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Effects of hormone treatment on sexual functioning in postmenopausal women

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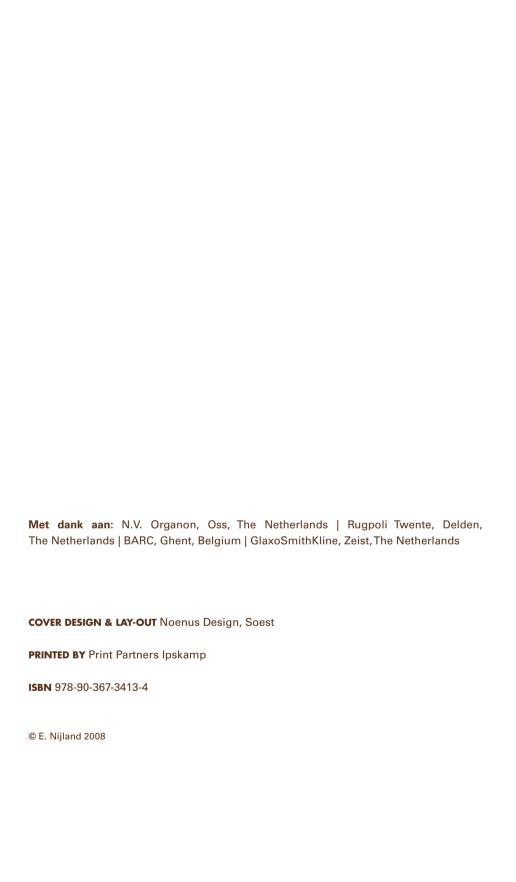
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Effects of hormone treatment pharmacological intervention and on sexual functioning female sexuality: a complex, in postmenopausal women controversial clinical and social issue



RIJKSUNIVERSITEIT GRONINGEN

Effects of hormone treatment on sexual functioning in postmenopausal women

pharmacological intervention and female sexuality: a complex, controversial clinical and social issue

Proefschrift

ter verkrijging van het doctoraat in de Medische Wetenschappen aan de Rijksuniversiteit Groningen op gezag van de Rector Magnificus, dr. F. Zwarts, in het openbaar te verdedigen op woensdag 14 mei 2008 om 13.15 uur

door

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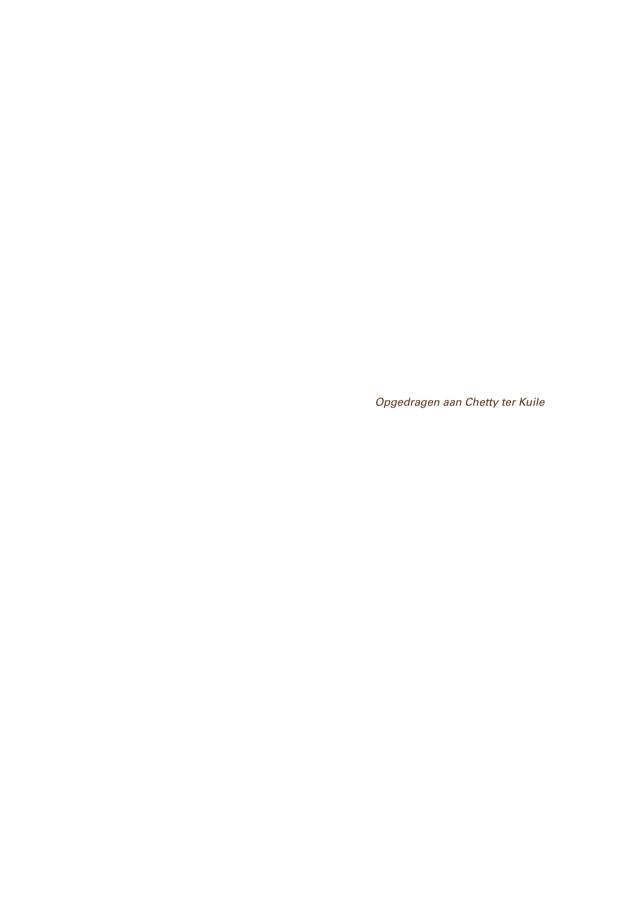
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CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION AND SCOPE OF THE THESIS	9
Chapter 1	11
Psychological context of female sexuality	
1.1 History	
1.2 Models of the female sexual response	
1.3 Prevalence of Female Sexual Dysfunction	
Chapter 2	17
Endocrinological context of female sexuality	
2.1 Role of hormones on female sexual function	
2.2 Menopause and sexuality	
2.3 Effects of tibolone on sexual function	
Chapter 3	21
Rationale for this thesis and research questions	
PHARMACOLOGICAL INTERVENTION AND FEMALE SEXUAL FUNCTION AFTER MENOPAUSE	29
Chapter 4	31
Sexual Well-Being after 50: A European Survey among	
Women and Physicians	
Chapter 5	49
Female Sexual Satisfaction and Pharmaceutical Intervention:	
a Critical Review of the Drug Intervention Studies in Female	
Sexual Dysfunction	
Chapter 6	73
Effects of tibolone and raloxifene on health related quality of life	
and sexual function	

Chapter 7	87
Effects of Tibolone versus low dose E ₇ /NETA on urogenital	
complaints, sexuality and quality of life in postmenopausal women:	
results of a randomized controlled clinical trial	
Chapter 8	103
Tibolone and transdermal E_2 /NETA for the treatment of Female	
Sexual Dysfunction in naturally menopausal women:	
results of a randomized active-controlled trial	
Chapter 9	123
Tolerability aspects of tibolone versus transdermal	
E ₂ /NETA treatment in postmenopausal women with FSD:	
results of a randomized controlled trial	
Chapter 10	137
Pharmacotherapy for Female Sexual Dysfunction:	
explorative analyses of a randomized controlled trial	
INTERPRETATION OF THE RESULTS AND SUMMARY	155
General Discussion	157
Summary	169
Acknowledgements	177
APPENDICES	181
Summary in Dutch	183
Measurement tools used in this thesis	193
Curriculum Vitae	203
List of Publications	204
List of Abbrevations	206



INTRODUCTION AND SCOPE OF THE THESIS

The studies presented in this thesis have been conducted to investigate the effects of hormone therapy (HT) and tibolone on sexual function in postmenopausal women. The reason for initiating research into these effects has been the growing off-label use of tibolone by postmenopausal women experiencing sexual problems. Sufficient evidence for the effects of tibolone on sexual function and dysfunction in postmenopausal women is not available, but as tibolone does have some androgenic properties, the theory that it may therefore work as a weak androgen justifies pharmacological intervention in daily clinical practice. Thus, the main objective of this thesis has been to determine the effects of conventional hormone therapy (oestrogen and progesterone), and tibolone in particular, on sexual function in postmenopausal women with female sexual dysfunction (FSD).

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