



**Women's Hormone Center
of Northern Virginia, PC.**

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Letter to the Washington Post asking them to publish the Truth, for a change.

April 13, 2004

To The Washington Post
Health Editor

Dear Sir,

The results of the final part of the Women's Health Initiative are now available and they show some very interesting findings that are in sharp contrast to some of our current popular beliefs. For the sake of my patients and all women, I sincerely hope that you will publish an article to inform your readers of these findings. (JAMA, April 14, 2004)

First, they found no excess breast cancer in the hormone group. In fact, the hormone group had 23% LESS breast cancer detected than the placebo group, and this advantage was increasing over time. When the study was prematurely terminated on March 1st, this difference had almost reached statistical significance. Most likely, if the study had been continued for another year as it had originally been designed to do, the rate would have become statistically significant.

Next, there was no increase in heart disease events in the hormone group. In fact there was a statistically significant trend to decreasing heart disease over time, which was particularly obvious in the younger participants (age 50-59 at the start of the study). The younger women actually had 44% LESS heart disease! Yet the writers still claim in their summary no overall benefit of CEE [estrogen] for chronic disease prevention. I suppose that 30-39% reduction in hip fractures and 23% less breast cancer isn't important to them either. Nor was the 27% less death seen by the younger women in the hormone group!

Unfortunately, the NIH Writers Group has shown a consistent bias against hormone replacement therapy in all of the articles that they have generated from this study so far. (If you want substantiation of this claim you might want to contact the current president of the North American Menopause Society, Jim Simon, MD (202-293-1000), or the past president, Wulf Utian, MD at the Menopause.org website.) Their bias has severely distorted the truth and led millions of women to make what are most likely very bad decisions with respect to their health in the last several years.

If you do cover this story, PLEASE do not rely solely on the NIH group for your information. They will accentuate the negatives and do their best to hide the positives of hormone replacement. (For example, in the current study the benefits were often listed as possibly due to chance, but the down side (more clots), was not due to chance. Please publish the truth. The women whom your care about depend on it.

Sincerely,

Donna Hurlock, MD
Certified Menopause Clinician