

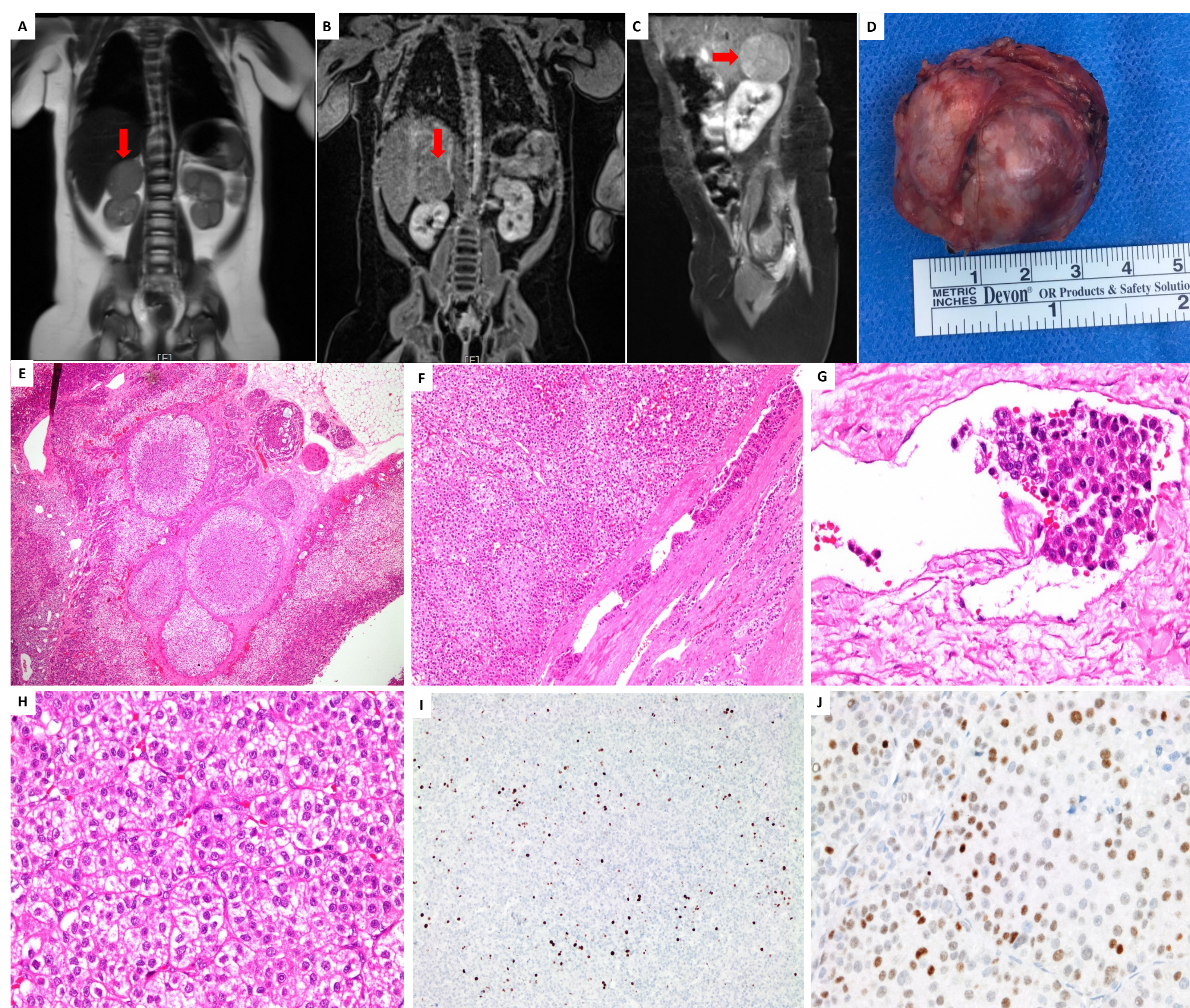
Mehmet Eltan<sup>1</sup>, Kivilcim Cerit<sup>2</sup>, Sare Betul Kaygusuz<sup>1</sup>, Esra Ates<sup>3</sup>, Nursah Eker<sup>4</sup>, Pelin Bagci<sup>5</sup>, Rabia Ergelen<sup>6</sup>, Serap Turan<sup>1</sup>, Abdullah Bereket<sup>1</sup>, Tulay Guran<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Department of Paediatric Endocrinology and Diabetes, <sup>2</sup> Department of Paediatric Surgery, <sup>3</sup> Department of Medical Genetics, <sup>4</sup> Department of Paediatric Oncology, <sup>5</sup> Department of Pathology, <sup>6</sup> Department of Radiology, Marmara University, School of Medicine, Istanbul, Turkey

