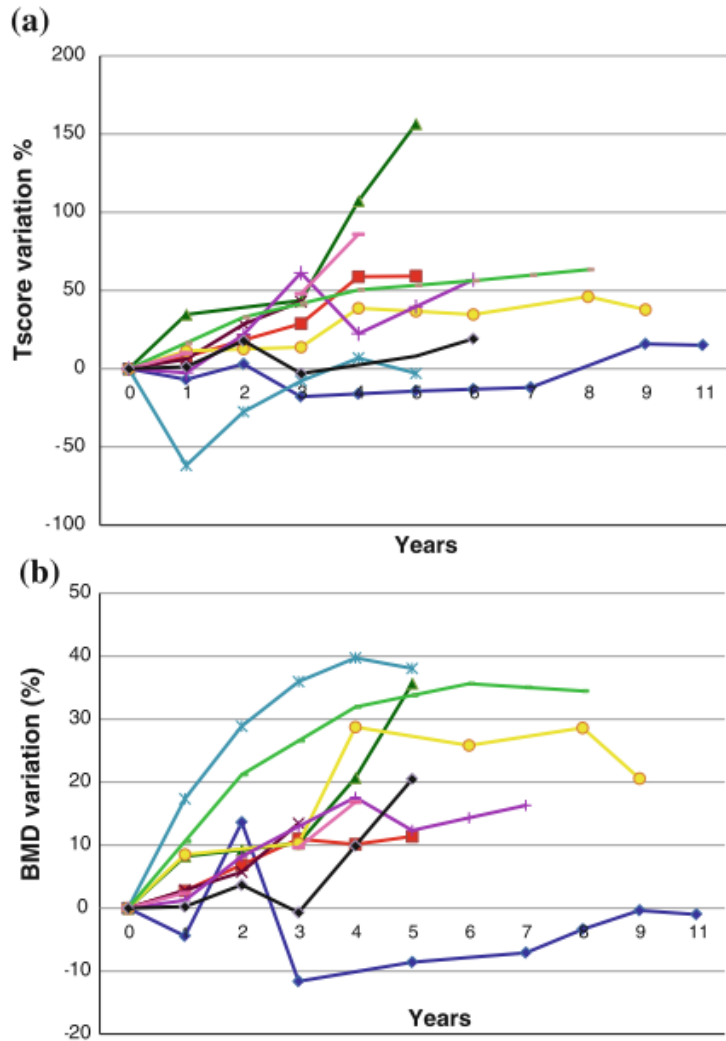


**Time course of serum osteocalcin concentrations before (month 0) and after the cure of endogenous hypercortisolism (months 1 – 6 – 12 – 24 – 36 – 48)**

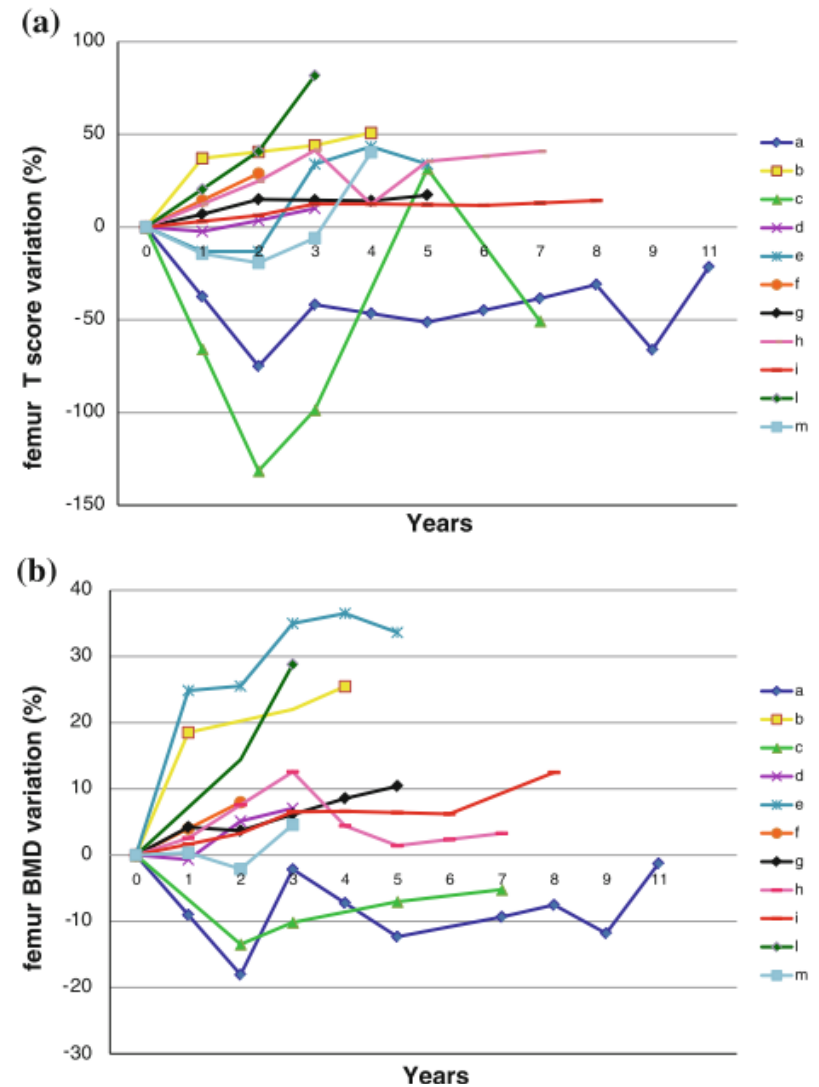


# Spontaneous recovery of bone mass after cure of endogenous hypercortisolism

Maria Elena Randazzo · Erika Grossrubatscher ·  
Paolo Dalino Ciaramella · Angelo Vanzulli ·  
Paola Loli



**Fig. 1** **a** Variation of T score L2–L4 over time in the eleven patients followed up for a median of 7 years (long term follow up). **b** Variation of BMD L2–L4 over time in the eleven patients followed up for a median of 7 years (long term follow up)



**Fig. 2** **a** Variation of T score of femur neck over time in the eleven patients followed up for a median of 7 years (long term follow up). **b** Variation of BMD of femur neck over time in the eleven patients followed up for a median of 7 years (long term follow up)

# Deleterious Effects of Glucocorticoid Replacement on Bone in Women After Long-Term Remission of Cushing's Syndrome

Maria-José Barahona,<sup>1</sup> Nuria Sucunza,<sup>1</sup> Eugenia Resmini,<sup>1</sup> Jose-Manuel Fernández-Real,<sup>2</sup> Wifredo Ricart,<sup>2</sup>  
Jose-Maria Moreno-Navarrete,<sup>2</sup> Teresa Puig,<sup>3</sup> Ana M. Wagner,<sup>1</sup> Jose Rodriguez-Espinosa,<sup>1</sup>  
Jordi Farrerons,<sup>4</sup> and Susan M. Webb<sup>1</sup>

