

**Scientific references** for the WOSAAM & IHS RECTIFICATION of the scientific inaccuracies in the Advice on Anti-aging Medicine of the Belgian Academy of Medicine (April 2016) (**Références pour la Rectification WOSAAM et IHS scientifique des inexactitudes de l'Avis de l'Académie de Médecine de Belgique**)

**Placebo-controlled studies with recombinant human growth hormone: 507 (461 in adults)**

**Growth hormone therapy on healthy young and middle-aged adults: 65 placebo-controlled studies**

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**Growth hormone therapy on healthy elderly adults: 21 placebo-controlled studies**

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**Growth hormone therapy on growth hormone-deficient children:** 46 placebo-controlled studies (50 with mixed studies)

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#### **Insulin sensitivity: greater improvement with smaller doses of GH treatment**

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#### **Lean body mass: the improvement with GH treatment**

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#### **Edema, arthralgias disappear with growth hormone dose reduction**

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#### **GH therapy improves physical performance in adults**

### **GH therapy: Improvement of exercise capacity and cardiac output**

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### **GH therapy: No improvement of cardiac output**

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#### **Free radical excess: significant decrease in oxidative stress**

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### **GH therapy reduces the risk and/or severity of age-related diseases in adults**

#### **Hypercholesterolemia: the improvement with GH treatment**

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#### **Atherosclerosis: the improvement with GH treatment**

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#### **Arterial hypertension: the improvement with GH treatment**

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#### **Insulin resistance, type 2 diabetes: the improvement with GH treatment in adults**

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#### **Osteoporosis: the improvement with long-term GH treatment**

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**Long-term GH replacement (60 months) reduced the increased cancer risk and mortality of GH deficient patients by half**

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**Cancer mortality: reduction with GH treatment in GH-deficient adults**

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**Gastrointestinal cancer recurrence and mortality: non significant reduction with growth hormone therapy**

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**Brain tumors: reduction in brain tumor recurrence and mortality in children**

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**Cancer incidence: growth hormone therapy does not increase the risk of cancer in GH-deficient adults**

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**Longevity: the association with GH and/or IGF-1 levels**

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**DHEA therapy: 76 placebo-controlled trials – all in adults**

**Significant beneficial effects of DHEA therapy in placebo-controlled trials**

**Healthy men and women > 50 years: DHEA therapy has significantly beneficial effects**

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#### **Insufficient testosterone levels with traditional pharmaceutical brands**

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## Testosterone and age-related diseases in men

### Hypercholesterolemia in men: the association with lower testosterone levels

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### Hypercholesterolemia in men: the improvement with testosterone treatment

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#### **Atherosclerosis in men: the association with lower testosterone levels**

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#### **About the inaccuracies of the contradictory information**

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However, there was no control group, so it is unknown whether this MI rate was increased, reduced, or unchanged compared with untreated men. Neither study provided substantive evidence of risk, yet these were lauded as proof of dangers, despite a substantial literature to the contrary. Similar events followed the publication of the Women's Health Initiative in 2002 when a media frenzy over increased risks with female hormone replacement therapy obscured the fact that the reported excess risk was clinically meaningless, at two events per 1,000 person-years. Stakeholders driving concerns regarding hormone risks are unlikely to be clinicians with real-world patient experience. The use of weak studies as proof of danger indicates that cultural (i.e., nonscientific) forces are at play. Negative media stories touting T's risks appear fueled by antipharma sentiment, anger against aggressive marketing, and antisexuality. This stance is best described as "hormonophobia." As history shows, evidence alone may be insufficient to alter a public narrative. The true outrage is that social forces and hysteria have combined to deprive men of a useful treatment without regard for medical science.

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#### **Drugs taken out of the market because of high death risk: Vioxx, Mediator, etc.**

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**Healthy adult men of all ages with testosterone deficiency, serum testosterone level below the lower reference limit**

**Testosterone deficiency in adult men of all ages**

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#### **Pre-term infants: Thyroxine treatment**

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**Melatonin: 147 placebo-controlled studies on the effect of melatonin on sleep (130 in adults):** 110 placebo-controlled studies where a significant beneficial effect of melatonin on sleep in adults was observed and 17 in children: the beneficial effect mainly consists in a shortening of the time to fall asleep (quicker sleep onset) and a profound muscle relaxation, rarely an improvement of the REM or deep sleep

