



# 12° Congresso Nazionale AME 6<sup>th</sup> Joint Meeting with AACE



Bari,  
7-10 novembre 2013

## Focus on: **PROLATTINOMA E GRAVIDANZA**

INDUZIONE DELLA GRAVIDANZA

Maurizio Poggi

Azienda Ospedaliera Sant'Andrea - Roma

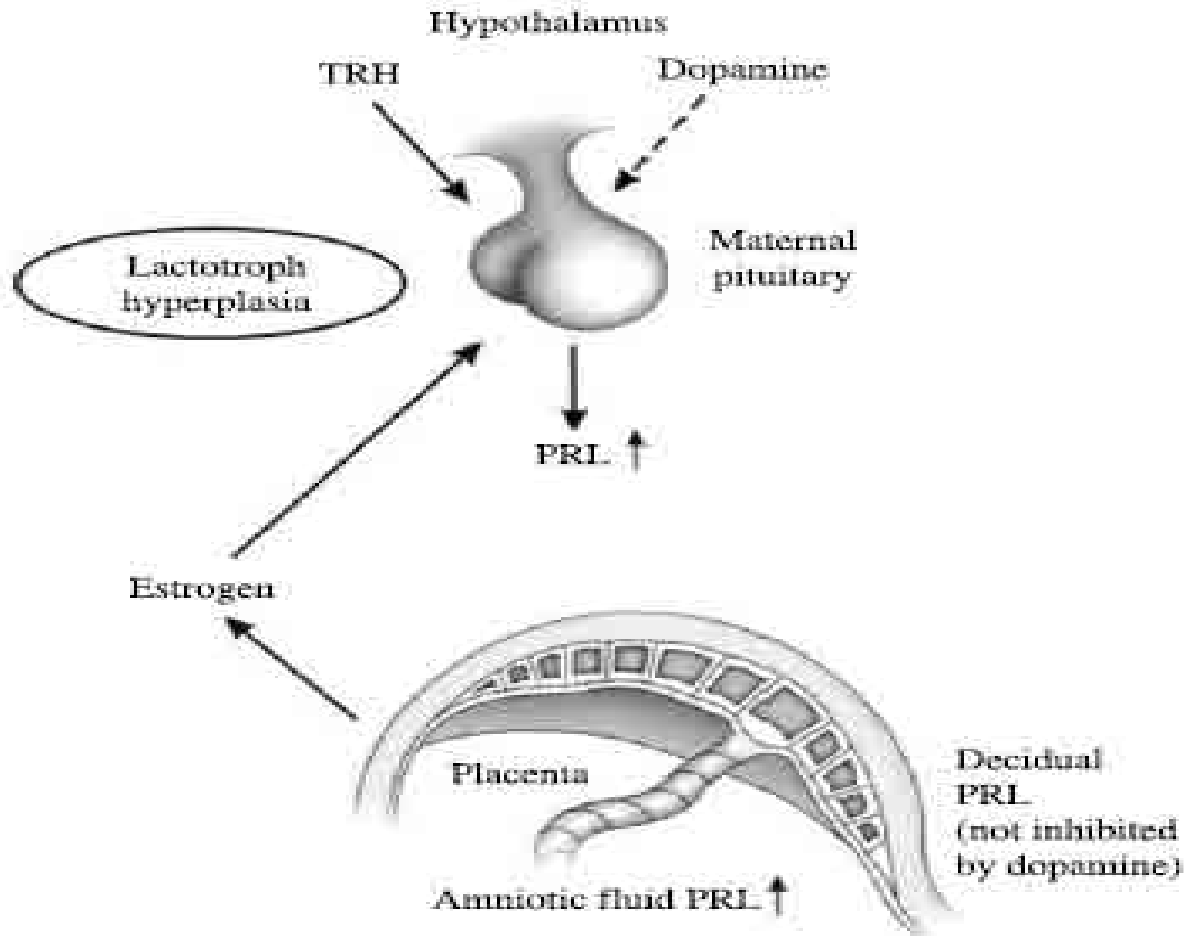


# Programma



Bari,  
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- ✓ Contestualizzazione
  