**TABLE 1.** Comparison Between Cured and Active CS Patients and Normal Matched Controls

|                                 | <i>Cured CS</i>  | <i>Active CS</i> | <i>Controls</i>  | <i>p</i>           |
|---------------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| <i>N</i>                        | 37               | 14               | 85               |                    |
| Whole BMC (kg)                  | 1.88 ± 0.31      | 1.79 ± 0.20      | 2.05 ± 0.29      | 0.001*             |
| Whole BMD (g/cm <sup>2</sup> )  | 1.05 ± 0.09      | 1.02 ± 0.06      | 1.11 ± 0.09      | 0.001*             |
| Lumbar BMD (g/cm <sup>2</sup> ) | 1.05 ± 0.18      | 0.92 ± 0.10      | 1.11 ± 0.20      | <0.01 <sup>†</sup> |
| Osteocalcin (ng/ml)             | 2 (2–10.6)       | 2 (2–15.4)       | 4.07 (2–14.7)    | <0.01*             |
| β-Crosslaps (ng/ml)             | 0.26 (0.02–0.58) | 0.28 (0.03–1.05) | 0.27 (0.09–1.02) | NS                 |
| Total P1NP (ng/ml)              | 39.8 (6.34–111)  | 32.7 (13.7–114)  | 42.4 (12.5–192)  | NS                 |
| BMI (kg/m <sup>2</sup> )        | 25.2 (18.7–45.5) | 29.6 (23.7–34)   | 25.4 (19–43)     | NS                 |
| Current age (yr)                | 50 ± 14          | 46 ± 12          | 50 ± 12          | NS                 |
| Menopausal (%)                  | 43               | 46               | 50               | NS                 |

Results are expressed as mean ± SD or median and range.

\* *p* between controls and the other two groups.

<sup>†</sup> *p* between controls and active CS.

NS, not significant; BMI, body mass index.

**Series with a long follow-up after remission of hypercortisolism (mean follow-up of 11 years).**

# Deleterious Effects of Glucocorticoid Replacement on Bone in Women After Long-Term Remission of Cushing's Syndrome

Maria-José Barahona,<sup>1</sup> Nuria Sucunza,<sup>1</sup> Eugenia Resmini,<sup>1</sup> Jose-Manuel Fernández-Real,<sup>2</sup> Wifredo Ricart,<sup>2</sup>  
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Jordi Farrerons,<sup>4</sup> and Susan M. Webb<sup>1</sup>

**TABLE 2.** Comparison Between Cured and Active CS Patients and Normal Matched Controls: Role of Estrogens

|                                 | <i>Cured CS</i> |                | <i>Active CS</i> |                | <i>Controls</i> |                | <i>p</i> <sup>*</sup> | <i>p</i> <sup>†</sup> |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|----------------|------------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
|                                 | <i>Estrog+</i>  | <i>Estrog−</i> | <i>Estrog+</i>   | <i>Estrog−</i> | <i>Estrog+</i>  | <i>Estrog−</i> |                       |                       |
| <i>N</i>                        | 20              | 17             | 6                | 8              | 43              | 42             |                       |                       |
| BMC (kg)                        | 1.96 ± 0.22     | 1.79 ± 0.38    | 1.83 ± 0.26      | 1.76 ± 0.15    | 2.15 ± 0.29     | 1.94 ± 0.24    | <0.01 <sup>‡</sup>    | NS                    |
| Whole BMD (g/cm <sup>2</sup> )  | 1.07 ± 0.06     | 1.03 ± 0.11    | 1.05 ± 0.08      | 1.01 ± 0.05    | 1.14 ± 0.08     | 1.07 ± 0.09    | <0.01 <sup>‡</sup>    | NS                    |
| Lumbar BMD (g/cm <sup>2</sup> ) | 1.06 ± 0.17     | 1.05 ± 0.2     | 0.96 ± 0.08      | 0.89 ± 0.1     | 1.17 ± 0.17     | 1.04 ± 0.2     | <0.01 <sup>‡</sup>    | NS                    |

\* Differences between the estrogen-sufficient groups of cured and active patients and controls.

† Differences between the estrogen-deficient groups of cured and active patients and controls.

‡ *p* < 0.01 between controls and the other two groups.

Estrog<sup>+</sup>, estrogen sufficient; Estrog<sup>−</sup>, estrogen deficient.



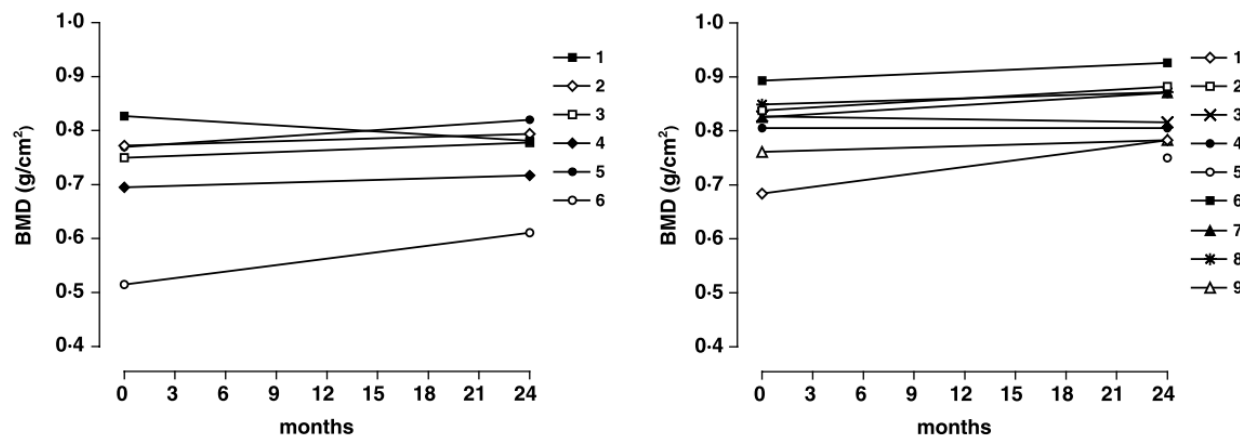
**These differences were observed in estrogen-sufficient women but not in those with estrogen deficiency.**

**This suggests that the protective effect of estrogens on bone mass is lost with hypercortisolism.**

# Effect of 2 years of cortisol normalization on the impaired bone mass and turnover in adolescent and adult patients with Cushing's disease: a prospective study

Clinical Endocrinology (2003) 58, 302–308

Carolina Di Somma, Rosario Pivonello, Sandro Loche\*,  
Antongiulio Faggiano, Michele Klain†, Marco  
Salvatore†, Gaetano Lombardi and Annamaria Colao



**Fig. 1** Bone mineral density (BMD) at lumbar spine in adolescent (top) and adult patients (bottom) with Cushing's disease before and after 2 years of cortisol normalization.

