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"Clinicians' Forum"

We are all aware that every patient interaction should ideally involve a preventive healthcare component beyond addressing the complaint of immediate concern. What, in your clinical practice, do you find to be the impediments to this approach, both clinical and insurance-related? Do you have any suggestions or pearls of wisdom to offer as solutions? (January/February), 34

Do you think there is added value for a geripause component to be added to the Stages of Reproductive Aging Workshop (STRAW) classification? If so, do you anticipate any clinical care benefits? (March/April), 34

Recently, two studies have reported conflicting findings. From Texas, Ravdin and colleagues (2007) reported a steep decline in breast cancer incidence after 2002. They reported that this was, at least theoretically, attributable to the July 2002 termination of the EPT arm of the WHI, and 56% of women immediately discontinuing postmenopausal hormone use. More recently, the WHI observational follow-up of 5 years from the termination of the EPT arm (Heiss et al, 2008) reported HT users to be at higher risk for breast cancer than women who were on placebo. How are practitioners

meant to digest this conflicting information? What should they believe and should it influence their patterns of practice? (July/August), 28 (continued online at www.menopausegmt.com/Forum_JA08_Web.pdf)

A patient enters your office carrying her "brown bag." She empties the contents onto your desk, spilling out more than 15 multi-colored containers of health store herbal, vitamin, hormone/prehormone and "alternative products" in various combinations, permutations and doses. She asks your advice on which, when and how many to take. How do you handle the situation? (September/October), online exclusive (www.menopausegmt.com/MM_Forum_SO08.pdf)

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