

Greater Glasgow and Clyde Ultrasound Guidelines for the diagnosis of Polycystic Ovarian Syndrome (PCOS)

Please refer to NICE Guidance

[NICE guidance - diagnosis of PCOS 2018](#)

| Adolescent (12 – 17 years of age) | Adult within 8 years of menarche | Adult > 8 years post menarche |
|--|---|---|
| <p>Ultrasound should not be used for diagnosis of PCOS in adolescents</p> <p>Ultrasound is not useful as polycystic appearances and increased ovarian volumes are within normal limits for the adolescent population</p> | <p>Ultrasound should not be used for diagnosis of PCOS in those within 8 years of menarche</p> <p>Ultrasound is not useful as polycystic appearances and increased ovarian volumes are normal during this time period</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ultrasound is not required if the diagnosis is clear on clinical and biochemical grounds• Polycystic ovaries on ultrasound are defined as the presence of 12 or more follicles in at least one ovary (measuring 2–9 mm diameter) or increased ovarian volume (greater than 10 cm³).• Be aware that polycystic ovaries do not have to be present to make the diagnosis of PCOS, and the finding of polycystic ovaries does not alone establish the diagnosis. |