Management of Hypertension with Female Sexual Dysfunction
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Female sexual dysfunction (FSD) in hypertension has been less studied than male sexual dysfunction, and antihypertensive agents’ impact on female sexual function is not defined. In this review, randomized double-blind clinical trials and cross-sectional studies related to female sexual function in hypertension were analyzed from 1991 to 2021. FSD appeared to be higher in hypertensive women than in normotensive women. Beta-blockers are the only antihypertensive agents with relatively strong evidence of damaging the female sexual function. Angiotensin receptor blockers (ARB) are relatively beneficial to female sexual function. To treat FSD in the presence of hypertension, controlling blood pressure is key, and the administration of angiotensin receptor blockers is preferred. In addition to controlling blood pressure, for premenopausal women, flibanserin and bremelanotide can be tried, while ospemifene and hormone supplements are preferred for postmenopausal women.

Osteosarcopenia: A Narrative Review on Clinical Studies
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Osteosarcopenia (OS) is defined by the concurrent presence of osteopenia/osteoporosis and sarcopenia. The pathogenesis and etiology of OS involve genetic, biochemical, mechanical, and lifestyle factors. Moreover, an inadequate nutritional status, such as low intake of protein, vitamin D, and calcium, and a reduction in physical activity are key risk factors for OS. This review aims to increase knowledge about diagnosis, incidence, etiology, and treatment of OS through clinical studies that treat OS as a single disease. Clinical studies show the relationship between OS and the risk of frailty, falls, and fractures and some association with Non-communicable diseases (NCDs) pathologies such as diabetes, obesity, and cardiovascular disease. In some cases, the importance of deepening the related mechanisms is emphasized. Physical exercise with adequate nutrition and nutritional supplemements such as proteins, Vitamin D, or calcium, represent a significant strategy for breaking OS. In addition, pharmacological interventions may confer benefits on muscle and bone health. Both non-pharmacological and pharmacological interventions require additional randomized controlled trials (RCT) in humans to deepen the synergistic effect of exercise, nutritional interventions, and drug compounds in osteosarcopenia.

Treating menopause - MHT and beyond
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Every woman who lives past midlife will experience menopause, which, by definition, is complete cessation of ovarian function. This process might occur spontaneously (natural menopause) or be iatrogenic (secondary menopause), and can be further classified as 'early' if it occurs before the age of 45 years and 'premature' if it occurs before the age of 40 years. Globally, the mean age of natural menopause is 48.8 years, with remarkably little geographic variation. A woman's age at menopause influences health outcomes in later life. Early menopause is associated with a reduced risk of breast cancer, but increased risks of premature osteoporosis, cardiovascular disease and premature death. The cardinal symptoms of menopause, and adverse health sequelae, are due to loss of ovarian oestrogen production. Consequently, menopausal hormone therapy (MHT) that includes oestrogen or an oestrogenic compound ameliorates menopausal symptoms, while preventing menopause-associated bone loss and cardiometabolic changes. Importantly, comprehensive care of postmenopausal women involves lifestyle optimization (attention to nutrition and physical activity, reducing alcohol consumption and not smoking) and treating other established chronic disease risk factors. This Review offers a commentary specifically on the contemporary use of MHT and novel pharmaceutical alternatives to manage menopausal symptoms.

Use of Statins and Hip Fracture Risk: a Case-Control Study
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PURPOSE OF THE STUDY: To evaluate a possible association between hip fracture and statin use. MATERIAL AND METHODS: In this case-control study we compared the use of statins between two groups of 210 patients: the first group (case group) included patients hospitalized for hip fractures while the second group (control group) included patients who did not suffer femur bone injuries. The two groups were matched for age, sex, year of hospitalization and possible confounding factors. Inside the group of cases, we also evaluated the differences in terms of fracture type, presence of previous fragility fracture and mortality between statin users and non-users. RESULTS: The use of statins was most common among patients without previous fractures (OR=0.54; 95% CI=0.33-0.89; p=0.0138), especially in older patients (OR=0.40; 95% CI=0.22-0.76). We did not find any significant difference in statin intake between men and women in the control group. In the case group, those who did not use statins were more likely to undergo a medial hip fracture (28.5% vs 16.1%). Patients from case group also presented a greater mortality (27.9% vs 19.35%) and an higher percentage of previous hip fractures (20.11% vs 9.7%). However, they didn't present a significantly higher rate of fragility fractures in other sites. DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS: Our study suggests a reduced hip fracture risk, especially in cases aged 80 or more, a different fracture pattern (lower percentage of medial fractures) and a reduced mortality at 9 months in patients treated with HMG-CoA reductase inhibitors, confirming the previous evidences reported in literature.


