



HORMONAL THERAPY AND SEXUAL DYSFUNCTION IN POSTMENOPAUSAL WOMEN FROM THE COLOMBIAN CARIBBEAN



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This research is part of the CAVIMEC (Calidad de Vida en la Menopausia y Etnias Colombianas) Project.

Objective: To compare the prevalence of Sexual Dysfunction (SD) in postmenopausal women according to the use of hormonal therapy (HT).

METHODS

Comparative study carried out in women from the Colombian Caribbean of different ethnic groups (Mestizo, indigenous and afro-descendant), aged between 40-59 years, in postmenopause, who expressed had sexual partner and regular sexual activity.

They were assessed in their own communities with a general questionnaire and the brief Female Sexual Function Index of 6 questions (FSFI-6).

To lower score, higher sexual deterioration and SD is a score ≤ 19 . Data analysis was performed using the EPI-INFO-7. A $p < 0.05$ was considered significant.

GENERAL DEMOGRAPHIC DATA OF POSTMENOPAUSAL WOMEN (1280)		
X \pm SD	No HT	With HT
Age, y	46.8 \pm 3.2	45.6 \pm 3.4
Time since menopause onset, y	5.2 \pm 3.5	5.0 \pm 3.8

DISTRIBUTION OF WOMEN IN TWO GROUPS (N: 1280)

HT	YES	NO
N (%)	241 (18.8)	1039 (81.1)
SEXUAL DYSFUNCTION BETWEEN USERS/NON-USERS OF HT, % [RI]		
User of HT	YES	NO
With SD	49.5 [44.3-54.8]	42.2 [40.2-44.2]
Without SD	50.4 [45.1-55.6]	57.7 [55.7-59.7]

FEMALE SEXUAL FUNCTION INDEX (FSFI-6)

X(SD)	No HT	With HT
Desire*	2.98 \pm 0.95	2.1 \pm 1.01
Arousal*	2.92 \pm 1.25	2.85 \pm 1.24
Lubrication*	2.92 \pm 1.50	2.79 \pm 1.47
Orgasm*	2.98 \pm 1.51	2.82 \pm 1.50
Sexual satisfaction*	3.48 \pm 1.68	3.30 \pm 1.71
Pain (**)	3.05 \pm 1.60	2.82 \pm 1.64

(*) Significant differences were not observed in desire, arousal, lubrication, orgasm and sexual satisfaction.

(**) $p < 0.001$

CONCLUSION

There was not observed significant difference in the presence of SD between users and non-users of hormonal therapy. Women who take hormones had significantly lower presence of pain or discomfort during intercourse.

