Menopause
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Estrogen alone and joint symptoms in the Women’s Health Initiative randomized trial
Rowan T. Chlebowski, MD, PhD, Dominic J. Cirillo, MD, PhD, Charles B. Eaton, MD, Marcia L. Stefanick, PhD, Mary Pettinger, MS, Laura D. Carbone, MD, MS, Karen C. Johnson, MD, MPH, Michael S. Simon, MD, MPH, Nancy F. Woods, PhD, RN, FAAN, and Jean Wactawski-Wende, PhD

In this study the influence of estrogen alone use in joint symptoms in post-hoc analyses in the Women’s Health Initiative randomized, placebo-controlled clinical trial was examined. Estrogen alone use results in a modest but sustained reduction in joint pain.

(continued)
Comparative study of the quality of life associated with menopause in Tunisia and France
Farida Ferrand, MPH, Selma Hajri, MD, Sarah Benzineb, MD, Dorra Mahfoudh Draoui, PhD, Danielle Hassoun, MD, Daniel Delanoé, MD, PhD, Marie Zins, MD, PhD, and Virginie Ringa, MD, PhD
This epidemiological study comparing France and a North African country sheds light on the major role of country of residence, social class, and their interaction in the experience of menopause.

Ospemifene, a novel selective estrogen receptor modulator for treating dyspareunia associated with postmenopausal vulvar and vaginal atrophy
David J. Portman, MD, Gloria A. Bachmann, MD, James A. Simon, MD, and the Ospemifene Study Group
Ospemifene, compared with placebo, effectively reduced the physiological signs of vulvar and vaginal atrophy and dyspareunia in postmenopausal women, while not inducing significant estrogenic effect in endometrial tissue or clinically important adverse events.

Disruptions in ovarian function are related to depression and cardiometabolic risk during premenopause
Maria E. Bleil, PhD, Joyce T. Bromberger, PhD, Melissa D. Latham, BA, Nancy E. Adler, PhD, Lauri A. Pasch, PhD, Steven E. Gregorich, PhD, Mitchell P. Rosen, MD, and Marcella I. Cedars, MD
Results show that disruptions in ovarian function marked by subtle changes in menstrual cycle length are related to aspects of cardiometabolic and psychological health among healthy, premenopausal women. Additionally, a conceptual model is explored suggesting ovarian function may play a mediating role in linking depression and cardiometabolic risk.

Endogenous estrogen and androgen levels are not independent predictors of lipid levels in postmenopausal women
Roisin Worsley, MBBS, Penelope J. Robinson, MBiostat, Robin J. Bell, PhD, MBBS, Alain Moufarege, MD, and Susan R. Davis, MBBS, PhD
Testosterone levels decrease with age in women. There is strong evidence that using transdermal testosterone therapy for older women with hypoactive sexual desire disorder is both safe and effective.

In vivo and in vitro demonstration of herb-drug interference in human breast cancer cells treated with tamoxifen and trastuzumab
Juin-Liang Chen, MD, Jir-You Wang, PhD, Yi-Fang Tsai, MD, Yi-Hsien Lin, MD, PhD, Ling-Ming Tseng, MD, Wen-Chi Chang, MS, Kuan-Liang King, MD, Wei-Shone Chen, MD, PhD, Jen-Hwey Chiu, MD, PhD, and Yi-Ming Shyr, MD
This article demonstrates herb-drug interference in human breast cancer cells, which provides important information clinically when treating patients with receptors (+) [ER (+) or PR(+) or HER2 (+)] breast cancers.
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Subjective sleep in premenopausal and postmenopausal women during workdays and leisure days: a sleep diary study
Laura Lampio, MD, Tarja Saarersanta, MD, PhD, Olli Polo, MD, PhD, and Päivi Polo-Kantola, MD, PhD
Regularly working postmenopausal women reported worse sleep quality compared with regularly working premenopausal women during workdays but not during leisure days. These observations suggest that postmenopausal women do have the capacity for good sleep but their sleep is more vulnerable to work-related issues.

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Association of oxidative stress and memory performance in postmenopausal women receiving estrogen-progestin therapy
Nazlahshaniza Shafin, MD, Rahimah Zakaria, MBBS, MSc, PhD, Nik Hazlina Nik Hussain, MD, MMed (O&G), and Zahiruddin Othman, MD, MMed (Psychiatry)
In this study, most of the changes in oxidative stress levels/activities after 16 weeks of estrogen progestin therapy were not significantly associated with the changes in memory performance of postmenopausal women.

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Associations between psychological well-being, mental health, and hormone therapy in perimenopausal and postmenopausal women: results of two population-based studies
Elena Toffol, MD, Oskari Heikinheimo, MD, PhD, and Timo Partonen, MD, PhD
The results of this study reflect the high prevalence of depressive and anxiety disorders among women in connection with the menopausal transition. In this group, there seems to be an association between current HT use and worse psychological well-being and mental health.

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Genistein administered as a once-daily oral supplement had no beneficial effect on the tibia in rat models for postmenopausal bone loss
Russell T. Turner, PhD, Urszula T. Iwaniec, PhD, Juan E. Andrade, PhD, Adam J. Branscum, PhD, Steven L. Neese, PhD, Dawn A. Olson, BS, Lindsay Wagner, BS, Victor C. Wang, PhD, Susan L. Schantz, PhD, and William G. Helferich, PhD
Serum levels of genistein similar to those in women consuming a high soy diet are ineffective in prevention or treatment of bone loss in rat models for postmenopausal osteoporosis.

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(—)-Epigallocatechin-3-gallate improves bone microarchitecture in ovariectomized rats
Chung-Hwan Chen, MD, Lin Kang, MD, Ru-Wei Lin, PhD, Yin-Chih Fu, MD, Yi-Shan Lin, MS, Je-Ken Chang, MD, Hui-Ting Chen, PhD, Chia-Hsin Chen, MD, PhD, Sung-Yen Lin, MD, Gwo-Jaw Wang, MD, and Mei-Ling Ho, PhD
Intraperitoneal treatment of EGCG at the dose of 3.4mg/kg/day for 3 months can mitigate bone loss and improve bone microarchitecture in ovariectomized rats, and the increase of BMP2 expression may contribute to this effect.
Invited Review

Critical window hypothesis of hormone therapy and cognition: a scientific update on clinical studies

Pauline M. Maki, PhD

Observational studies of Alzheimer’s disease as well as clinical trials of estrogen therapy and verbal memory provide tentative support for the critical window hypothesis, but definitive evidence is not available because a clinical trial to test the hypothesis is not feasible.

Letters to the Editor

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