**Table 2** Hormone and bone parameters in patients, before and after disease cure, and in controls at study entry

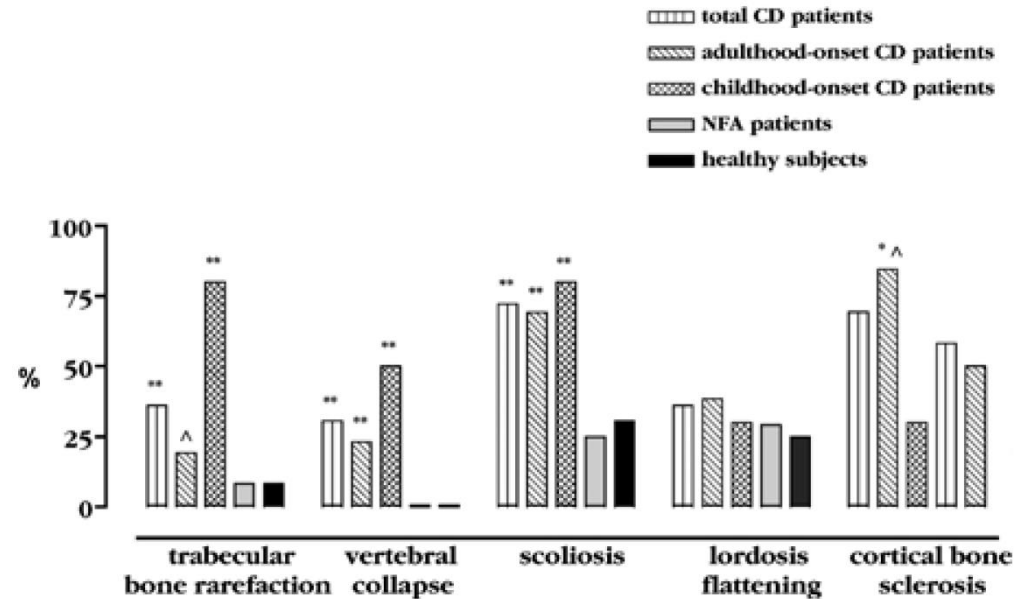
|  | Young patients    |                  |                  | <i>P</i> | Adult patients    |                   |                  | <i>P</i> |
|--|-------------------|------------------|------------------|----------|-------------------|-------------------|------------------|----------|
|  | Basal             | 2 years          | Young controls   |          | Basal             | 2 years           | Adult controls   |          |
| No.  | 6                 | 6                | 6                | –        | 9                 | 9                 | 9                | –        |
| Mean ( $\pm$ SEM) age (years)                | 15.0 $\pm$ 0.6    | –                | 15.6 $\pm$ 0.8   | 0.4      | 41.6 $\pm$ 1.5    | –                 | 40.0 $\pm$ 2.9   | –        |
| Urinary free cortisol ( $\mu$ g/24 h)        | 865.0 $\pm$ 229.9 | 71.5 $\pm$ 14.8* | 84.2 $\pm$ 3.5   | < 0.001  | 977.7 $\pm$ 230.9 | 107.2 $\pm$ 11.3* | 82.5 $\pm$ 2.5   | < 0.001  |
| Serum cortisol levels ( $\mu$ g/l)           | 330.1 $\pm$ 30.7  | 91.5 $\pm$ 6.8*  | 89.6 $\pm$ 6.7   |          | 345.2 $\pm$ 26.4  | 87.9 $\pm$ 9.2*   | 89.2 $\pm$ 5.9   |          |
| BMD lumbar spine ( $\mu$ g/cm <sup>2</sup> ) | 0.72 $\pm$ 0.04   | 0.76 $\pm$ 0.04* | 0.98 $\pm$ 0.02‡ | < 0.001  | 0.76 $\pm$ 0.05   | 0.83 $\pm$ 0.02   | 1.04 $\pm$ 0.02‡ | < 0.001  |
| T score lumbar spine                         | –                 | –                | –                |          | –2.41 $\pm$ 0.2   | –2.22 $\pm$ 0.1*  | –0.19 $\pm$ 0.2‡ | < 0.001  |
| Z score lumbar spine                         | –2.59 $\pm$ 0.4   | –2.22 $\pm$ 0.3‡ | –0.16 $\pm$ 0.2‡ | < 0.001  | –2.12 $\pm$ 0.2   | –1.87 $\pm$ 0.2*  | –0.98 $\pm$ 0.2‡ | < 0.001  |
| Serum osteocalcin levels ( $\mu$ g/l)        | 1.73 $\pm$ 0.2    | 5.37 $\pm$ 0.5*  | 8.6 $\pm$ 0.2‡   | < 0.001  | 1.58 $\pm$ 0.2    | 5.14 $\pm$ 0.3*   | 9.4 $\pm$ 3.1    | < 0.001  |
| Urinary Ntx levels<br>(nmol BCE/mmol Cr)     | 159.7 $\pm$ 7.9   | 83.7 $\pm$ 5.7*  | 85.6 $\pm$ 3.3   | < 0.001  | 125.9 $\pm$ 3.3   | 77.0 $\pm$ 3.2*   | 80.3 $\pm$ 2.8   | < 0.001  |

Urinary free cortisol 35–135  $\mu$ g/24 h; serum osteocalcin 3.0–13.0  $\mu$ g/l; urinary cross-linked N-telopeptides of type I collagen (Ntx) 13–96 nmol bone collagen equivalent (BCE)/mmol creatinine in females and 23–110 nmol BCE/mmol in males. \**P* < 0.01 vs. basal and †*P* < 0.05 vs. basal at the Student *t*-test for paired data; ‡*P* < 0.001 vs. 2 years.