- ✓ La giusta comunicazione
  
- ✓ Quali quesiti / quali risposte
  - Per la mamma
  
  - Per il bambino
  
- ✓ Conclusioni



**Figure 3** PRL axis during pregnancy: maternal PRL is increased during pregnancy due to estrogen-stimulated lactotroph hyperplasia with small contributions from decidual PRL. Maternal decidua is responsible for increased PRL in amniotic fluid. Unlike pituitary PRL, decidual PRL is not affected by TRH and dopamine.

# Medical treatment of prolactinomas

Annamaria Colao and Silvia Savastano

NATURE REVIEWS | ENDOCRINOLOGY

VOLUME 7 | MAY 2011

## Introduction

Prolactin-secreting adenomas are the most predominant type of all pituitary tumors. The estimated prevalence is 100 prolactinomas per million adults,<sup>1</sup> although Ciccarelli *et al.*<sup>2</sup> reported an even higher prevalence of 775 per million adults in Belgium. The incidence of prolactinomas varies with age and sex; these tumors occur with the highest frequency in women aged 20–50 years, at which point the ratio between the sexes is estimated to be 10:1. In adults aged >60 years, prolactinomas occur with a similar frequency in both sexes.<sup>3,4</sup> During childhood, pituitary tumors are rare; however, prolactinomas constitute about 50% of all pituitary adenomas in this subpopulation.<sup>5</sup>



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## *Prolactinomas and pregnancy*

Prolactinomas are the most common cause of persistent hyperprolactinemia and account for 50% of the functioning pituitary tumors (134). After the use of bromocriptine as the first-line treatment in prolactinomas since the 1970s, pregnancies in patients lacking a previous history of surgery and growth of prolactinoma during gestation have been described. Women with prolactinomas who are on dopamine agonist therapy should be warned about the rapid restoration of fertility, sometimes before resuming the first menses. So when a

**NECESSITÀ (UTILITÀ) DI PROGRAMMAZIONE**



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REVIEW

# Update in prolactinomas

M. Kars<sup>1,2\*</sup>, O.M. Dekkers<sup>3,4</sup>, A.M. Pereira<sup>3</sup>, J.A. Romijn<sup>3</sup>

## Pregnancy

Two major issues arise in the treatment of prolactinomas and pregnancy: 1) effect of pregnancy on prolactinomas, and the possibility of growth of prolactinomas; 2) effect of dopamine agonists on foetal development.

with pituitary adenomas.<sup>84-90</sup> In women treated for microprolactinomas, quality of life is impaired, especially due to increased anxiety and depression.<sup>91,92</sup>



# Advances in the Treatment of Prolactinomas

Mary P. Gillam, Mark E. Molitch, Gaetano Lombardi, and Annamaria Colao

*Division of Endocrinology, Metabolism, and Molecular Medicine (M.P.G., M.E.M.), Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine, Chicago, Illinois 60611; and Department of Molecular and Clinical Endocrinology and Oncology (G.L., A.C.), University "Federico II" of Naples, Naples 80131, Italy*

## IX. Pregnancy

The management of prolactinomas in pregnant women can be complex. Three major issues arise in the treatment of prolactinomas in pregnancy: 1) the effect of the pregnancy on the prolactinoma; 2) the effects of the dopamine agonist on early fetal development occurring before a pregnancy is diagnosed; and 3) the safety and efficacy of dopamine agonists after reintroduction for symptomatic tumor growth.