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### **19 placebo-controlled studies with no significant effect of melatonin on sleep in adults**

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**One placebo-controlled study with report of a significant adverse effect of melatonin treatment on sleep in adults**

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**Children**

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#### **Aldosterone: 13 placebo-controlled trials – all in adults**

**Healthy men:** IV aldosterone produces acute cardiovascular (sympathetic) effects (first 45 min after injection) and delayed (5 ½ - 6 ½ h after) increased vagal tone (parasympathetic predominance)

2010. Schmidt BM1, Montealegre A, Janson CP, Martin N, Stein-Kemmesies C, Scherhag A, Feuring M, Christ M, Wehling M. Short term cardiovascular effects of aldosterone in healthy male volunteers. *J Clin Endocrinol Metab*. 1999 Oct;84(10):3528-33.

**Healthy men:** Aldosterone at 100 µg, tending to increase cardiac vagal activity and enhances the heart rate (tachycardia) response to diastolic blood pressure-reducing nitroprusside

2011. Heindl S, Holzschneider J, Hinz A, Sayk F, Fehm HL, Dodt C. Acute effects of aldosterone on the autonomic nervous system and the baroreflex function in healthy humans. *J Neuroendocrinol*. 2006 Feb;18(2):115-21.

**Healthy men:** Aldosterone at 3 µg /min. rapidly impairs the baroreflex response,

2012. Schmidt BM, Horisberger K, Feuring M, Schultz A, Wehling M. Aldosterone blunts human baroreflex sensitivity by a nongenomic mechanism. *Exp Clin Endocrinol Diabetes*. 2005 May;113(5):252-6. (tachycardic response to arterial baroreceptor deactivation was more pronounced in the aldosterone experiments

**Healthy men:** Aldosterone (+7.6%) increases blood flow by increasing NO release and at the vascular smooth muscle cells by promoting vasoconstriction of forearm arteries

2013. Romagni P, Rossi F, Guerrini L, Quirini C, Santemma V. Aldosterone induces contraction of the resistance arteries in man. *Atherosclerosis*. 2003 Feb;166(2):345-9.

2014. Schmidt BM, Oehmer S, Delles C, Bratke R, Schneider MP, Klingbeil A, Fleischmann EH, Schmieder RE. Rapid nongenomic effects of aldosterone on human forearm vasculature. *Hypertension*. 2003 Aug;42(2):156-60.

**Healthy men: IV aldosterone rapidly attenuated endothelium-dependent vasodilatation to acetylcholine (-28% less vasodilatation)**

**Healthy men:** Aldosterone increases phosphocreatine recovery in muscles to significantly higher levels immediately after isometric contraction within 8 min of aldosterone administration

2015. Zange J, Müller K, Gerzer R, Sippel K, Wehling M. Nongenomic effects of aldosterone on phosphocreatine levels in human calf muscle during recovery from exercise. *J Clin Endocrinol Metab*. 1996 Dec;81(12):4296-300.

2016. Christ M1, Zange J, Janson CP, Müller K, Kuklinski P, Schmidt BM, Tillmann HC, Gerzer R, Wehling M. Hypoxia modulates rapid effects of aldosterone on oxidative metabolism in human calf muscle. *J Endocrinol Invest*. 2001 Sep;24(8):587-97.

**Healthy men:** IV aldosterone at 500 µg (pharmacological dose) slightly reduces glomerular filtration rate and with inhibition of nitric oxide synthase reduces renal blood flow, triggering a mechanism for increases in blood pressure

2017. Schmidt BM, Sammer U, Fleischmann I, Schlaich M, Delles C, Schmieder RE. Rapid nongenomic effects of aldosterone on the renal vasculature in humans. *Hypertension*. 2006 Apr;47(4):650-5.

**Healthy men:** Aldosterone reduces the excretion of sodium and chloride and increases excretion of potassium and (net) acid in the urine

2018. Lemann J Jr, Piering WF, Lennon EJ. Studies of the acute effects of aldosterone and cortisol on the interrelationship between renal sodium, calcium and magnesium excretion in normal man. *Nephron*. 1970;7(2):117-30.

**Healthy men:** no obvious effect on sleep of aldosterone

2019. Born J, Zwick A, Roth G, Fehm-Wolfsdorf G, Fehm HL. Differential effects of hydrocortisone, flucortolone, and aldosterone on nocturnal sleep in humans. *Acta Endocrinol (Copenh)*. 1987 Sep;116(1):129-37.

