Stroke in Women During Long-Term Hormone Replacement Therapy Influencing Coagulation Systems

To the Editor:
We read with great interest the review of Bushnell et al.1 Since 2001 we encountered 4 women who experienced cerebral infarction during long-term hormone replacement therapy (HRT).2,3 We pointed out in our articles that their cerebral infarcts were attributable to HRT-mediated changes in the coagulation system. The review of Bushnell et al1 described that the precise mechanism of an estrogen-associated increase in risk for venous (as well as arterial) thrombotic events remains unknown despite accumulated evidences of hemostatic biomarkers change in a prothrombotic direction. In our patients we observed depressed levels of protein C and S activity. Protein S activity returned to the normal range after cessation of HRT.3 The HRT-induced procoagulant state might be attributable to an interaction among subtle changes in the coagulation system. Based on our published findings, we strongly suggest that the level of protein C and S activity be monitored in women on long-term HRT to prevent the occurrence of stroke.

Disclosures
None.

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Stroke in Women During Long-Term Hormone Replacement Therapy Influencing Coagulation Systems
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An erratum has been published regarding this article. Please see the attached page for:
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In the article entitled “Stroke in Women During Long-Term Hormone Replacement Therapy Influencing Coagulation Systems” by Inoue et al¹, one of the authors, Yukitake Ushio, is incorrectly spelled. The correct spelling is Yukitaka Ushio. The publisher regrets this error.

The corrected version can now be viewed online at http://stroke.ahajournals.org.


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