TABLE 10. Effect of pregnancy on prolactinomas

	Total no. of patients	Symptomatic enlargement	% Symptomatic enlargement	No. requiring surgery (%)
Microadenomas	457	12	2.6	
Macroadenomas	142	45	31	12 (8.5%)
Macroadenomas, prior surgery or radiation	140	7	5	

**Table 4**  
Enlargement of prolactinomas during pregnancy.

Series	Ref. no.	Year	Microadenomas		Macroadenomas		Macroadenomas	
			Total	# Enlarged	No prior treatment		Prior treatment	
					Total	# Enlarged	Total	# Enlarged
Gemzell & Wang	54	1979	85	5	46	20	70	5
Molitch	55	1985	246	4	45	7	46	2
Holmgren et al.	56	1986	26	3	4	2	5	0
Ampudia et al.	57	1992	8	1	1	0	4	0
Kuppersmith et al.	59	1994	54	0	4	4	0	0
Rossi et al.	59	1995	22	2	3	1	2	0
Badawy et al.	60	1997	16	0	0	0	0	0
Mallmann et al.	61	2002	5	0	3	1	0	0
Bronstein et al.	35	2002	48	1	30	11	21	0
Ono et al.	40	2010	56	0	29	0	0	0
Lebbe et al.	41	2010	45	2	15	3	0	0
Staldecke et al.	42	2010	47	0	34	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>			<b>658</b>	<b>18 (2.7%)</b>	<b>214</b>	<b>49 (22.9%)</b>	<b>148</b>	<b>7 (4.8%)</b>

There are two options for pregnant patients with macroprolactinoma. The first is to discontinue the dopamine agonist after confirmation of pregnancy with close follow-up. Monitoring should include screening for symptoms such as pregnancy. The second option may be preferred when field examination the duration of dopamine agonist therapy before without a contrast conception is short or when the tumor is outside can be individualiz intrasellar boundaries. If clinical signs of progression be useful if the le such as severe headache and visual field defects occur, increasing tumor an MRI without Gd should be performed, and then a rather than tumor dopamine agonist should be restarted if there is an preferable in patie increase in tumor size (143). If there is no response to nomas away from t dopamine agonist therapy, delivery may be the treat- is continuing dop- ment of choice when the term is close. Transsphenoidal pregnancy. The sex surgery can be performed on patients whose term is not close (144). Although good results have been reported with surgery, increased risk of spontaneous abortions should be kept in mind (145).

**Figure 2. Approach to managing macroprolactinomas before pregnancy**

Diagnosis of macroprolactinoma (tumour >1 cm in diameter)

- Refer to endocrinology or neurosurgery
- Explain risk of tumour enlargement during pregnancy
- If not previously done, arrange for baseline Goldman visual field perimetry
- Review therapeutic options

Small intrasellar or inferiorly extending tumour that does not abut the optic chiasm

Treat as microprolactinoma

Larger intrasellar tumour that abuts the optic chiasm <10 mm

> 5-6 mm O-P

Advise against pregnancy until tumour growth is controlled

- Dopamine agonist therapy should be maintained throughout pregnancy
- Large or dopamine agonist-insensitive tumours might require preconception surgical evacuation

**Durata terapia?  
Δ dimensioni?**

## Individualized High-Dose Cabergoline Therapy for Hyperprolactinemic Infertility in Women with Micro- and Macroprolactinomas

Masami Ono, Nobuhiro Miki, Kosaku Amano, Takakazu Kawamata, Toshiro Seki, Rena Makino, Kazue Takano, Shun-ichiro Izumi, Yoshikazu Okada, and Tomokatsu Hori

### Discussion

The results of this study show that cabergoline can induce and promote successful pregnancy in a large majority of infertile women with prolactinoma irrespective of tumor size or bromocriptine resistance and intolerance. It is now apparent that cabergoline can correct hyperprolactinemia, recover fertility, induce pregnancy, control gestational tumor overgrowth, and bring about uneventful delivery in these infertile patients. Importantly, cabergoline provides this total care by itself without requiring any aid from gynecological, neurosurgical, and radiotherapeutic modalities. Our thera-

Colao study (22) (mean dose, 0.98 mg/wk). In comparison, the present study used a greater maximum dose, up to 9.0 mg/wk, with a higher mean dose of 2.29 mg/wk. No events in the mothers and fetuses. These results, obtained only from patients with prolactinoma in a single institution, further support the safety of cabergoline in pregnancy, even if used at higher than usual doses.

