

# Child With Suspected Klinefelter Syndrome

Suggestive history and physical findings	Initial laboratory and/or radiologic work-up can include:	When to refer	Items useful for consultation	Additional information
<p><b>Symptoms/Signs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tall stature (0.7 SDS &gt; midparental target height) with decreased upper to lower segment ratio (~ height – arm span &gt; 2 cm)</li> <li>Small testes for age</li> <li>Learning disabilities</li> <li>Delayed speech development</li> <li>Reduced penile length</li> <li>Delayed/ stalled out puberty</li> <li>Gynecomastia</li> <li>Hypertelorism</li> <li>High arched palate</li> <li>Hypotonia</li> <li>BMI above mean</li> </ul> <p><a href="#">Differential Diagnosis</a></p>	<p><b>Blood tests:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Karyotype</li> <li>FSH, LH</li> <li>Testosterone (may be normal in boys &lt; 10 years old and some older boys)</li> </ul> <p><a href="#">Other tests to consider after consultation with Pediatric Endocrinologist:</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bone Age x-ray</li> <li>TSH, FT4</li> <li>Estradiol, Sex Hormone Binding Globulin</li> <li>Fasting glucose, lipids, HgbA1c</li> <li>Hct/hgb</li> <li>25-OH Vitamin D</li> </ul>	<p><b>Routine:</b> Nearly always</p> <p><a href="#">Find a Pediatric Endocrinologist</a></p>	<p>Previous growth data/growth charts</p> <p>Pertinent medical records</p> <p>Recent laboratory and radiologic studies including the bone age film (not just the report)</p>	<p><a href="#">Additional Information</a></p> <p><a href="#">Klinefelter Syndrome: A Guide for Families</a></p> <p><a href="#">References</a></p>

## Differential Diagnosis:

Delayed Puberty/ small genitalia for age:

- Constitutional delay of growth and puberty: Usually height is < target height %
- Primary gonadal failure: typically no syndromic features
- Hypogonadotropic hypogonadism
  - Possible associations: sensorineural hearing loss; anosmia/hyposomia; cleft palate; renal abnormalities

Tall Stature:

- Genetic tall stature
- Marfan syndrome: +/- Family history, ectopia lentis (upward subluxation), aortic root dilatation, dural ectasia, long slender limbs and arachnodactyly (thumb sign and wrist sign) pectus carinatum, scoliosis, dolichocephaly, myopia,
- Homocystinuria: Similar skeletal findings to Marfan syndrome, downward subluxation of lens, osteoporosis, mental impairment, thromboembolic episodes
- Sotos syndrome: Developmental delay, advanced bone age, macrocephaly, frontal bossing, high anterior hairline, frontotemporal hair scarcity, prominent mandible and pointed chin
- Beals syndrome: Similar to Marfan but joint contractures, folded ear helixes, micrognathia
- Beckwith-Wiedemann syndrome: Prenatal and postnatal overgrowth with omphalocele, macroglossia, visceromegaly, developmental delay
- Simpson-Golabi-Behmel syndrome: X-linked R, similar to BWS but upturned nasal tip, broad nose, high arched/ cleft palate, hypoplastic or absent index fingernails, relatively normal cognitive development.
- Weaver syndrome: Developmental delay, camptodactyly, advanced bone age, broad face, hypertelorism, flat occiput, depressed nasal bridge, hypertonia
- Fragile X
- Endocrine abnormalities
  - Pituitary gigantism
  - Lipodystrophy
  - Precocious puberty
  - Hyperthyroidism
  - Aromatase deficiency
  - Estrogen resistance
  - Familial Glucocorticoid deficiency

### Additional information:

- More common than suspected: 150/100,000 live born males
- Less than 10% diagnosed before puberty
- More than 75% have learning disabilities
- Gynecomastia is present in less than 50% of pubertal boys with Klinefelter syndrome and is usually very mild until adulthood
- Increased risk for breast and mediastinal malignancies
- Multi-disciplinary care is critical: primary care, speech pathologists, psychologists, endocrinologists, urologists and fertility specialists.

### Suggested References and Additional Reading:

- Gies, I., et al. (2014). "Management of Klinefelter syndrome during transition." [Eur J Endocrinol](#) **171**(2): R67-77.
- De Sanctis, V., et al. (2013). "Klinefelter syndrome and cancer: from childhood to adulthood." [Pediatr Endocrinol Rev](#) **11**(1): 44-50.
- Akglaede, L., et al. (2013). "47,XXY Klinefelter syndrome: clinical characteristics and age-specific recommendations for medical management." [Am J Med Genet C Semin Med Genet](#) **163C**(1): 55-63.
- Groth, K. A., et al. (2013). "Clinical review: Klinefelter syndrome--a clinical update." [J Clin Endocrinol Metab](#) **98**(1): 20-30.
- Zeger, M. P., A. R. Zinn, et al. (2008). "Effect of ascertainment and genetic features on the phenotype of Klinefelter syndrome." [JPediatr](#) **152**(5): 716-722.

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