# Spine Abnormalities and Damage in Patients Cured from Cushing's Disease

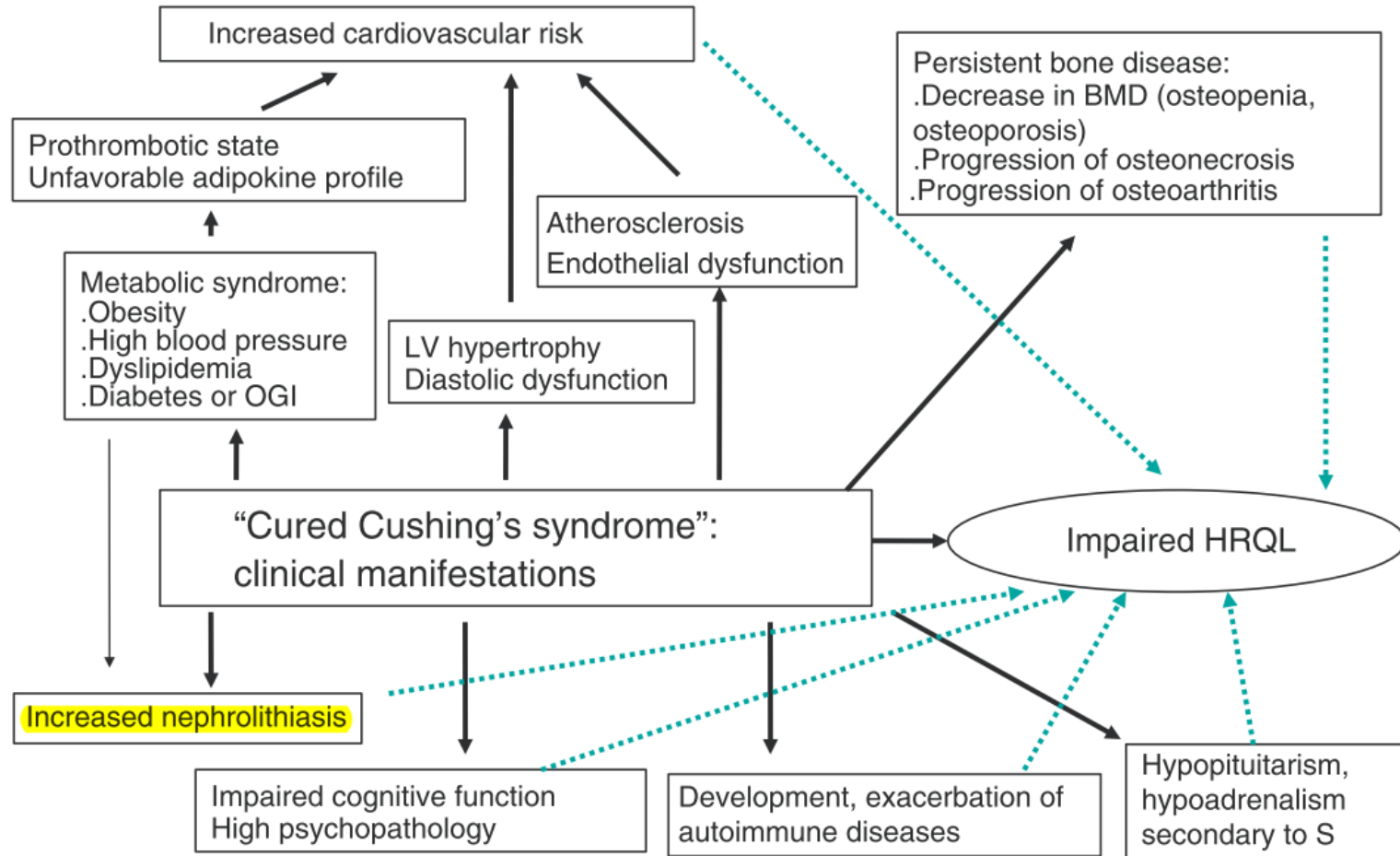
Pituitary 4: 153–161, 2001

Antongiulio Faggiano, Rosario Pivonello, Mariagiovanna Filippella, Carolina Di Somma, Francesco Orio Jr, Gaetano Lombardi, and Annamaria Colao



**Fig. 1.** Prevalence of trabecular bone rarefaction, vertebral collapse, scoliosis, lordosis flattening and cortical bone sclerosis, at standard spine radiography in patients with Cushing's disease (CD), considered as a whole and divided in adulthood-onset and childhood-onset CD patients, in patients with nonfunctioning adenoma (NFA) and in healthy subjects (\*  $p < 0.05$  vs healthy subjects; \*\*  $p < 0.05$  vs healthy subjects and NFA patients; ^  $p < 0.05$  vs childhood-onset CD patients).

Anna Aulinas<sup>a,\*</sup>, Elena Valassi<sup>b</sup>, Susan M. Webb<sup>a,b</sup>



**Figure 1** Schematic representation of the potential clinical manifestations and consequences despite the "cure" of hypercortisolism.



# Nephrolithiasis in Cushing's Disease: Prevalence, Etiopathogenesis, and Modification after Disease Cure

J Clin Endocrinol Metab, May 2003, 88(5):2076–2080

ANTONGIULIO FAGGIANO, ROSARIO PIVONELLO, DANIELA MELIS,  
MARIAGIOVANNA FILIPPELLA, CAROLINA DI SOMMA, MARIO PETRETTA, GAETANO LOMBARDI,  
AND ANNAMARIA COLAO

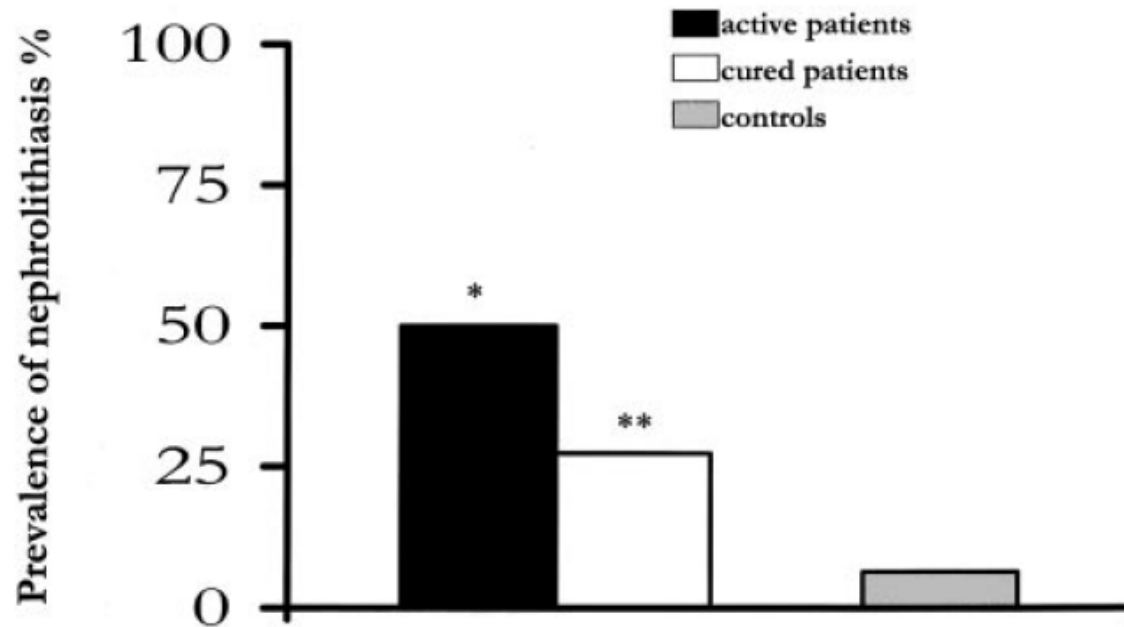


FIG. 1. Prevalence of nephrolithiasis in active and cured patients with CD and controls (\*,  $P < 0.001$  vs. controls; \*\*,  $P < 0.05$  vs. controls).

