Editorials

1053
Hot flashes: avoiding the reductionist view
Hugh S. Taylor, MD

1055
The symptomatic menopause: the future is purchased by the present
Lee P. Shulman, MD

1057
The Woman’s Health Initiative and one of many unintended consequences
James A. Simon, MD, CCD, NCMP, IF, FACOG

Original Articles

1060
Relationship between changes in vasomotor symptoms and changes in menopause-specific quality of life and sleep parameters
JoAnn V. Pinkerton, MD, Lucy Abraham, MSc, CPsychol, Andrew G. Bushmakin, MS, Joseph C. Cappelleri, PhD, MPH, and Barry S. Komm, PhD

This post hoc analysis characterizes and quantifies the relationship of vasomotor symptoms with menopause-specific quality of life (MSQOL) and sleep parameters and found that the frequency and severity of hot flashes had an approximately linear relationship with MSQOL and sleep parameters, with hot flush severity having the strongest relationship with MSQOL.

1067
Characterizing the trajectories of vasomotor symptoms across the menopausal transition
Ping G. Tepper, PhD, Maria M. Brooks, PhD, John F. Randolph Jr, MD, Sybil L. Crawford, PhD, Samar R. El Khoudary, PhD, Ellen B. Gold, PhD, Bill L. Lasley, PhD, Bobby Jones, PhD, Hadine Joffe, MD, MSc, Rachel Hess, MD, Nancy E. Avis, PhD, Sioban Harlow, PhD, Daniel S. McConnell, PhD, Joyce T. Bromberger, PhD, Huiyong Zheng, PhD, Kristine Ruppert, PhD, and Rebecca C. Thurston, PhD

In a large multi-racial/ethnic longitudinal observational cohort of women transitioning through menopause, four distinct patterns of vasomotor symptoms were identified. These symptom trajectories were associated with race/ethnicity, reproductive hormones, premenopause BMI and psychosocial characteristics.
Prescribing of FDA-approved and compounded hormone therapy differs by specialty
Ginger D. Constantine, MD, David F. Archer, MD, Shelli Graham, PhD, Brian A. Bernick, MD, and Sebastian Mirkin, MD
Obstetrician/gynecologists and general practitioners prescribed proportionally more FDA-approved hormone therapy, whereas wellness physicians, similarly, prescribed more compounded hormone therapy.

Effect of conjugated estrogens/bazedoxifene on postmenopausal bone loss: pooled analysis of two randomized trials
J. Christopher Gallagher, MD, Santiago Palacios, MD, PhD, Kelly A. Ryan, MS, BSN, Ching-Ray Yu, PhD, Kaijie Pan, MS, David L. Kendler, MD, Sebastian Mirkin, MD, and Barry S. Komm, PhD
In a pooled analysis of data from two phase 3 randomized trials, conjugated estrogens/bazedoxifene increased bone mineral density at the lumbar spine, total hip, and femoral neck and reduced serum levels of bone remodeling markers in a population of postmenopausal women at low fracture risk.

Most bothersome symptom in women with genitourinary syndrome of menopause as a moderator of treatment effects
JoAnn V. Pinkerton, MD, Andrew G. Bushmakin, MS, Lucy Abraham, MSc, CPsychol, Joseph C. Cappelleri, PhD, MPH, and Barry S. Komm, PhD
Using data from a phase 3 trial, this post hoc analysis shows that conjugated estrogens 0.45 mg/bazedoxifene 20 mg improves vaginal lubrication, vaginal superficial cell counts, and menopause-specific quality of life related to sexual and vasomotor functioning in women with bothersome, moderate to severe vaginal symptoms of menopause, particularly dyspareunia.

An assessment of the safety and efficacy of a fractional CO₂ laser system for the treatment of vulvovaginal atrophy
Eric R. Sokol, MD, and Mickey M. Karram, MD
Fractional CO₂ laser treatment of the vaginal canal using a specially designed probe appears to be a safe and efficacious treatment for women suffering from the symptoms of vaginal atrophy.

Fractional microablative CO₂ laser for vulvovaginal atrophy in women treated with chemotherapy and/or hormonal therapy for breast cancer: a retrospective study
Tiziana Pagano, MD, Pasquale De Rosa, MD, Roberta Vallone, MD, Francesco Schettini, MD, Grazia Arpino, MD, PhD, Sabino De Placido, MD, PhD, Giovanni Nazzaro, MD, PhD, Mariavittoria Locci, MD, and Giuseppe De Placido, MD
Fractional microablative CO₂ laser technique significantly improves vulvovaginal atrophy symptoms in an effective and safe way, having the potential to become a new standard of treatment for women with hormone receptor breast cancer.
Short-term effects of low-dose estradiol on endothelial function and blood viscosity in nondiabetic postmenopausal overweight women: a double-blind, placebo-controlled study
Diogo G. Panazzolo, MD, PhD, Lucia H.A. da Silva, MD, PhD, Priscila A. Maranhão, PhD, Maria G.C. Souza, PhD, José F. Nogueira Neto, MD, PhD, Lenora M.C.S.M. Leão, MD, PhD, Eliete Bouskela, MD, PhD, and Luiz G. Kraemer-Aguiar, MD, PhD
The use of low dose transdermal estradiol in nondiabetic overweight/obese women with a history of recent menopause improves endothelial function.

Physical fitness improvement in overweight postmenopausal women who do not lose fat mass in response to exercise training
Étienne Myette-Côté, MSc, Claudie Archambault-Therrien, BSc, Martin Brochu, PhD, Isabelle J. Dionne, PhD, and Éléonor Riesco, PhD
While weight loss is often used as the main indicator to evaluate the effectiveness of long-term exercise interventions, this study supports that health professionals should also consider physical fitness and capacity in aging obese women as a significant factor for the health profile in the geriatric population.

Age at natural menopause in women on long-term methotrexate therapy for rheumatoid arthritis
Tomasz Banas, MD, PhD, MPH, Iwona Hajdyla-Banas, MD, Kazimierz Pitynski, MD, PhD, Dorota Niewegłowska, MD, Grzegorz Juszczyk, MPH, PhD, Artur Ludwin, MD, PhD, Anna Knafel, MD, PhD, and Inga Ludwin, MD, PhD
Natural menopause occurs earlier in women with rheumatic arthritis, independent of long-term methotrexate therapy, and is significantly associated with the patient’s age at disease onset.

Prevalence and association between objective signs and subjective symptoms of vaginal atrophy: the AGATA study
Angelo Cagnacci, MD, PhD, Maria M. Carbone, MD, and Federica Palma, MD, for the AGATA study
Objective signs and subjective symptoms of vaginal atrophy have a different prevalence distribution in the years following menopause and are not strictly associated.

Sexual and reproductive healthcare utilization among women aged 40 to 49 in rural China
Xiaoming Sun, MD, MS, Yu Sun, PhD, MA, Zhanhong Zong, PhD, MPH, Xingyu Shu, PhD, MPH, Jingshu Mao, MD, and Norman Hearst, MD, MPH
This study identifies sociodemographic and health-service correlates for service-seeking behavior, many of which are modifiable, and proposes strategies to encourage routine exams and appropriate use of health services.
Bone mass improved effect of icariin for postmenopausal osteoporosis in ovariectomy-induced rats: a meta-analysis and systematic review
Jin-hai Xu, MD, Min Yao, MD, Jie Ye, BS, Guo-dong Wang, MD, Jing Wang, MD, Xue-jun Cui, PhD, and Wen Mo, PhD
Bone mass improved effect of icariin for postmenopausal osteoporosis was observed in ovariectomy-induced rats.