

NORMAL PUBERTAL DEVELOPMENT



DEFINITION: PUBERTY

Developmental process leading to reproductive maturity & fertility. Characterized by:

- Secondary sexual characteristics
- Growth spurt
- Psychological, cognitive, social changes

ONSET OF PUBERTY

Girls: breast development

□ Palpate to distinguish breast from adipose tissue

Boys: testicular enlargement

- Palpate to estimate size
- Testicular volume ≥ 3.0mL, or length ≥ 2.5cm

PRESENTATION	
GIRLS	BOYS
Average age at onset: 10.5 yrs (range 8-13)	Average age at onset: 11 yrs (range 9-14)
Order 1. Thelarche Breast development 2. Pubic hair Body odour & mild acne often present 3. Growth spurt (2-3 yrs) Earlier in girls Between SMR stage 2-3 Peak height velocity: 6-10cm/yr Menarche 2-2.5 yrs after pubertal onset Average age: 12-12.5 yrs May be irregular due to anovulatory cycles for first few years	Order 1. Testicular enlargement 2. Pubic hair Penile length increases, body odour, mild acne too 3. Growth spurt (2-3 yrs) Between SMR stage 3-4 Peak height velocity: 5-11cm/yr 4. Voice change Between SMR stage 4-5 Other: ~50% may experience pubertal gynecomastia, which resolves within 2 yrs

Hypothalamus GnRH Anterior Pituitary LH, FSH Ovary/Testis Production of sex steroids Enlargement of gonads

SEXUAL MATURITY RATING (SMR) AKA. TANNER STAGING



