



A presentation slide with a landscape background of a road leading to mountains. The text on the right side reads:

Use of GH in Silver-Russell Syndrome

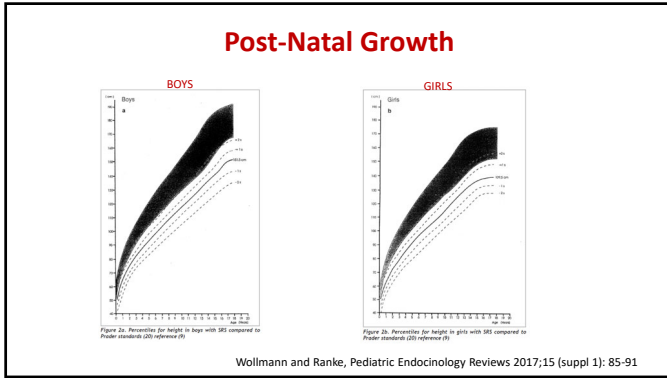
Danièle Pacaud, MD FRCP
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Alberta Children's Hospital
Professor of Pediatrics
Cumming School of Medicine,
University of Calgary

A presentation slide with a light grey background. The text on the left reads:

Conflict of Interest

A vertical line separates this text from the text on the right, which reads:

• None to declare

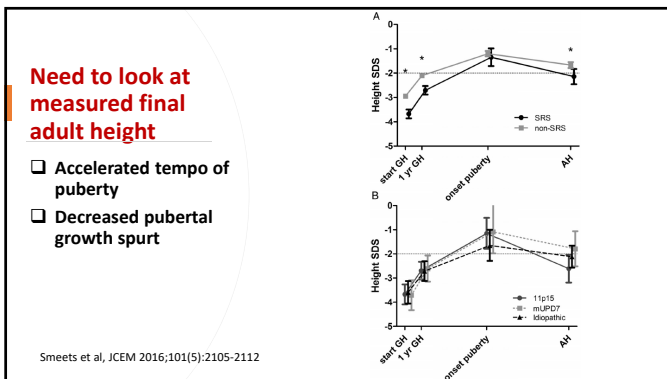


Why should we treat SRS with rhGH?

To improve final adult height?

To enhance neurocognitive outcome?

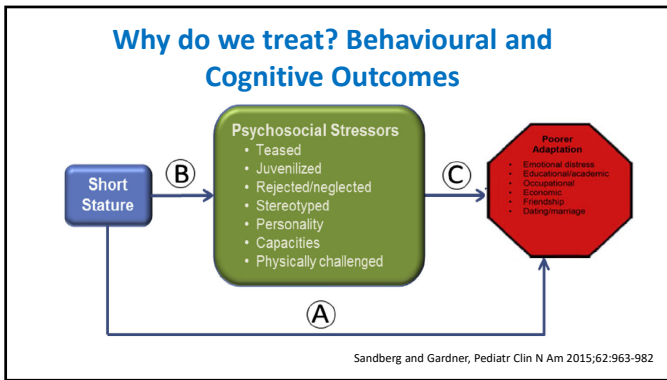
To improve quality of life?



Why do we treat SRS? Facts about final adult height

- Average height of untreated patients are 151 cm for ♂♂♂♂♂ and 140 cm for ♀♀♀♀♀ .
- Based on 3 studies in patients with SRS
 - study 1: n= 26 with questionable dx
 - study 2: n= 37 treated vs 13 not treated with self reported FH
 - study 3: n= 26 with measured FH vs 159 non SRS controls
- Of note: 3 studies- average gain is 1 to 1.3 SDS.
- 3500 daily injections for an average increase of 4 to 10 cm

Wollmann et al, Eur J Pediatr 1995;154:958-968
 Toumba et al, Horm Res Paediatr 2010;74:212-217
 Binder et al, Horm Res Paediatr 2013;80:193-200
 Smeets et al, JCEM 2016;101(5):2105-2112



Why do we treat? Behavioural and Cognitive Outcomes (SGA)

QoL/Behaviour

- 1997 (Dutch study) after 2 yrs TX: improvement behavior, and self-perception (went from below average to average)
- 2000 and 2005 (2 studies from same authors): GH improved QoL of SGA kids
- 2008: improved QoL after 2 years of TX
- 2011 study: QoL better in treated SGA

Of note:

- No consistent reliable standardized questionnaires and QoL still lower than AGA despite GH. Same cohort.
- High risk of bias on outcomes (particular lack of blinding, lack of concurrent control group, industry involvement sponsorship and positive publication bias)

IQ (COGNITIVE)

- 1997 (Dutch) : effect + on IQ
- 2008 (Belgium study) GH: no effect on IQ, Cognitive abilities, behavior.
- 2012 (Spain): no clinical effect of GH on IQ.

