# Pelvic and peripheral steroid levels.

No registrations found.

| Ethical review        | Not applicable             |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| Status                | Pending                    |
| Health condition type | -                          |
| Study type            | Observational non invasive |

# Summary

### ID

NL-OMON26460

Source NTR

### Brief title

Steroid hormone serum-levels Endometrial Hyperplasia Endometrial Carcinoma Postmenopausal women

### **Health condition**

Steroid hormone serum-levels Endometrial Hyperplasia Endometrial Carcinoma Postmenopausal women Serumwaarden steroidhormonen Endometrium hyperplasie Edometium carcinoom Postmenopausale vrouwen

### **Sponsors and support**

**Primary sponsor:** Maastricht University Medical Center **Source(s) of monetary or material Support:** Maastricht University medical Center

### Intervention

### **Outcome measures**

#### **Primary outcome**

Serum estrogen, progesterone and androgen levels will be measured in the bloodsamples, with a standard and validated radioimmunoassay (RIA) as used by the clinical chemistry lab of the MUMC. The final pathologic outcome (presence of endometrial cancer, hyperplasia or normal endometrium) will be verified on routine formalin fixed paraffin embedded tissue in the clinical pathology lab. Steroid levels will be correlated with pathological findings.

#### Secondary outcome

Body Mass Index and the relation with steroid-hormone levels.

# **Study description**

#### **Background summary**

Rationale:

It is clear that increased exposure to estrogens is an important part of abnormal endometrial development. Chronic stimulation of the endometrium by estrogens results in increased proliferation of endometrial glands, which will cause the development of hyperplasia. Endometrial hyperplasia can be a precursor stage of endometrial carcinoma. The steroids in the blood produced by the ovary enter the systemic circulation through the ovarian veins towards the caval vein or through the para-uterine vessels towards the uterine vein, passing the uterus on their way. The latter may result in a individual estrogen environment around the uterus. Previous studies found that during the follicular and luteal phase the estradiol concentrations in the blood of the parauterine vessels are significantly higher than the concentrations in the peripheral circulation. The progesteron levels are also significantly different. In postmenopausal women a higher concentration of androgens (androstenedione) was found in the ovarian venous plexus compared to the peripheral circulation5. Androgens play an important role in the estradiol synthesis. More than 40% of endometrial carcinoma incidence can be attributed to excess body wight6. This is due to peripheral conversion of androgens to estrogens in adipose tissue by the aromatase enzym. With the knowledge that estrogen levels in the para-uterine vessels can vary strongly, we hypothesize that women with endometrial hyperplasia and endometrial carcinoma may have aberrant local steroid levels around the uterus.

#### Objective:

The aim of the study is to investigate the local levels of steroid-hormones compared to the peripheral levels in postmenopausal patients with endometrial hyperplasia, endometrial carcinoma and postmenopausal women without these diseases. This will give more information of the local steroid hormone concentrations and its relations to the development of endometrial abnormalities. The secondairy objective is to look at the relation of the results

with patients' Body Mass Index (BMI).

Study design:

This study will be a case-control study.

Study population:

The study will include all postmenopausal women who undergo an abdominal hysterectomy at the Maastricht University Medical Centre. There will be three subgroups (a) postmenopausal women with endometrial hyperplasia, (b) postmenopausal women with endometrial carcinoma, and (c) controls (postmenopausal women who undergo an abdominal hysterectomy for other reasons).

#### Intervention:

The same standard operating procedure will be used in each patient: blood samples (2-3 mL) will be taken from the ovarian vein in the infundibolopelvic ligament, veins in the parauterine vein in the broad ligament and the antecubital vene in the arm. The bloodsamples will be taken during surgery.

Main study parameters/endpoints:

Measurements will be performed with a standard and validated radioimmunoassay (RIA) as used by the clinical chemistry lab. Local pelvic steroid levels will be compared with peripheral levels within and between the three different groups.

