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Effects of hormone treatment on sexual functioning in postmenopausal women

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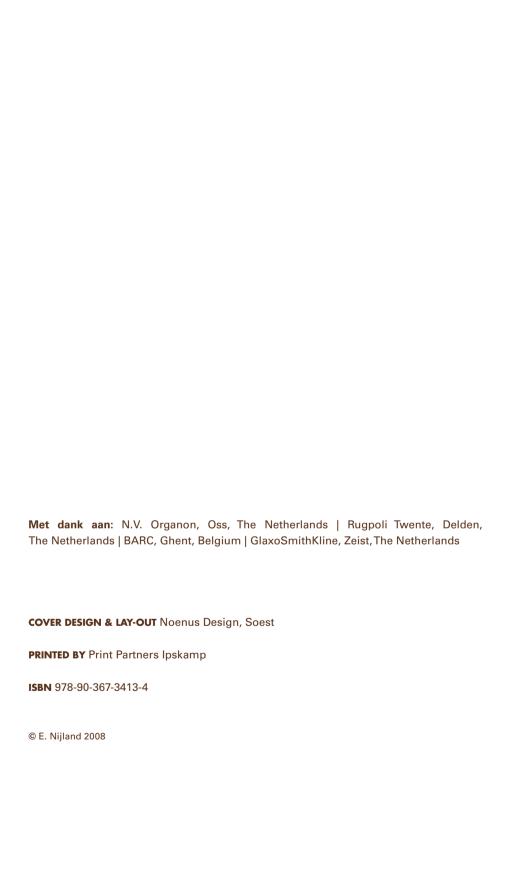
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Effects of hormone treatment pharmacological intervention and on sexual functioning female sexuality: a complex, in postmenopausal women controversial clinical and social issue



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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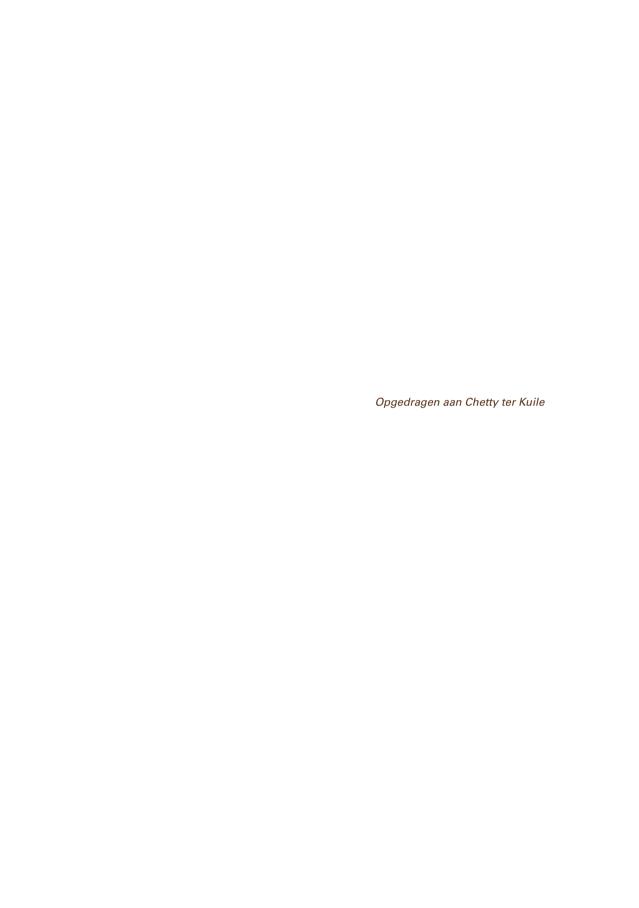
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INTRODUCTION AND SCOPE OF THE THESIS

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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