

## THE NORTH AMERICAN MENOPAUSE SOCIETY (NAMS) CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION ACTIVITY

### The 2017 hormone therapy position statement of The North American Menopause Society

Original release date: July 1, 2017

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#### ACCREDITATION AND CME INFORMATION

The North American Menopause Society (NAMS) is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

NAMS designates this journal-based CME activity for a maximum of 2.0 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)*<sup>TM</sup>. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

Participants who are not physicians will be issued a certificate of participation. NAMS has determined that this activity includes 2.0 hours of pharmacotherapeutics education.

In order to earn CME credit or obtain your certificate of participation for this activity, please read the position statement that follows, reflect on how the information applies to your clinical practice, and complete the CME self-assessment and evaluation found on page 754.

#### LEARNING OBJECTIVES

By participating in this journal-based CME activity, the learner will be able to

- Provide evidence-based and current best clinical practice recommendations for the use of hormone therapy for the treatment of menopause-related symptoms
- Understand the effects of hormone therapy on various health conditions at different stages of a woman's life
- Apply the basic concepts of relative risk and absolute risk when communicating the potential benefits and risk of hormone therapy and other therapies.

#### TARGET AUDIENCE

This educational activity has been developed to meet the educational needs of physicians, nurses, physician assistants, pharmacists, and other healthcare providers who treat or counsel women at midlife and beyond.

#### SUPPORT

This activity is made possible by donations to the NAMS Education & Research Fund and has received no commercial support.



#### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS AND DISCLOSURES

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For additional contributors, Ms. Develen and Ms. Method report no financial relationships.

For the NAMS Board of Trustees members who were not members of the Advisory Panel, Dr. Newton, Dr. Richard-Davis, Dr. Schiff, and Dr. Schnatz each reports no financial relationships. Dr. Shapiro reports Advisory Board for Dairy Farmers of Canada; Consultant for CTV National News, CTV Newschannel, Glaxo-SmithKline; Speaker for Novo Nordisk; Speaker/Consultant for Amgen, Merck, and Pfizer. Dr. Liu reports Clinical Trial Advisor for Ferring Pharmaceuticals; Chair of Data Adjudication Committee for Bayer; Consultant for Allergan and Sermonix. Dr. Chism reports Advisory Board for Hologic; Author for Jones and Bartlett Learning; Speaker for JDS Therapeutics. Dr. Santoro reports Consultant for Menogenix. Dr. Thurston reports Consultant for Guidepoint.