Nature and extent of the burden and risks associated with participation, benefit and group relatedness:

Three blood samples (2-3ml) will be taken during general anaesthesia. There are no extra risks for patients participating in this study. The goal of this study is to find more information about the development of endometrial abnormalities.

### Study objective

It is clear that increased exposure to estrogens is an important part of abnormal endometrial

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development. Chronic stimulation of the endometrium by estrogens results in increased proliferation of endometrial glands, which will cause the development of hyperplasia. Endometrial hyperplasia can be a precursor stage of endometrial carcinoma. The steroids in the blood produced by the ovary enter the systemic circulation through the ovarian veins towards the caval vein or through the para-uterine vessels towards the uterine vein, passing the uterus on their way. The latter may result in a individual estrogen environment around the uterus. Previous studies found that during the follicular and luteal phase the estradiol concentrations in the blood of the parauterine vessels are significantly higher than the concentrations in the peripheral circulation. The progesteron levels are also significantly different. In postmenopausal women a higher concentration of androgens (androstenedione) was found in the ovarian venous plexus compared to the peripheral circulation. Androgens play an important role in the estradiol synthesis. More than 40% of endometrial carcinoma incidence can be attributed to excess body wight. This is due to peripheral conversion of androgens to estrogens in adipose tissue by the aromatase enzym. With the knowledge that estrogen levels in the para-uterine vessels can vary strongly, we hypothesize that women with endometrial hyperplasia and endometrial carcinoma may have aberrant local steroid levels around the uterus.

### Study design

N/A

### Intervention

There will be three subgroups:

1. Postmenopausal women with endometrial hyperplasia;

2. Postmenopausal women with endometrial carcinoma;

3. Controls (postmenopausal women who undergo an abdominal hysterectomy for other reasons).

We take 3 blood samples (2-3 mL) during surgery:

- 1. One sample of the infundibolopelvic vein;
- 2. One sample of the parauterine vein;
- 3. One sample of through the intravenous infusion.

The steroid concentrations (estrogens, progesterone, androgens) in these samples will be

compared within patients and between different patient groups to study the relation in the development of endometrial abnormalities.

# Contacts

#### Public

[default] The Netherlands **Scientific** 

[default] The Netherlands

# **Eligibility criteria**

### **Inclusion criteria**

All postmenopausal women planned to undergo an abdominal hysterectomy with bilateral salpingo-oophorectomy. Patients must meet the following criteria:

- 1. Have at least one ovary before entering the study;
- 2. Are willing to consent to the collection and storage of blood for this study;
- 3. Signed informed consent form according to national/local regulations.

### **Exclusion criteria**

- 1. Patients with known abnormalities in the steroid metabolism;
- 2. Patients who receive hormone replacement therapy;
- 3. Patients with any disorder making it impossible to give informed consent.

# Study design

### Design

| Study type:         | Observational non invasive      |
|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| Intervention model: | Parallel                        |
| Allocation:         | Non-randomized controlled trial |
| Masking:            | Open (masking not used)         |
| Control:            | N/A , unknown                   |

### Recruitment

| NL                        |             |
|---------------------------|-------------|
| Recruitment status:       | Pending     |
| Start date (anticipated): | 01-07-2010  |
| Enrollment:               | 30          |
| Туре:                     | Anticipated |

# **Ethics review**

| Not applicable    |  |
|-------------------|--|
| Application type: |  |

Not applicable

# **Study registrations**

## Followed up by the following (possibly more current) registration

ID: 34624 Bron: ToetsingOnline Titel:

### Other (possibly less up-to-date) registrations in this register

No registrations found.

### In other registers

| Register | ID  |
|----------|---|
| NTR-new  | NL2222  |
| NTR-old  | NTR2347   |
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| Register | ID                                  |
|----------|-------------------------------------|
| ССМО     | NL31494.068.10                      |
| ISRCTN   | ISRCTN wordt niet meer aangevraagd. |
| OMON     | NL-OMON34624                        |

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# **Study results**

Summary results N/A