### **Patients with disease**

**Orthostatic hypotension:** Aldosterone reduces orthostatism

2020. Ditzel J, Hansen PH, Kemp E, Lindbjerg IF. Effect of aldosterone on orthostatic circulatory failure. *Acta Med Scand*. 1964 Jun;175:673-80.

**Suspected coronary heart disease:** IV aldosterone at supraphysiological dose (1 mg) increases systemic vascular resistance, cardiac output, and cardiac index within 3 minutes, effect disappeared within 10 min.

2021. Wehling M1, Spes CH, Win N, Janson CP, Schmidt BM, Theisen K, Christ M. Rapid cardiovascular action of aldosterone in man. *J Clin Endocrinol Metab*. 1998 Oct;83(10):3517-22.

**Supraventricular arrhythmias:** IV aldosterone increases monophasic action potential duration within minutes in patients

2022. Tillmann HC1, Schumacher B, Yasenyev O, Junker M, Christ M, Feuring M, Wehling M. Acute effects of aldosterone on intracardiac monophasic action potentials. *Int J Cardiol*. 2002 Jul;84(1):33-9

### **Fludrocortisone treatment: 19 placebo-controlled studies – 17 in adults**

#### **Healthy adults**

**Young healthy women:** Fludrocortisone treatment produces significant suppression of CRH secretion, trend to significant reduction of secretion of ACTH and cortisol secretion from dose 75 µg/day on

2023. Karamouzis I, Berardelli R, Marinazzo E, D'Angelo V, Zinnà D, Minetto MA, Zichi C, Fussotto B, Giordano R, Ghigo E, Arvat E. The acute effect of fludrocortisone on basal and hCRH-stimulated hypothalamic-pituitary—adrenal (HPA) axis in humans. *Pituitary*. 2013 Sep;16(3):378-85.

**Healthy adults:** Fludrocortisone treatment produces significant effects on pituitary- adrenal axias, arterial tone and intestinal sodium excretion

2024. Laviolle B, Donal E, Le Maguet P, Lainé F, Bellissant E. Low doses of fludrocortisone and hydrocortisone, alone or in combination, on vascular responsiveness to phenylephrine in healthy volunteers. *Br J Clin Pharmacol*. 2013 Feb;75(2):423-30.

2025. Mion D Jr, Rea RF, Anderson EA, Kahn D, Sinkey CA, Mark AL. Effects of fludrocortisone on sympathetic nerve activity in humans. *Hypertension*. 1994 Jan;23(1):123-30.

2026. Otte C, Jahn H, Yassouridis A, Arlt J, Stober N, Maass P, Wiedemann K, Kellner M. The mineralocorticoid receptor agonist, fludrocortisone, inhibits pituitary-adrenal activity in humans after pre-treatment with metyrapone. *Life Sci*. 2003 Aug 22;73(14):1835-45.

2027. Wenzl HH, Fine KD, Santa Ana CA, Porter JL, Fordtran JS. Effect of fludrocortisone and spironolactone on sodium and potassium losses in secretory diarrhea. *Dig Dis Sci*. 1997 Jan;42(1):119-28.

**Aldosterone deficiency:** Fludrocortisone produces significantly beneficial effects (reduction of sodium excretion)

2028. Laviolle B, Le Maguet P, Verdier MC, Massart C, Donal E, Lainé F, Lavenu A, Pape D, Bellissant E. Biological and hemodynamic effects of low doses of fludrocortisone and hydrocortisone, alone or in combination, in healthy volunteers with hypoaldosteronism. *Clin Pharmacol Ther*. 2010 Aug;88(2):183-90.

**Orthostatic hypotension:** Fludrocortisone significantly reduces orthostatic hypotension in patients

2029. Finke J, Sagemüller I. Fludrocortisone in the treatment of orthostatic hypotension: ophthalmodynamography during standing. *Dtsch Med Wochenschr*. 1975 Sep 5;100(36):1790-2.

