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Androgens and cardiovascular disease in women and men

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Highlights

- Both high and low levels of endogenous androgens have been associated with increased rates of cardiovascular disease in women.
- Adiposity, impaired glucose metabolism, dyslipidemia and endogenous estrogens may mediate these associations.
- Low levels of endogenous androgens have been associated with increased rates of cardiovascular disease in men.
- The causality of this association remains to be proven.
- Testosterone therapy instituted for men or women requires careful monitoring.

Abstract

Cardiovascular disease is the leading cause of death in both women and men. Its pathogenesis is multifactorial, with sex hormones playing an important role.

Androgens have both direct and indirect effects on the vasculature. This review

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