## Background

Beckwith-Wiedemann syndrome (BWS) is a congenital tumor-predisposition syndrome of which around 70% develops because of the methylation defects in the imprinted genes at chromosome 11p15.5. *KCNQ1OT1* hypomethylation is the most common underlying genetic aberration in sporadic BWS, accounting for 50% of the sporadic cases but confers the least tumor risk.

We present a 5 month-old girl with atypical BWS who presented with an excessive weight gain, cushingoid face, arrested growth in height and head circumference since 2 months of age. She was born following an in vitro fertilization (IVF) pregnancy to non-consanguineous parents with negative familial history for malignancies. She had Cushingoid fetures, nevus flammeus between eyebrows, microcephaly, a palpable mass on upper right abdomen and Tanner 2 pubic hair at physical examination (**Figure 1**). Her biochemical (**Table 1**), imaging and immunohistochemical studies established the diagnosis of adrenocortical carcinoma (ACC) as a cause of Cushing syndrome (**Figure 2**). There was no adrenal cortex cytomegaly at histopathological evaluation. Methylation analysis of the imprinted domains at chromosome 11p15.5 revealed hypomethylation at KvDMR (*KCNQ1OT1* gene). Except for a nevus flammeus and adrenocortical carcinoma, she had no features of the BWS. Growth rate of height and head circumference has returned to normal after tumor resection (**Figure 3**). This case establishes that *KCNQ1OT1* hypomethylation should not only be considered in cases with a clear BWS phenotype but in all pediatric cases of apparently sporadic adrenocortical carcinoma.