**Vasovagal syncope:** Fludrocortisone significantly reduced the likelihood of syncope in patients

2030. Sheldon R, Raj SR, Rose MS, Morillo CA, Krahn AD, Medina E, Talajic M, Kus T, Seifer CM, Lelonek M, Klinghenben T, Parkash R, Ritchie D, McRae M; POST 2 Investigators.. Fludrocortisone for the prevention of vasovagal syncope: a randomized, placebo-controlled trial. *J Am Coll Cardiol*. 2016 Jul 5;68(1):1-9.

**Orthostatic hypotension:** Fludrocortisone does not prevent orthostatic hypotension after space flight

2031. Shi SJ, South DA, Meck JV. Fludrocortisone does not prevent orthostatic hypotension in astronauts after spaceflight. *Aviat Space Environ Med*. 2004 Mar;75(3):235-9.

**Chronic fatigue syndrome:** Fludrocortisone associated to hydrocortisone at very low doses does not significantly reduces fatigue

2032. Blockmans D, Persoons P, Van Houdenhove B, Lejeune M, Bobbaers H. Combination therapy with hydrocortisone and fludrocortisone does not improve symptoms in chronic fatigue syndrome: a randomized, placebo-controlled, double-blind, crossover study. *Am J Med*. 2003 Jun 15;114(9):736-41.

**Chronic fatigue syndrome:** Fludrocortisone alone does not significantly improve CFS symptoms

2033. Rowe PC, Calkins H, DeBusk K, McKenzie R, Anand R, Sharma G, Cuccherini BA, Soto N, Hohman P, Snader S, Lucas KE, Wolff M, Straus SE. Fludrocortisone acetate to treat neurally mediated hypotension in chronic fatigue syndrome: a randomized controlled trial. *JAMA*. 2001 Jan 3;285(1):52-9.

2034. Peterson PK, Pheley A, Schroepel J, Schenck C, Marshall P, Kind A, Haugland JM, Lambrecht LJ, Swan S, Goldsmith S. A preliminary placebo-controlled crossover trial of fludrocortisone for chronic fatigue syndrome. *Arch Intern Med*. 1998 Apr 27;158(8):908-14.

**Borderline personality disorder:** Fludrocortisone at supraphysiological doses (400 µg/day) improves memory (cognitive function: verbal, visuospatial and working memory), in healthy subjects only working memory

2035. Wingenfeld K, Kuehl LK, Janke K, Hinkelmann K, Eckert FC, Roepke S, Otte C. Effects of mineralocorticoid receptor stimulation via fludrocortisone on memory in women with borderline personality disorder. *Neurobiol Learn Mem*. 2015 Apr;120:94-100.

**Borderline personality and major depressive disorders, healthy subjects:** No effect of fludrocortisone on autobiographical memory

2036. Fleischer J, Wingenfeld K, Kuehl LK, Hinkelmann K, Roepke S, Otte C. Does fludrocortisone influence autobiographical memory retrieval? A study in patients with major depression, patients with borderline personality disorder and healthy controls. *Stress*. 2015;18(6):718-22.

**Severe traumatic brain injury:** Fludrocortisone associated to hydrocortisone at low doses does not significantly prevent hospital-acquired pneumonia

2037. Asehnoune K, Seguin P, Allary J, Feuillet F, Lasocki S, Cook F, Floch H, Chabanne R, Geeraerts T, Roger C, Perrigault PF, Hanouz JL, Lukaszewicz AC, Biais M, Boucheix P, Dahyot-Fizelier C, Capdevila X, Mahe PJ, Le Maguet P, Paugam-Burtz C, Gergaud S, Plaud B, Constantin JM, Malledant Y, Flet L, Sebille V, Roquilly A; Corti-TC Study Group.. Hydrocortisone and fludrocortisone for prevention of hospital-acquired pneumonia in patients with severe traumatic brain injury (Corti-TC): a double-blind, multicentre phase 3, randomised placebo-controlled trial. *Lancet Respir Med*. 2014 Sep;2(9):706-16

**Septic shock:** Fludrocortisone associated to hydrocortisone at low doses produces beneficial effects, including better renal function

2038. Laviolle B, Annane D, Fougerou C, Bellissant E. Gluco- and mineralocorticoid biological effects of a 7-day treatment with low doses of hydrocortisone and fludrocortisone in septic shock. *Intensive Care Med*. 2012 Aug;38(8):1306-14.