The third issue is symptomatic tumor enlargement during pregnancy. This is a serious complication that threat-related to pregnancy (15, 19). In the present study, all 30 pregnancies that occurred in the 27 cabergoline-treated patients with macroadenomas had an uneventful course and outcome. It is likely that macroadenomas that con-

**Table 3**  
Pregnancy outcomes summarized for women who became pregnant while taking bromocriptine<sup>a</sup> or cabergoline,<sup>b</sup> compare to what is expected in the normal population.<sup>c</sup>

	Bromocriptine (N)	Bromocriptine (%)	Cabergoline (N)	Cabergoline (%)	Normal (%)
Pregnancies	6239	100	789	100	100
Spontaneous abortions	620	9.9	60	7.6	10–15
Terminations	75	1.2	59 <sup>d</sup>	7.5	20
Ectopic	31	0.5	3	0.4	1.0–1.5
Hydatidiform moles	11	0.2	1	0.1	0.1–0.15%
Deliveries (known duration)	4139	100	543	100	100
At term (>37 weeks)	3620	87.5	480 <sup>e</sup>	88.4	87.3
Preterm (<37 weeks)	519	12.5	67	11.6	12.7
Deliveries (known outcome)	5120	100	471	100	100
Single births	5031	98.3	463	98.3	96.8
Multiple births	89	1.7	12	1.7	3.2
Babies (known details)	5213	100	664	100	100
Normal	5030	98.2	633	96.8	97
With malformations	93	1.8	21	3.2	3.0



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## Practice points

- Hyperprolactinemia is commonly associated with amenorrhea and infertility.
- Dopamine agonists are preferred to surgery to normalize prolactin levels.
- Cabergoline is more efficacious and better tolerated than bromocriptine.
- Both dopamine agonists are safe to use during the first few weeks of gestation to allow ovulation to occur, but the safety database for bromocriptine is much larger than that for cabergoline.
- Tumor enlargement can be seen in 2.7% of microadenomas, 22.9% of macroadenomas that had not had prior ablative treatment and 4.8% of macroadenomas that had prior ablative treatment.
- Patients should be followed carefully during pregnancy with symptom assessment and, for those with macroadenomas, visual field assessments.
- Symptomatic tumor growth can usually be successfully treated with reinstatement of the dopamine agonist; surgery is rarely necessary and delivery can be considered if the pregnancy is sufficiently advanced.

RESEARCH

Open Access

# Treatment of hyperprolactinemia: a systematic review and meta-analysis

Amy T Wang<sup>1,2\*</sup>, Rebecca J Mullan<sup>1</sup>, Melanie A Lane<sup>1</sup>, Ahmad Hazem<sup>1,3</sup>, Chaithra Prasad<sup>2</sup>, Nicola W Gathaiya<sup>4</sup>, M Mercé Fernández-Balsells<sup>1,5</sup>, Amy Bagatto<sup>1</sup>, Fernando Coto-Yglesias<sup>6</sup>, Jantey Carey<sup>1</sup>, Farig A Elrajah<sup>1</sup>, Patricia J Erwin<sup>6</sup>, Gunjan Y Gandhi<sup>7</sup>, Victor M Montori<sup>1,4</sup> and Mohammad Hassan Murad<sup>1,3</sup>

## Pregnancy studies

Twenty studies followed pregnant women and their offspring from 6 months up to 12 years (Additional file 1: Table 7F). A fairly consistent finding was that there was no significant increase in the risk of obstetric complications, miscarriages, fetal malformation or other pregnancy outcomes, even if they had been treated with dopamine agonists to induce ovulation. The quality of this evidence is low considering the lack of contemporary untreated control groups in most studies or the enrollment of nonconsecutive samples of patients.





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VIEWPOINT

# The Optimal Practice of Evidence-Based Medicine Incorporating Patient Preferences in Practice Guidelines

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**Corresponding  
Author:** Victor M.  
Montori, MD, MSc,  
Mayo Clinic, 200 First  
St SW, Plummer 3-35,  
Rochester, MN 55905  
(montori.victor  
@mayo.edu).