Of note:

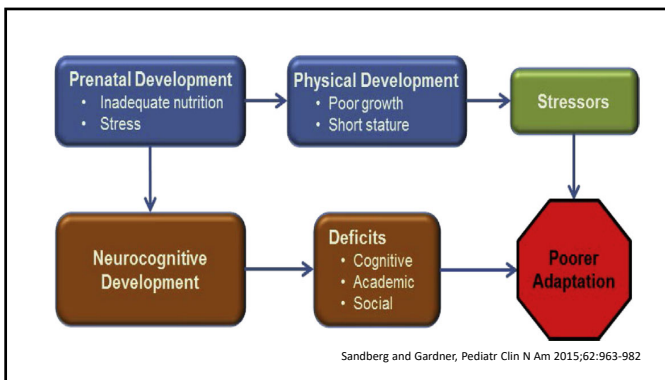
Similar to kids born SGA IQ dependent on

- SES (\$), Parental IQ ,severity of growth restriction

In sum: **Probably non-conclusive evidence that GH affect IQ outcomes.**

(SRS not always similar as SGA)





Why do we treat? Impact of rhGH on Quality of Life for SGA

After 2 years of randomized trial:

- 50% of parents of GH treated children report improved well-being VS
- 50% of parents of non-GH treated children report improved well-being

Legrou et al, *Horm Res* 2008;69:334-42

rhGH therapy economic evaluation

- Cost effectiveness usually set at a maximum of 35,000 to 50,000 CDNS

	Cost per QALY (CDN \$)	Cost-effective at 50,000\$
GH deficient children	39,400.00	95%
PWS	230,000.00	1%
TS children	67,000.00	19%
SHOX	69,000.00	15%
SGA children	56,200.00	38%

Takeda et al, Health Technol Assess 2010;14(42):1-209

What about unanswered potential risks of rhGH therapy?

These children may be at increased risk of sleep related breathing disorder

87% of SRS with abnormal sleep studies and 5/12 worsened with rhGH initiation *

Will the longterm exposure to increase levels of IGF-1 increased the risk of certain cancer later on in life?

Potential increased risk of stroke?

Could the longterm exposure to rhGH increase the risk of glucose intolerance/diabetes later in life?

* Giabicani et al, Sleep Medicine 2019;64:23-29

Evidence

TREATMENT CURRENTLY NOT BASED ON STRONG EBM

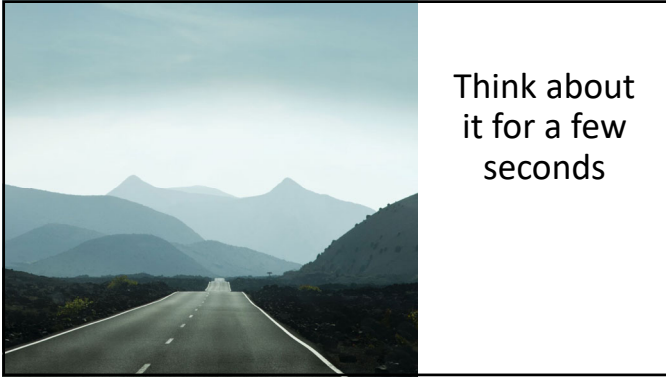
EVIDENCE IS LIMITED AND SPARSE WITH QOL, BEHAVIOR AND IQ.