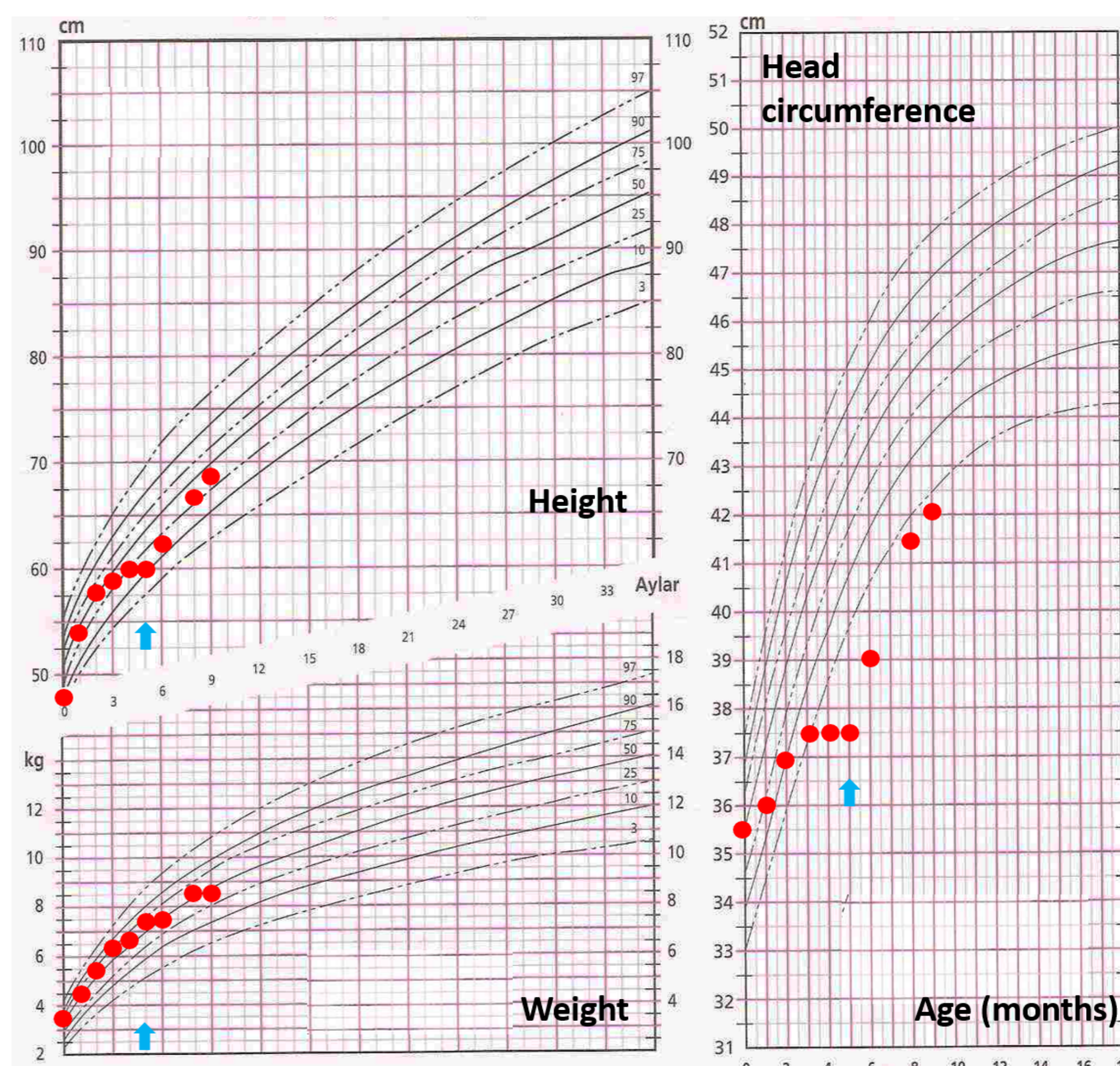
**Figure 2.** Radiologic and pathological characteristics of the patient. Abdominal MRI identified hypervascular right adrenocortical mass lesion (A=coronal section T2-weighted, B= coronal section T1-weighted, C= lateral view T1-weighted). A 4x3x1.5cm (16 gr) adrenocortical tumor was resected (D). Histopathological evaluation of the lesion revealed a capsulated ACC (E). However, sinusoidal (F) and vascular (G) invasion with atypical mitoses was observed. Tumor showed 25% of Ki proliferation index (I), and an increased expression of p53 (J) in immunohistochemical analysis.



**Figure 1.** Evolution (A and B) and resolution (C) of Cushingoid appearance of the patient A: pre-operative at one-month; B: pre-operative at 6 months of age; C: 1.5 month after resection of adrenocortical tumor which cured her Cushing syndrome

**Table 1.** Laboratory measurements of the patient with Cushing syndrome due to ACC

Measurement	Value
Fasting blood sugar (mg/dL)	76
Serum Na/K (mEq/L)	139/ 5.3
ACTH (pg/mL)	<5
EAM cortisol (mcg/dL)	16.1
DHEAS (mcg/dL)	503
T. testosterone (ng/dL)	149
Serum cortisol after 8 mg overnight dxm sup test	16.9



**Figure 3.** Slowing of growth and head circumference before surgery and restoration after cure. Blue arrow shows the time of operation.

## Learning points

- Beckwith-Wiedemann syndrome should always be considered in children with adrenocortical carcinoma. BWS does not always present with classical features. However, patients with BWS clinical score  $\geq 2$  merit genetic testing for investigation and diagnosis of BWS\*. This is critically important for long-term management of patients with BWS.
- *KCNQ1OT1* hypomethylation should be considered in all pediatric cases of apparently sporadic adrenocortical carcinoma.