

Changes in body mass index during gonadotropin-releasing hormone agonist treatment in girls with idiopathic central precocious puberty

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INTRODUCTION

- Gonadotropin-releasing hormone agonist (GnRHa) has been widely used for decades to treat in patients with central precocious puberty (CPP).
- There are several studies concerning changes in body composition in CPP patients following GnRHa treatment, but the results are inconsistent.
- The aim of this study was to investigate the change of body mass index (BMI) in children treated with GnRHa for 2 years. Also, the present study was performed to assess whether BMI affects treatment outcomes.

METHODS

- This study included 231 CPP girls who were treated with depot leuprolide acetate monthly for at least 2 years.
- Subjects were divided into three groups based on BMI; the normal (BMI between the 5th and 85th percentile), overweight (BMI \geq 85th percentile and BMI < 95th percentile), and obese groups (BMI \geq 95th percentile).
- We analyzed the changes in BMI standard deviation score (SDS) during the GnRHa treatment period.
- Furthermore, a single luteinizing hormone (LH) obtained 30 minute after depot leuprolide acetate administration every six months to evaluate adequate hypothalamic-pituitary-gonadal axis suppression.
- CPP was defined as objective breast budding appearing before the age of 8 years, advanced bone age, and GnRH stimulated luteinizing hormone (LH) 5.0 IU/L on an immunoradiometric assay (IRMA).