# Nephrolithiasis in Cushing's Disease: Prevalence, Etiopathogenesis, and Modification after Disease Cure

J Clin Endocrinol Metab, May 2003, 88(5):2076–2080

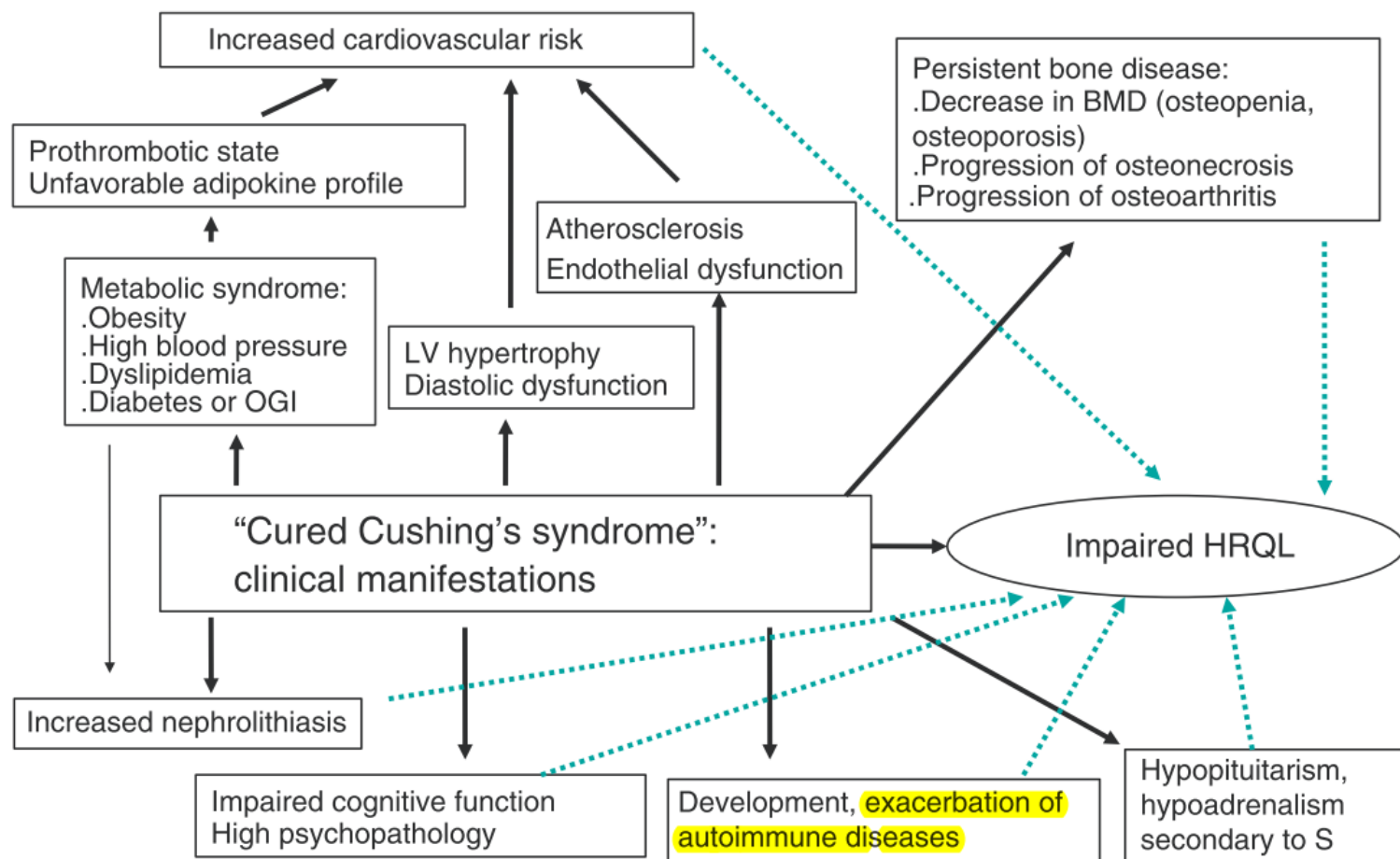
ANTONGIULIO FAGGIANO, ROSARIO PIVONELLO, DANIELA MELIS,  
MARIAGIOVANNA FILIPPELLA, CAROLINA DI SOMMA, MARIO PETRETTA, GAETANO LOMBARDI,  
AND ANNAMARIA COLAO

**TABLE 2.** Frequency (%) of clinical, metabolic and urinary abnormalities based on the standard cut-off in actives and cured Cushing's disease patients and in controls

|                                     | Actives<br>(no. 24)    | Cured<br>(no. 22)      | Controls<br>(no. 46) |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| Obesity/overweight                  | 33.3/41.6 <sup>a</sup> | 13.6/36.4 <sup>a</sup> | 0/15.2               |
| Hypertension                        | 66.7 <sup>a</sup>      | 45.4 <sup>a</sup>      | 6.5                  |
| Diabetes/impaired glucose tolerance | 16.6/58.3 <sup>a</sup> | 9.1/40.9 <sup>a</sup>  | 0/6.5                |
| Hypercalciuria                      | 83.3 <sup>a,b</sup>    | 4.5                    | 2.2                  |
| Hyperuricosuria                     | 33.3 <sup>a</sup>      | 9.1                    | 2.2                  |
| Hyperoxaluria                       | 25                     | 13.6                   | 10.9                 |
| Hypocitraturia                      | 79.2 <sup>a</sup>      | 50                     | 8.7                  |

<sup>a</sup>  $P < 0.01$  vs. controls; <sup>b</sup>  $P < 0.01$  vs. cured patients.

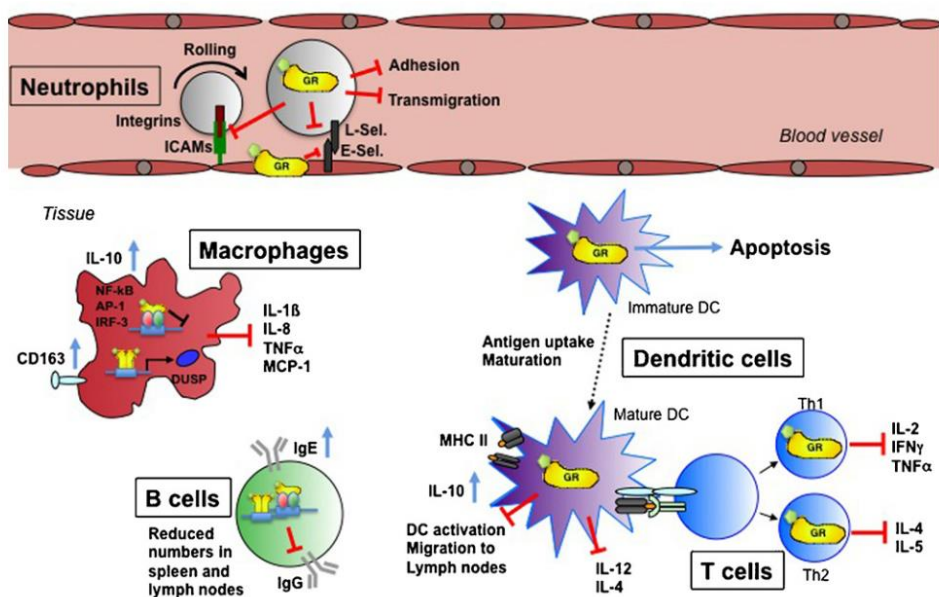
Anna Aulinas<sup>a,\*</sup>, Elena Valassi<sup>b</sup>, Susan M. Webb<sup>a,b</sup>



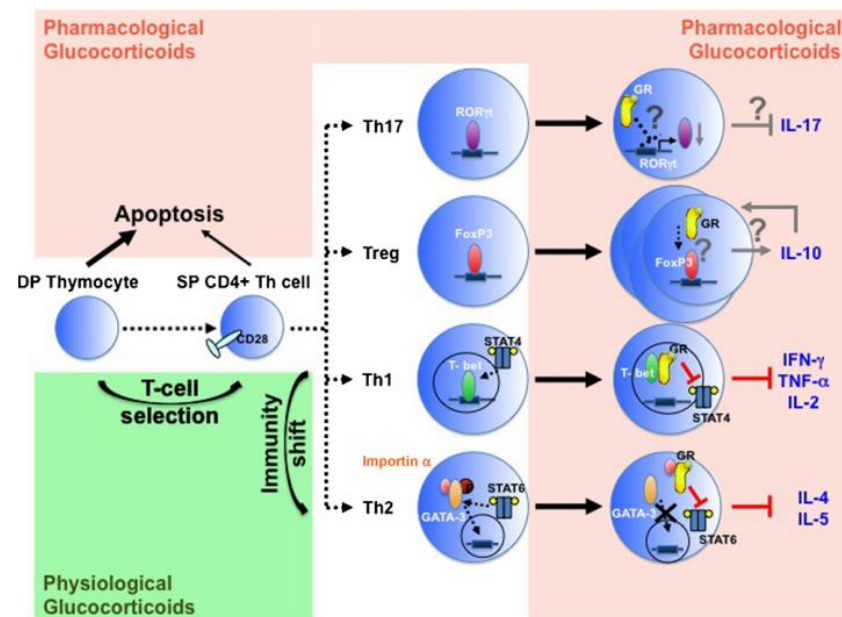
**Figure 1** Schematic representation of the potential clinical manifestations and consequences despite the "cure" of hypercortisolism.

