

ENDOMETRIAL CANCER RATE IN HRT USERS WITH POSTMENOPAUSAL BLEEDING: RETROSPECTIVE COHORT STUDY

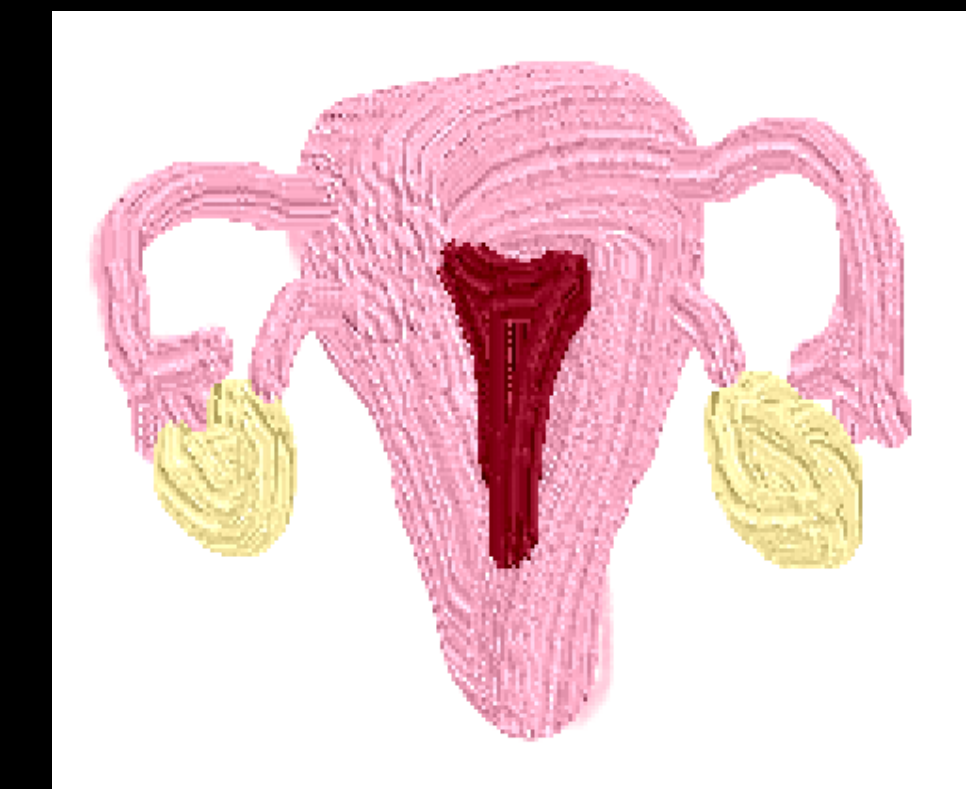
CHARLOTTE BUCHANAN, MEGAN ROBINSON, MADELEINE C MACDONALD
GYNAECOLOGY DEPARTMENT, SHEFFIELD TEACHING HOSPITALS NHS FOUNDATION TRUST

Introduction:

Unscheduled vaginal bleeding is very common within the first two years of commencing combined HRT. Combined HRT does not increase the risk of endometrial cancer. We receive a large number of two-week wait cancer referrals for women aged 60 years and under with PMB whilst using HRT. The large majority receive a final diagnosis of HRT-related bleeding. We suspected that cancer detection rates among this cohort was low and proceeded to evaluate this with the aim to ultimately guide clinical practice

Method:

Service evaluation of a retrospective sample of 1363 women who were seen following a two-week wait referral in the gynaecology outpatient department of Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust in the UK. All women aged under 60 years who were referred with postmenopausal bleeding between the 1st of January 2019 and 31st of December 2020 were included and outcomes analysed. The following groups of patients were excluded: patient declined or did not attend appointment, referral downgraded or retracted, patient deceased prior to appointment.



Conclusion:

The endometrial cancer detection rate was very low for patients under 60 years of age referred with PMB whilst using HRT. This knowledge could help triage referrals so that patients can be relatively reassured at presentation and directed to the clinic best suited to manage their presenting problem, potentially reducing the burden on rapid access clinics.

Results:

A total of 1363 women were included in the study, all under 60 years. 214 women were using HRT when they experienced PMB and only one of these had endometrial cancer at histology(patient had been using HRT for 20 years). The cancer detection rate for HRT users overall was calculated at 0.47%. By comparison, 25 of the 1124 women who were not using HRT were diagnosed with endometrial cancer on histology giving a cancer detection rate of 2.18%. Chi squared statistical analysis confirmed statistically significance demonstrating that the endometrial cancer detection rate was significantly lower in the cohort of women that were using HRT (p 0.0156).

Table 1. Outcomes for women on HRT

Diagnosis	No. of patients	%
G1 endometrioid adenocarcinoma of endometrium	1	0.46
Borderline 1A serous ovarian tumour	1	0.46
Benign causes	212	99.08

Table 2. Outcomes for women not on HRT

Diagnosis	No. of patients	%
Total number of cancer diagnoses	25	2.18
Total number of borderline/EIN	11	0.96
Benign causes	1113	96.87