Role of dietary patterns and acculturation in cancer risk and mortality among postmenopausal Hispanic women: results from the Women's Health Initiative (WHI)
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Aim: To investigate the association between dietary patterns and total and obesity-related cancers risk. Additionally, to examine if acculturation modifies this relationship. Subject and methods: Dietary intake of postmenopausal Hispanic women (N=5,482) enrolled in the Women's Health Initiative was estimated from a Food Frequency Questionnaire and used to calculate dietary pattern scores; Healthy Eating Index-2015 (HEI-2015), Mexican Diet (MexD) score, alternate Mediterranean Diet Score (aMED), and the energy adjusted-Dietary Inflammatory Index (E-DII™). Associations were evaluated using Cox proportional hazards regression models. Results: 631 cancers and 396 obesity-related cancers were diagnosed over a mean-follow up of 12 years. Across dietary scores, there were no significant associations with cancer risk or mortality. Trend analysis suggest a potentially lower risk for total cancer related to the highest MexD score (HR 0.68, 95% CI 0.45-1.04, P-trend=0.03), and lower risk for obesity-related cancer mortality related to the highest score category for MexD (HR 0.65, 95% CI 0.37-1.16, P-trend=0.02), and aMED (HR 0.87, 95% CI 0.45-1.67, P-trend=0.04). Further analysis suggests less acculturated women with higher MexD scores had 56% lower risk for any cancer (HR 0.44, 95% CI 0.22-0.88, P-trend=0.03) and 83% lower risk for cancer mortality (HR 0.17, 95% CI 0.04-0.76, P-trend=0.01) compared to more acculturated Hispanic women. Conclusions: Dietary patterns were not associated with cancer risk or mortality in postmenopausal Hispanic women. Less-acculturated, Spanish-preferred speakers, who reported consuming a more traditional Mexican diet may experience a lower risk for cancer and cancer mortality.


Gut Microbiota and Bone Diseases: A Growing Partnership
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Gut microbiota is key to human health and disease. Convincing studies have demonstrated that dysbiosis in the commensal gut microbiota is associated with intestinal and extra-intestinal diseases. Recent explorations have significantly contributed to the understanding of the relationship between gut microbiota and bone diseases (osteoporosis, osteoarthritis, rheumatoid arthritis, and bone cancer). Gut microbiota and its metabolites may become associated with the development and progression of bone disorders owing to their critical role in nutrient absorption, immunomodulation, and the gut-brain-bone axis (regulation hormones). In this work, we review the recent developments addressing the effect of gut microbiota modulation on skeletal diseases and explore a feasible preventive approach and therapy for bone diseases.
Hormone replacement therapy subcutaneous implants for refractory menopause symptoms; the patient's perspective
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Objective: For women with menopause symptoms refractory to standard hormone replacement therapy (HRT) preparations, HRT implants offer an alternative. The primary objective of this study was to evaluate women's perceptions regarding efficacy, tolerability, satisfaction and safety of implant therapy. Study design: A single centre service evaluation study performed at Birmingham Women's & Children's Foundation Hospital Trust. An anonymised semi-structured survey link was posted to all women (n = 397) recorded to have received HRT implant(s) at a tertiary Menopause clinic (May 1982 and Dec 2018). Women attending clinic (June 2020 to Sept 2020) were opportunistically invited to complete a written version of the survey. Main outcome measures: Data collected included demographics, medical and surgical history, therapy duration, type, indication and complications. Climacteric symptoms were assessed using the Greene Climacteric Scale. Results: Data was obtained for 119 women. The written survey yielded higher response rates (n = 73, 61.3%). Most respondents were 51-60 years old (n = 51 42.9%) and 87.4% (n = 104) were 'White British'. 70 women used estradiol only implants. 30.1% (n = 34) of patients reported a low Greene Climacteric Scale score (0-5). Subgroup analysis showed prevalence of sexual dysfunction and vasomotor symptoms across ages. There was a lower prevalence of psychological symptoms amongst ≥51 years old. High satisfaction rates were reported. Conclusions: Data from a large cohort is presented. Good symptom control, satisfaction and long-term efficacy was demonstrated. This study supports the value of HRT implants for refractory menopause symptoms. A national database of implant users would be a useful tool to record satisfaction scores and adverse events.