**Septic shock:** Fludrocortisone associated to hydrocortisone at low doses reduces mortality

2039. Annane D, Sebille V, Charpentier C, Bollaert PE, François B, Korach JM, Capellier G, Cohen Y, Azoulay E, Troché G, Chaumet-Riffaud P, Bellissant E. Effect of treatment with low doses of hydrocortisone and fludrocortisone on mortality in patients with septic shock. *JAMA*. 2002 Aug 21;288(7):862-71. Erratum in: *JAMA*. 2008 Oct 8;300(14):1652. (-33% lower risk in the corticosteroid group (hazard ratio, 0.67))

## Children

**Children with syncope or severe presyncope:** Fludrocortisone: produces significant beneficial effects to reduce syncopal symptoms; including syncope

2040. Salim MA, Di Sessa TG. Effectiveness of fludrocortisone and salt in preventing syncope recurrence in children: a double-blind, placebo-controlled, randomized trial. *J Am Coll Cardiol*. 2005 Feb 15;45(4):484-8.

2041. Scott WA, Pongiglione G, Bromberg BI, Schaffer MS, Deal BJ, Fish FA, Dick M. Randomized comparison of atenolol and fludrocortisone acetate in the treatment of pediatric neurally mediated syncope. *Am J Cardiol*. 1995 Aug 15;76(5):400-2

**Thymosin alpha 1 treatment:** 16 human placebo-controlled trials mentioned in Pubmed

## Elderly men: the immune stimulation with thymosin-alpha-1 (1 trial, 85 patients)

2042. Gravenstein S1, Duthie EH, Miller BA, Roecker E, Drinka P, Prathipati K, Ershler WB. Augmentation of influenza antibody response in elderly men by thymosin alpha one. A double-blind placebo-controlled clinical study. *J Am Geriatr Soc*. 1989 Jan;37(1):1-8.

**Sepsis: the improvement with thymosin-alpha-1 and ulinastatin** (increased survival, improved immune parameters)(6 trials, 915 patients )

2043. Chen H1, He MY, Li YM. Treatment of patients with severe sepsis using ulinastatin and thymosin alpha1: a prospective, randomized, controlled pilot study. *Chin Med J (Engl)*. 2009 Apr 20;122(8):883-8.

2044. Li Yumin1, Chen Hao, Li Xun, Zhou Wence, He Minyan, Chiriva-Internati M, Wachtel MS, Frezza EE. A new immunomodulatory therapy for severe sepsis: Ulinastatin Plus Thymosin {alpha} 1. *J Intensive Care Med*. 2009 Jan-Feb;24(1):47-53.

2045. Zhang Y1, Chen H, Li YM, Zheng SS, Chen YG, Li LJ, Zhou L, Xie HY, Praseedom RK. Thymosin alpha1- and ulinastatin-based immunomodulatory strategy for sepsis arising from intra-abdominal infection due to carbapenem-resistant bacteria. *J Infect Dis*. 2008 Sep 1;198(5):723-30.

2046. (+ 3 other trials mentioned in meta-analysis talks of 6 trials)  
 2047. Han D1, Shang W2, Wang G2, Sun L2, Zhang Y3, Wen H2, Xu L2. Ulinastatin- and thymosin  $\alpha$ 1-based immunomodulatory strategy for sepsis: A meta-analysis. *Int Immunopharmacol*. 2015 Dec;29(2):377-82.

**Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (acute exacerbation): the improvement with thymosin-alpha-1 (1 trial, 84 patients))**

2048. Jia Z1, Feng Z, Tian R, Wang Q, Wang L. Thymosin  $\alpha$ 1 plus routine treatment inhibit inflammatory reaction and improve the quality of life in AECOPD patients. *Immunopharmacol Immunotoxicol*. 2015;37(4):388-92.

**Chronic hepatitis B: the improvement with thymosin-alpha-1 (2 trials,**

2049. Lim SG1, Wai CT, Lee YM, Dan YY, Sutedja DS, Wee A, Suresh S, Wu YJ, Machin D, Lim CC, Fock KM, Koay E, Bowden S, Locarnini S, Ishaque SM. A randomized, placebo-controlled trial of thymosin-alpha1 and lymphoblastoid interferon for HBeAg-positive chronic hepatitis B. *Antivir Ther*. 2006;11(2):245-53.  
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**Longevity: Higher hormone levels to live longer**

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## Higher hormone levels to live longer

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#### **Higher micronutritional levels to live longer**

##### **Minerals**

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