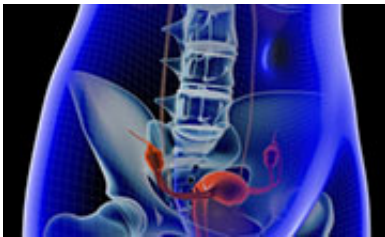


PCOS linked to increased risk of preterm delivery for twins

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(HealthDay)—Polycystic ovary syndrome (PCOS) diagnosis is associated with increased risk of preterm delivery in twin pregnancies, according to a study published in the September issue of *BJOG: An International Journal of Obstetrics and Gynaecology*.

Tone S. Løvvik, M.D., from the Norwegian University of Science and Technology in Trondheim, and colleagues conducted a population-based cohort study in Sweden involving 20,965 women with twin births between 1995 and 2009, of whom 226 had a PCOS diagnosis. The authors investigated pregnancy and [perinatal outcomes](#) for women with and without PCOS.

The researchers found that PCOS diagnosis in [twin pregnancy](#) correlated with increased preterm delivery risk (51 versus 43 percent; risk ratio, 1.18). Risk was particularly elevated for spontaneous preterm delivery

(37 versus 28 percent; risk ratio, 1.3) and very preterm birth (14 versus 8 percent; risk ratio, 1.62). Low birth weight occurred more often among twins of PCOS mothers (48 versus 39 percent; adjusted risk ratio, 1.4). After adjustment for gestational age, this difference did not persist. The risk for cesarean section, pre-eclampsia, low five-minute Apgar score, or perinatal mortality did not differ between the two groups.

"The risk of [preterm delivery](#) in twin pregnancies is increased by having a PCOS diagnosis," the authors write. "This should be considered in risk estimation and antenatal follow-up of twin pregnancies."

More information: [Abstract](#)
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