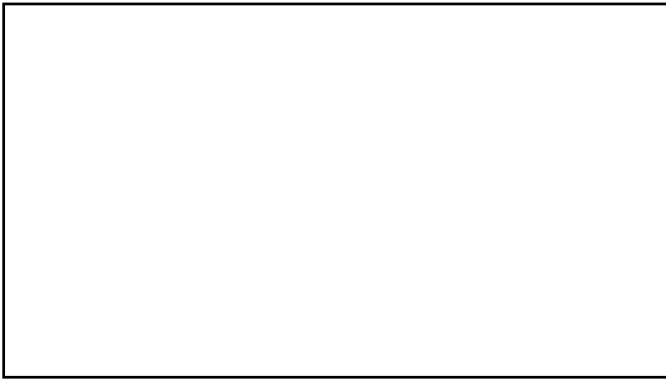
IMPLEMENTED IN CLINICAL PRACTICE THROUGH GUIDELINES

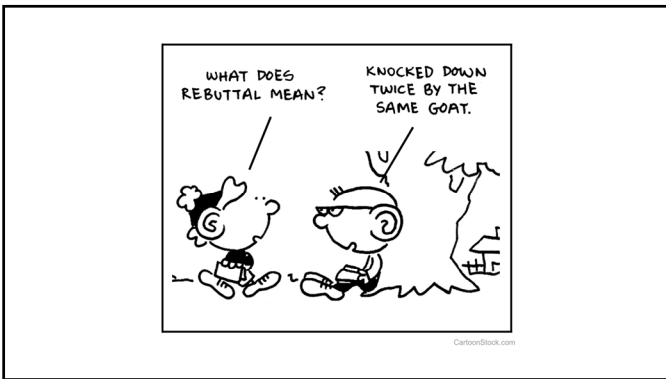
RESEARCH SHOULD BE DONE BUT WHO PAYS FOR THIS?

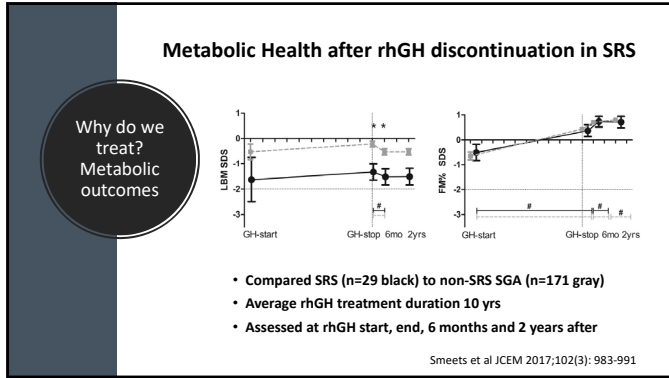
MORALLY AND ETHICALLY

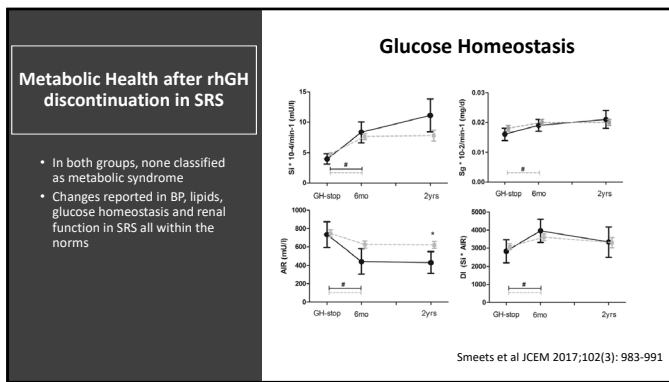
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rhGH in childhood
will likely not have
any major impact on
longterm metabolic
health

Why should we treat SRS with rhGH?

-  To improve final adult height? ? ✓
-  To enhance neurocognitive outcome? ✗
-  To improve quality of life? ✗
-  To improve metabolic outcomes? ✗

For or Against Growth Hormone Therapy for SRS?

Debate or no Debate?

Hormones to make a medically healthy short kid taller: Confidence booster or 'child abuse'?



"That becomes the ethical dilemma," he said. "We have in our hospital spectacular plastic surgeons who do surgery that changes the appearance of kids who have serious malformations. You wouldn't call that cosmetic. So if somebody is going to be ... 4'8" versus 5 ft., I don't think you can call that simply cosmetic."



"Is that any different than taking a three-year old child and injecting growth hormone daily?" he asked. "That's child abuse, in my opinion, if the child doesn't really need it."

National Post September 7, 2012