# The role of the glucocorticoid receptor in inflammation and immunity☆

Ulrike Baschant, Jan Tuckermann\*



**Fig. 2.** Multiple effects of the GR on major immune cells. GCs influence neutrophil functions by suppressing rolling, adhesion and transmigration by reducing the expression of adhesion molecules like integrins, selectins (E-Sel, L-Sel.) and intercellular adhesion molecules (ICAMs) in neutrophils and endothelial cells. GCs efficiently suppress classical macrophage activation by induction of IL-10, an immunomodulatory cytokine and by the inhibition of the release of pro-inflammatory cytokines like TNF $\alpha$ , IFN $\gamma$  or IL-1 $\beta$ . Cytokines are suppressed by mechanisms requiring the dimerized GR (by activating GRE dependent genes like DUSP-1) as well as tethering mechanisms, i.e. interfering with NF- $\kappa$ B, AP-1 and IRF-3. GCs influence dendritic cells (DCs) on all levels of their life cycle. They facilitate antigen uptake of immature DCs but suppress their maturation by reduction of MHCII, co-stimulatory molecules and cytokine expression. Furthermore they potently induce apoptosis of DCs and reduce their migratory capacity. Chronic GC treatment leads to a reduction of splenic and lymph node B cell numbers, reduction of IgG production but enhanced IgE generation. T helper cell differentiation and function is affected by GCs through repression of pro-inflammatory cytokines and by regulation of transcription factors (for details see Fig. 3).



**Fig. 3.** Complex role of the GR in T cells. GC actions on T helper cells affect thymocyte maturation and Th cell differentiation. DP thymocytes are very sensitive towards GC-induced apoptosis, whereas SPs are less sensitive due to enhanced CD28 expression (left). At physiological doses GCs can cause a shift from Th1 response towards Th2 immunity (left below). Pharmacological doses exert anti-inflammatory effects on the different T helper cell populations by repression of pro-inflammatory cytokines and by regulation of transcription factors (right). ROR $\gamma$ t expression is reduced by GCs in Th17 cells by an unknown mechanism. Treg numbers are increased by IL-10 released from tolerogenic myeloid cells. Whether FoxP3 is regulated by GCs is not known. In Th1 cells STAT4 and T-bet activity is inhibited by the activated GR through direct protein–protein interactions. In Th2 cells the GR prevents the nuclear import of GATA-3 and suppresses STAT6 function.

# Overt Immune Dysfunction after Cushing's Syndrome Remission: A Consecutive Case Series and Review of the Literature

Filipe da Mota, Cathy Murray, and Shereen Ezzat  
J Clin Endocrinol Metab, October 2011, 96(10):E1670–E1674

**TABLE 1.** First reports of specific immune dysfunctions following CS remission

| Ref. | Immune dysfunction                          | CS etiology       |
|------|---|-------------------|
| 2    | Autoimmune thyroiditis (new onset)          | Adrenal adenoma   |
| 3    | Rheumatoid arthritis (exacerbation)         | Pituitary adenoma |
| 4    | Celiac disease (exacerbation)               | Pituitary adenoma |
| 5    | Sarcoidosis (new onset)                     | Adrenal adenoma   |
| 6    | Systemic lupus erythematosus (new onset)    | Pituitary adenoma |
| 7    | Seronegative arthritis (new onset)          | Pituitary adenoma |
|      | Retinal vasculitis (new onset)              | Pituitary adenoma |
| 8    | Graves disease (exacerbation)               | Ectopic           |
|      | Vitiligo, three cases (not specified)       | Not specified     |
|      | Sclerosing pancreatocholangitis (new onset) | Pituitary adenoma |
| 9    | Atopic dermatitis (exacerbation)            | Adrenal adenoma   |
|      | Psoriasis (exacerbation)                    | Pituitary adenoma |
| 10   | Autoimmune pemphigus (exacerbation)         | Adrenal adenoma   |





# Overt Immune Dysfunction after Cushing's Syndrome Remission: A Consecutive Case Series and Review of the Literature

Filipe da Mota, Cathy Murray, and Shereen Ezzat  
J Clin Endocrinol Metab, October 2011, 96(10):E1670–E1674

**TABLE 2.** Clinical characteristics of patients with overt immune dysfunction (ID) after CS remission

| Patient | Gender | Age at diagnosis of CS (yr) | Cause of CS                    | Treatment for CS | Urinary cortisol levels [nmol/24 h (upper limit)] |                        | ID   | Time of ID after treatment (months) | Steroid at ID onset (mg/d) |
|---------|--------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------|---|------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|
|         |        |                             |                                |                  | Before CS treatment                               | At ID onset ± 2 months |  |                                     |                            |
| 1       | F      | 29                          | Pituitary microadenoma         | 2 TS, RT, K      | 603 (<220)  | 134 (<193)             | Psoriasis (new onset)                          | 36                                  | None                       |
| 2       | F      | 25                          | Pituitary macroadenoma         | 2 TS, K, RT      | 1500 (<220)                                       | 196 (<220)             | Psoriasis (new onset)                          | 60                                  | None                       |
| 3       | M      | 27                          | Pituitary microadenoma         | TS, BA           | 884 (<220)  | NA                     | Sarcoidosis (new onset)                        | 15                                  | Hydrocortisone (30)        |
| 4       | F      | 45                          | Pulmonary neuroendocrine tumor | K, L             | 1610 (<330)                                       | 110 (<330)             | Primary biliary cirrhosis (new onset)          | 4                                   | None                       |
| 5       | F      | 58                          | Pituitary microadenoma         | K, TS            | 1506 (<745)                                       | 347 (<745)             | Graves Disease (new onset)                     | 27                                  | None                       |
| 6       | F      | 38                          | Pituitary microadenoma         | TS               | 6900 (<193)                                       | 65 (<180)              | Eczema (exacerbation)                          | 6                                   | None                       |
| 7       | F      | 34                          | Pituitary microadenoma         | TS, K, BA        | 2599 (<275)                                       | 69 (<220)              | Asthma (exacerbation)                          | 1                                   | Hydrocortisone (37.5)      |
| 8       | F      | 38                          | Pituitary macroadenoma         | K, 3 TS, RT, BA  | 308 (<220)  | 315 (220)              | Asthma (exacerbation)                          | 6                                   | Hydrocortisone (35)        |
| 9       | F      | 45                          | Pituitary microadenoma         | K, TS            | 17 (<193)   | NA                     | Generalized rash (new onset)                   | <1                                  | Hydrocortisone (50)        |
| 10      | F      | 46                          | Pituitary microadenoma         | 2 TS, K, BA      | 257 (<275)  | 714 (<275)             | Rosacea-like facial skin rash (new onset)      | 2                                   | Hydrocortisone (30)        |
| 11      | F      | 32                          | Pituitary microadenoma         | 2 TS             | 1237 (<193)                                       | 81 (<193)              | Eczematous rash over arms and back (new onset) | 2                                   | Hydrocortisone (25)        |

BA, Bilateral adrenalectomy; F, female; K, ketoconazole; L, lung laparoscopic surgery; NA, not available; RT, radiotherapy.