**Research evidence** is necessary but insufficient for making patient care decisions. An effective but toxic chemotherapeutic regimen is the treatment one patient with cancer can and will take, another patient can take but will not, and yet another patient could not take even if wanted. Careful attention to the biopsychosocial context of patients and to their informed preferences when crafting treatments requires expertise and practical wisdom. This represents the optimal practice of evidence-based medicine.



# PRL-omi e induzione della Gravidanza



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## Cabergoline for preventing ovarian hyperstimulation syndrome (Review)

Tang H, Hunter T, Hu Y, Zhai SD, Sheng X, Hart RJ



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### Implications for practice

There is evidence that cabergoline reduces moderate OHSS but there is insufficient evidence that it reduces severe OHSS. The use of cabergoline does not influence the pregnancy outcome (clinical pregnancy rate, miscarriage rate).

Mussa H Almaliki MBBS, SSC-MED,  
CABM, MHSc<sup>1,2</sup>

## Management of prolactinomas during pregnancy

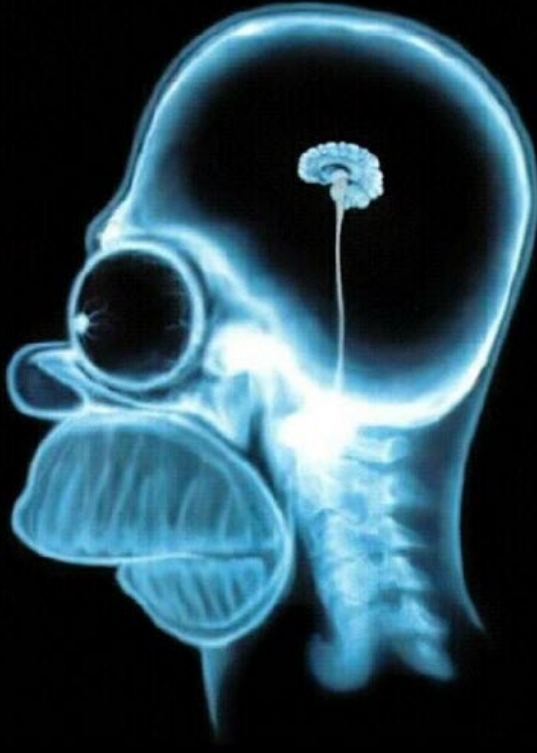
TABLE 1: Case 1

TABLE 2: Case 2

MEDICAL MANAGEMENT:	Response rate (yes) (%)
Continue current dopamine agonist therapy throughout pregnancy.	6
Discontinue cabergoline and shift to bromocriptine due to better safety data.	29
Discontinue dopamine agonist therapy as soon as pregnancy is confirmed.	65
Refer for surgical excision of the tumor.	0
Recommend therapeutic abortion.	0
BIOCHEMICAL MONITORING:	
Continue regular monitoring of serum prolactin during pregnancy.	24
Discontinue monitoring serum prolactin during pregnancy.	64
Measure serum prolactin only if patient complains of new-onset headaches and/or vision changes.	12
PITUITARY IMAGING:	
Perform regular pituitary imaging during pregnancy to exclude tumor enlargement.	18
Perform pituitary imaging if serum prolactin is thought to be out of proportion with your clinical judgment.	12
Perform pituitary imaging only if patient complains of new-onset headaches and/or vision changes.	70
VISUAL FIELD TESTING:	
Perform regular formal visual field testing throughout pregnancy.	60
Perform formal visual field testing only if patient complains of new-onset headaches and/or vision changes.	37
Never perform formal visual field testing.	0
Only perform informal (clinical) visual field testing.	3



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Azienda Ospedaliera Sant'Andrea – Roma  
UOC di Endocrinologia  
Ambulatorio Patologia Ipofisaria  
Cell 3395319652  
[ipofisi@ospedalesantandrea.it](mailto:ipofisi@ospedalesantandrea.it)