## NAMS CME ACTIVITY SELF-ASSESSMENT EXAMINATION

### Designated Article:

### The 2017 hormone therapy position statement of The North American Menopause Society

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1. Vasomotor symptoms of menopause include which of these?
  - A. Brain fog and moodiness
  - B. Migraine headaches
  - C. Hot flashes and sleep disturbances
  - D. Low libido
2. FDA has approved hormone therapy for which of these indications?
  - A. Prevention of heart disease
  - B. Prevention of bone loss
  - C. Breast cancer treatment
  - D. Sexual dysfunction
3. Of what does conjugated equine estrogen consist?
  - A. Synthetic and bioidentical estrogens
  - B. Micronized 17 $\beta$ -estradiol and ethinyl estradiol
  - C. An estrogen isolated from the urine of pregnant mares, estrone sulfate, and more than 10 different minor forms of estrogen
  - D. A combination of estrogen and the selective estrogen-receptor modulator bazedoxifene
4. Why would a progestogen be added to estrogen in a woman with a uterus using hormone therapy?
  - A. It makes the estrogen more efficient in managing vasomotor symptoms
  - B. It lowers the risk of breast cancer
  - C. It prevents endometrial overgrowth and increased risk of endometrial cancer
  - D. It controls unscheduled bleeding that occurs with estrogen therapy
5. What is not a contraindication for hormone therapy use?
  - A. Prior estrogen-sensitive breast or endometrial cancer
  - B. Coronary heart disease
  - C. Dementia
  - D. Chronic urinary tract infections
6. In the Women's Health Initiative, conjugated equine estrogen plus medroxyprogesterone acetate doubled the risk of which of these cognitive conditions?
  - A. Dementia in women aged older than 65 years
  - B. Clinical depression at any age
  - C. Alzheimer disease
  - D. Cognitive function
7. The benefit-risk profile of hormone therapy is most favorable when
  - A. It is not prescribed for more than 30 days
  - B. It is given to a woman aged older than 65 years for dementia
  - C. It is initiated by women aged younger than 60 years or within 10 years of menopause onset for treatment of vasomotor symptoms or risk of bone loss or fracture
  - D. It is prescribed for cardioprotection
8. What is true about compounded bioidentical hormone therapy?
  - A. It is preferred over FDA-approved therapies because it is all natural
  - B. It has no risk of overdosing or underdosing
  - C. It has shown great efficacy and carries little risk
  - D. It should be avoided, given concerns about safety and the lack of product labeling detailing risks
9. For a healthy woman with vasomotor symptoms who initiates hormone therapy aged younger than 60 years or within 10 years of menopause onset, which of these is true?
  - A. Hormone therapy is indicated for primary or secondary cardioprotection
  - B. Hormone therapy puts them at higher risk of stroke and venous thromboembolism
  - C. Clinical trials report a significant reduction in all-cause mortality with hormone therapy in this population
  - D. There is an increased risk of fractures the longer hormone therapy is used
10. In a woman aged older than 65 years with an elevated risk of fracture who has been using systemic hormone therapy for osteoporosis prevention, the use of hormone therapy

- \_\_\_A. Does not need to be routinely discontinued in this age group and can be considered for continuation after appropriate counseling and evaluation of risks and benefits
- \_\_\_B. Should be stopped as soon as possible because it is dangerous to use in women aged older than 65 years, according to the Beers criteria
- \_\_\_C. Can continue as long as only local vaginal estrogen is used for genitourinary symptoms
- \_\_\_D. Should not have continued to be used in the first place once this women reached 60 years old

**EVALUATION**

What changes will you make in your approach to hormone therapy prescribing practices as a result of reading and studying this position statement? (Check all that apply)

\_\_\_Suggest to women aged younger than 60 years or within 10 years of menopause onset that hormone therapy is the most effective treatment for vasomotor symptoms and symptoms of the genitourinary syndrome of menopause. Suggest a trial of systemic hormone therapy for relief of bothersome menopause symptoms if nonhormone therapies have not been successful, after taking all health contraindications into consideration.

\_\_\_Counsel women who are reluctant to try hormone therapy of all the benefits and risks involved for their particular situation and medical history and recommend hormone therapy to those who would get the most benefit from it.

\_\_\_Select the most appropriate type, dose, duration of use, route of administration, and timing of initiation and decide whether a progestogen is needed for the individual woman on the basis of her age, time since menopause onset, general health, and whether she has a uterus.

\_\_\_Encourage women who are survivors of estrogen-dependent cancers to try for symptom relief using nonhormone

therapies. If these are not successful, make decisions regarding hormone therapy use in conjunction with their oncologists.

\_\_\_Reassure women aged older than 65 years who desire to stay on hormone therapy that they may continue taking it at their age and beyond after careful reevaluation of their health and risks for returning vasomotor symptoms, developing osteoporosis, or a poorer quality of life if they stop.

\_\_\_None. I already do these in my practice.

What barriers do you face in implementing the position statement’s recommendations in your practice?

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Was this activity fair, balanced, and free of commercial bias?  
Yes No

If you answered no, please explain.

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What are other topics for which NAMS should develop position statements?

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**TO APPLY FOR CME CREDIT**

To receive CME credit or a certificate of participation for this activity, this 2-page form must be mailed, faxed, or emailed by July 1, 2019.

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