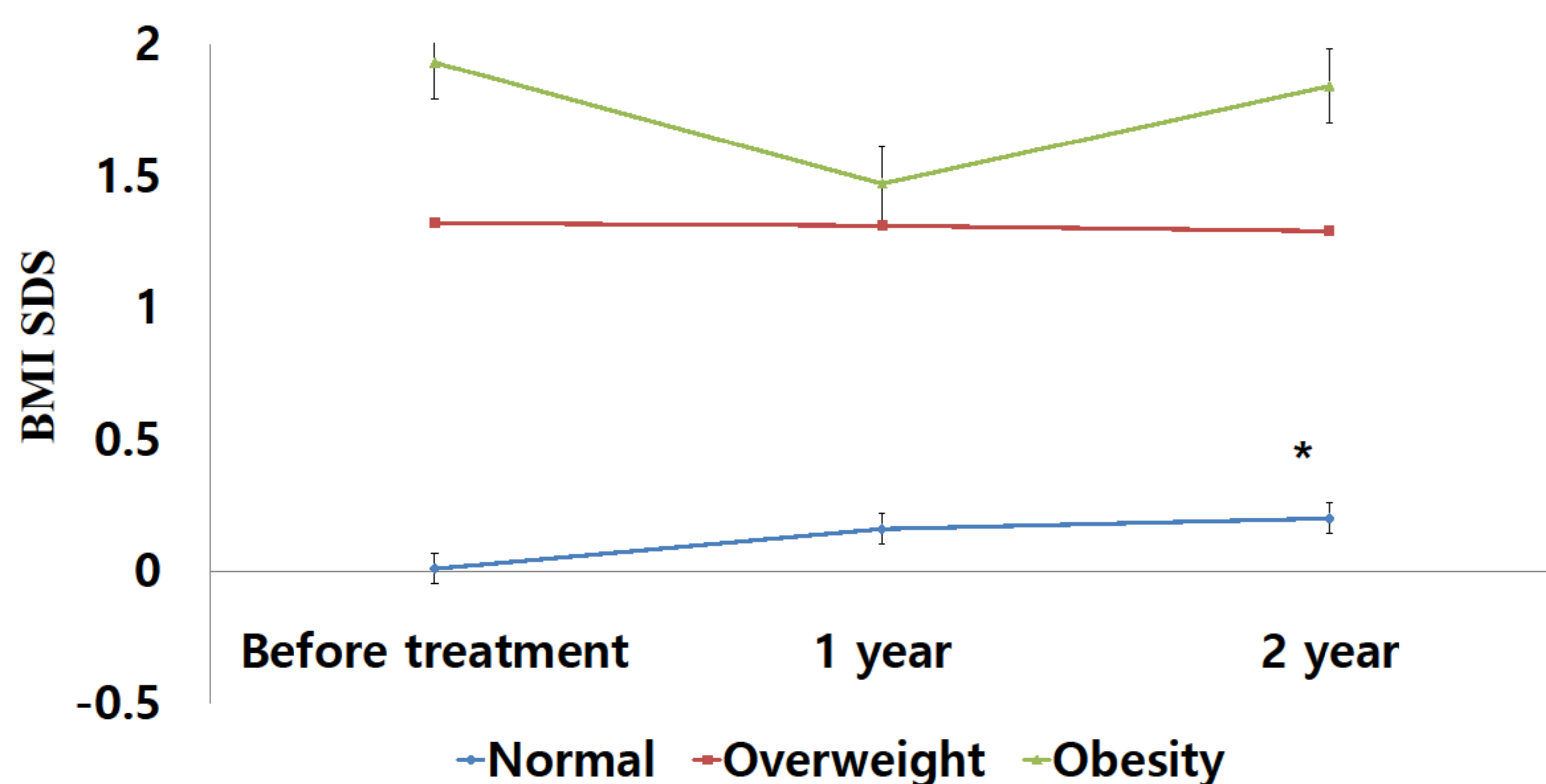


Fig. 1. Changes in the BMI SDS during GnRH agonist treatment. * $P < 0.05$ compared to before treatment

RESULTS

- Before the initiation of therapy, BMI SDS was 0.019 ± 0.5 , 1.3 ± 0.2 , and 1.9 ± 0.1 among normal weight, overweight, and obese subjects (Table 1).
- After 2 years of the treatment, mean BMI SDS was significantly increased in normal weight children (0.019 ± 0.5 vs. 0.2 ± 0.57 , $P < 0.001$), although obese and overweight children were not significantly different in mean BMI SDS in the course of 2 years (Fig.1)
- The frequency of overweight and obese patients increased from 22.4% to 27.4% after 2 years of treatment with GnRHa.
- But, Single LH levels of 30 minutes after leuprolide injection at 2 years of treatment were not significantly different among normal weight, overweight, and obese subjects (0.32 ± 1.83 , 0.17 ± 0.21 , 0.12 ± 0.09 IU/L, respectively, $P = 0.646$ for all comparisons).

Table 1. Baseline characteristics of study subjects stratified by BMI before treatment

Variable	Normal (n=145)	Overweight (n=59)	Obese (n=27)	P value
Age at diagnosis (year)	8.3 ± 0.6	8.3 ± 0.6	8.2 ± 0.6	0.702
Height SDS	0.7 ± 0.9	0.9 ± 0.8	1.2 ± 0.6	0.009
Weight SDS	0.3 ± 0.6	1.3 ± 0.3	1.9 ± 0.3	<0.001
BMI SDS	0.0 ± 0.5	1.3 ± 0.2	1.9 ± 0.1	<0.001
Tanner stage for Breast	2.0 ± 0.5	2.2 ± 0.5	2.5 ± 0.7	<0.001
Bone age(year)	9.9 ± 1.1	10.0 ± 1.0	10.2 ± 1.0	0.037
Bone age SDS	3.2 ± 1.3	3.7 ± 1.1	3.9 ± 1.0	0.007
BA-CA (year)	1.6 ± 1.0	1.9 ± 0.8	2.0 ± 0.7	0.012
Peak LH (mIU/mL)	12.6 ± 14.7	10.9 ± 6.2	9.1 ± 4.4	0.316
Peak FSH (mIU/mL)	13.1 ± 5.1	12.5 ± 4.9	12.0 ± 2.8	0.396

CONCLUSION

In our study, the BMI SDS was only significantly increased after 2 years of treatment in normal weight CPP girls. Adequate education concerning lifestyle and diet during GnRHa treatment is needed.