# Increased prevalence of thyroid autoimmunity in patients successfully treated for Cushing's disease

Clinical Endocrinology (2000) 53, 13–19

Annamaria Colao, Rosario Pivonello, Antongiulio Faggiano, Mariagiovanna Filippella, Diego Ferone, Carolina Di Somma, Gaetana Cerbone, Paolo Marzullo, Gianfranco Fenzi and Gaetano Lombardi

**Table 2** Thyroid profile of patients with Cushing's disease (CD) before and after cure

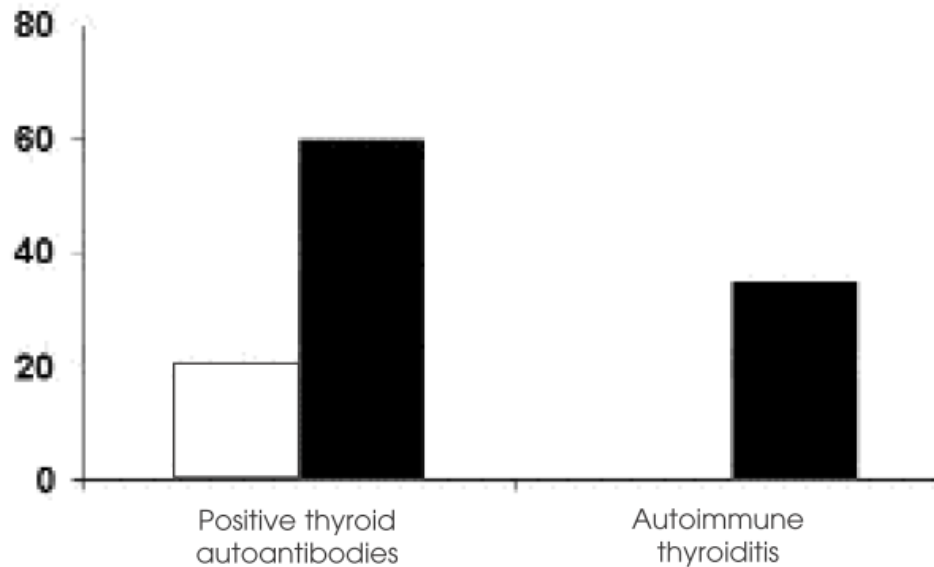
| Patient | Serum fT3 (pmol/l) |            | Serum fT4 (pmol/l) |            | Serum TSH (mU/l) |            | anti-Tg titre (U/ml) |            | anti-TPO titre (U/ml) |            | Thyroid USG |            |
|---------|--------------------|------------|--------------------|------------|------------------|------------|----------------------|------------|-----------------------|------------|-------------|------------|
|         | Before cure        | After cure | Before cure        | After cure | Before cure      | After cure | Before cure          | After cure | Before cure           | After cure | Before cure | After cure |
| 1.      | 3.7                | 3.5        | 12.1               | 15.4       | 0.6              | 7.2        | 250                  | 790        | 300                   | 685        | NG          | NG/T       |
| 2.      | 2.6                | 4.3        | 15.2               | 15.4       | 0.2              | 1.8        | 35                   | 800        | 55                    | 220        | N           | D          |
| 3.      | 3.7                | 4.4        | 15.4               | 12.9       | 0.5              | 2.0        | 26                   | 250        | 38                    | 44         | NG          | NG         |
| 4.      | 2.8                | 4.9        | 14.4               | 15.4       | 0.4              | 1.5        | 15                   | 25         | 28                    | 25         | N           | N          |
| 5.      | 5.2                | 2.1        | 16.1               | 8.2        | 0.2              | 9.8        | 190                  | 956        | 215                   | 798        | NG          | NG/T       |
| 6.      | 3.1                | 5.2        | 12.9               | 12.6       | 0.4              | 3.7        | 48                   | 60         | 35                    | 56         | NG          | NG         |
| 7.      | 4.9                | 3.2        | 8.0                | 9.1        | 0.1              | 1.0        | 12                   | 40         | 18                    | 65         | NG          | NG         |
| 8.      | 2.9                | 4.0        | 19.2               | 12.3       | 0.2              | 1.8        | 25                   | 80         | 38                    | 200        | N           | D          |
| 9.      | 4.0                | 3.8        | 19.6               | 16.9       | 0.5              | 1.5        | 55                   | 325        | 71                    | 415        | N           | D          |
| 10.     | 2.6                | 4.1        | 13.1               | 10.2       | 0.5              | 8.7        | 180                  | 900        | 250                   | 1050       | NG          | NG/T       |
| 11.     | 3.8                | 3.2        | 12.9               | 9.3        | 0.7              | 1.2        | 18                   | 275        | 56                    | 395        | N           | D          |
| 12.     | 4.6                | 3.5        | 14.8               | 14.0       | 0.4              | 0.5        | 13                   | 27         | 12                    | 35         | N           | N          |
| 13.     | 5.2                | 3.7        | 11.6               | 10.8       | 0.3              | 7.6        | 18                   | 275        | 85                    | 198        | NG          | NG/T       |
| 14.     | 3.5                | 3.8        | 14.9               | 19.4       | 0.1              | 1.5        | 28                   | 56         | 47                    | 81         | N           | N          |
| 15.     | 3.1                | 2.4        | 14.0               | 15.6       | 0.5              | 2.1        | 62                   | 90         | 77                    | 80         | N           | N          |
| 16.     | 3.4                | 3.8        | 11.2               | 15.7       | 0.6              | 5.9        | 188                  | 350        | 190                   | 544        | NG          | NG/T       |
| 17.     | 4.8                | 6.4        | 10.0               | 22.3       | 0.4              | 4.7        | 44                   | 50         | 35                    | 85         | N           | N          |
| 18.     | 4.9                | 2.0        | 22.3               | 8.1        | 0.7              | 20.8       | 26                   | 650        | 15                    | 2500       | NG          | NG/T       |
| 19.     | 3.4                | 3.8        | 17.4               | 15.4       | 0.4              | 8.4        | 65                   | 1700       | 55                    | 895        | N           | T          |
| 20.     | 3.7                | 3.1        | 14.3               | 12.5       | 0.1              | 3.1        | 25                   | 35         | 18                    | 44         | N           | N          |
| Mean ±  | 3.8                | 3.8        | 14.5               | 13.6       | 0.4              | 4.7        | 66.0                 | 386.7      | 81.9                  | 420.7      |             |            |
| SEM     | 0.2                | 0.2        | 0.7                | 0.8        | 0.05             | 1.1*       | 16.2                 | 99.7*      | 19.0                  | 130.8*     |             |            |

N, normal; NG, nodular goiter; T, thyroiditis; D, thyroid with normal size but finely nonhomogeneous pattern. Hormonal normal values, serum fT3, 2.5–5.2 pmol/L; serum fT4, 9.1–23.8 pmol/l; serum TSH, 0.5–4.7 mU/l; serum antiTg and antiTPO, 0–100 U/ml. \* $P < 0.01$  compared to baseline evaluation.

# Cushing's Syndrome: Aftermath of the Cure

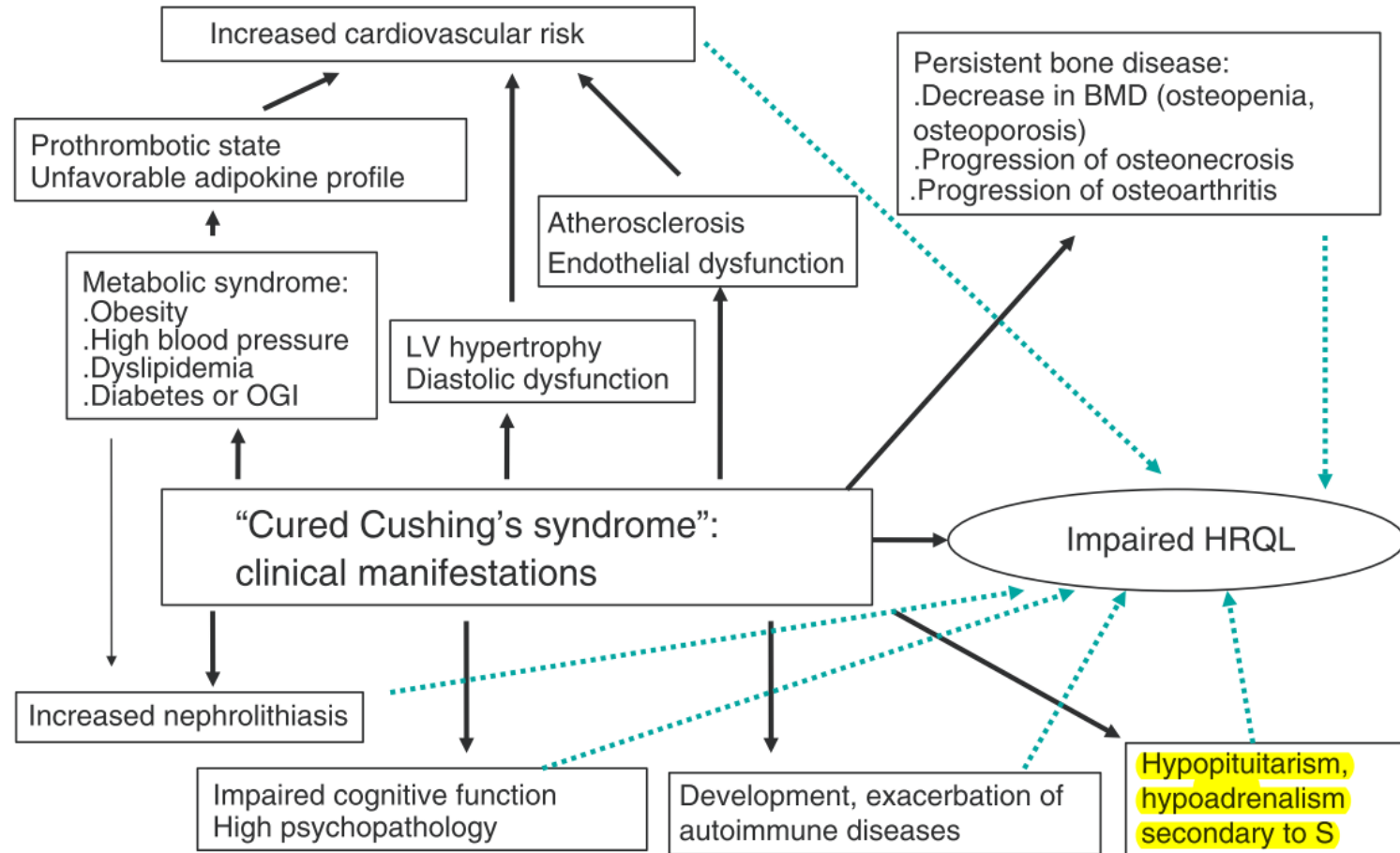
Arq Bras Endocrinol Metab 2007;51/8

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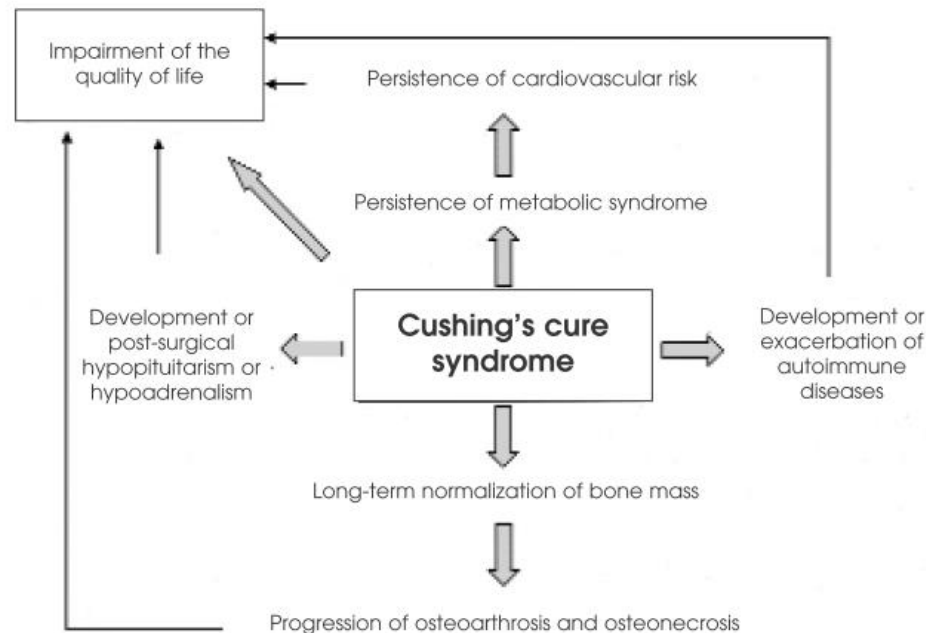
**Figure 5.** Prevalence of the thyroid autoimmune diseases in patients with active disease (*white bars*) and one year after disease remission (*black bars*).

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**Figure 1** Schematic representation of the potential clinical manifestations and consequences despite the "cure" of hypercortisolism.

# CONCLUSIONS



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Persistent hypercortisolism in CS is associated with a high number of several complications, only partially reversible after the remission of excess cortisol.

These findings suggest the existence of a new syndrome, which can be called “**Cushing’s cure syndrome**”, which is partially similar but displays some different characteristics compared to Cushing’s syndrome

Table 1 - First choice medical treatment of cardiovascular complications in patients with Cushing's Syndrome.

|                   | Suggested therapy*   |
|-------------------|--|
| Hypertension      | ACE-inhibitors; Angiotensin II receptor blockers<br>MR-antagonists (if hypokalemia)<br>Avoid thiazide or loop diuretics (potassium-losing effects) |
| Diabetes mellitus | Metformin<br>DPP-4 inhibitors; GLP-1 receptor agonists<br>Insulin analogs  |
| Dyslipidemia      | Statins; Fenofibrate<br>Statin/ezetimibe   |
| Coagulopathy      | Antiplatelet therapy (consider in all patients with high CV risk)<br>Low-molecular weight heparin; Heparin (surgery, IPS sampling)                 |

\*Based on Authors' personal experience. ACE: angiotensin-converting enzyme; MR: mineralcorticoid receptor; DPP-4: dipeptidyl peptidase-4; GLP-1: glucagon-like peptide; CV: cardiovascular; IPS: inferior petrosal sinus.



- **Bias: Influence of therapy (surgery, ketoconazole, etc); concomitant therapy (bisphosphonate, statins, etc); pituitary hormonal deficiencies and/or specific hormonal treatments; estrogen status, etc**
- **Pediatric population.**
- **Autoimmune diseases, nephrolitiasis, myopathy.**
- **Management of cured Cushing's syndrome complications: personal experience.**



# Thank you for your attention

