CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASE IN WOMEN

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OBJECTIVES

At the conclusion of this presentation attendees will be able to:

- Define and discuss the 4 major categories of cardiovascular disease and the 10 risk factors.
- List 3 major pregnancy complications of CVD and discuss the prevalence of CVD and incidence in women.
- 3. List 10 lifestyle choices to protect the heart.

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TYPES OF CVD

• Types of CVD (WHO)

- Coronary Heart Disease-caused by epicardial coronaries
- Stroke-ischemic or hemorrhagic process occurring in brain
 Other cardiovascular Dz-tumors, cardiomyopathy, valve dz, amyloids, restrictive/constrictive
- CM, vascular diseases –PVD, DVT, PE
- Hypertensive Heart Disease-AAA, CM
- Inflammatory heart disease-Sarcoidosis, trauma, toxins, ETOH
 Rheumatic Heart disease-caused by rheumatic fever –mitral valve diseases etc.

RISK FACTORS-WOMEN



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WHAT IS CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASE

• What is the difference between CAD and IHD (ischemic heart disease)

- CAD specifically refers to disease of the epicardial coronaries
- IHD disease of coronary arteries, microcirculation, and from supply demand inequities
 (example)
- HD causes-Microvascular dysfunction, coronary reactivity, plaque erosion/distal microembolization
- Differences in presentation, frequency, quality of CVD between women and men originate from gene and hormone expression.

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CVD- CONT.

- CVD is the leading cause of death in women worldwide, disproportionately affecting low and middle income countries
- 32% deaths women US (>450,000) due to CVD
- Pre-menopausal woman age >40 similar to risk of men at age 30
- Women present later (10years) , experience more complications and worse outcomes
- Unlike breast cancer, heart disease comes quickly and kills more frequently
- What do you feel is the #1 modifiable risk factor for women, esp age<50?

Shah et al. Gender differences, symptom evaluation, and diagnostic strategies. JACC. (2004), 47(3)

CVD-CONT.

- DM is weighted higher risk factors for women than men
- Emotional stress at work or home portends poor outcome in healthy women and those with CAD (emotional stress can trigger coronary event)
- Unique risk factors -low estrogen, elevated testosterone, polycystic ovarian syndrome, Elevated C-Reactive protein, Pregnancy

Shah et al. Gender differences, symptom evaluation, and diagnostic strategies. JACC. (2006), 47(3)

ISCHEMIC HEART DISEASE

- Delay in diagnosis is delayed care-atypical symptoms mostly contributed to ?
- Yend syndrome-if you are a male that presents with symptoms you get the care, since women don't look like men —less likely to have heart disease go as a differential
- Misinterpretation of symptoms
- STEMI "Men explode women implode"-Women have more microvascular Dz and endothelial dysfunction, reduced coronary flow not seen on cath. Men have more obstructive
- Women<55 with ACS at higher risk for SCD.

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ISCHEMIC HEART DISEASE CONT.

- Delay in seeking care, takes longer to diagnose and less likely to refer women for stress
 testing
- ACS portends (10.2% vs 5.5%) higher mortality in women than their male counterparts
 Most research studies for ACS based on which medications are approved have included
 men
- Women with non-obstructive Dz benefit more from BB than Calcium Channel Blocker
- ACEI and Statins can help to relieve symptoms -microvascular dz
- Less likely to get aspirin

CORONARY MICROVASCULAR DYSFUNCTION

- Limited coronary flow reserve and <u>coronary endothelial dysfunction</u>—increased rates of death, stroke or heart failure.
- Smaller epicardial coronaries, diffuse atherosclerotic disease, increased arterial stiffness, fibrosis, altered remodeling and the <u>presence of endothelial</u> or smooth muscle dysfunction
- Invasive coronary vasomotor testing-done using Acetylcholine. In a study of 1,379
 patients with stable angina and un-obstructive CAD,ACH was administered.
- Pathological test was found in women>men (70% vs 43%) Vasomotor dysfunction occurred at lower dosages in females than males

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Table 3. Risk-Enhancing Factors for Clinician-Patient Risk Discussion **ACC/AHA SLIDE**

Risk-Enhancing Factors

- Family history of premature ASCVD (males, age <55 y; females, age <65 y)
 Primary hypercholesterolemia (LbL-C 160–189 mg/dL [4.1–4.8 mmol/L]; non–HDL-C 190–219 mg/dL [4.9–5.6 mmol/L])*
- Metabolic syndrome (increased waist circumference [by ethnically appropriate cutpoints], elevated triglycerides [>150 mg/dL, nonfasting], elevated blood pressure, elevated glucose, and low HDL-C [<40 mg/dL in men; <50 mg/dL in women] are factors; a tally of 3 makes the
- diagnosis) • Chronic kidney disease (eGFR 15–59 mL/min/1.73 m² with or without albuminuria; not treated with dialysis or kidney transplantation)
- Chronic inflammatory conditions, such as psoriasis, RA, lupus, or HIV/AIDS



RISK FACTORS AND THEIR IMPACT

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DIABETES

- Detrimental effect of glucose occur at lower glycemic levels below threshold for diagnosis-impact of formal diagnosis is more detrimental since subclinical impact has been occurring for months-years before diagnosis
- Hence metabolic and vascular risk factor profile in pre diabetic > in women than men

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- · Impaired endothelium-dependent vasodilation (Inflammatory condition)
- Hypercoagulable state
- Atherogenic dyslipidemia
- Metabolic syndrome
- + Elevated inflammatory markers- hsCRP, IL-6 and TNF α

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SMOKING /OBESITY AND OVERWEIGHT

- Major thing to remember—impact of smoking and oral contraceptive has "synergistic" impact
 on AMI, stroke and Venous Thromboembolism
- 2/3 adults are overweight or obese, women>men
- Framingham study confers- 64% with increased the risk of CAD
- · Increase inflammatory markers of CRP, IL 1 β, TNFα, Leptin noted in obese women
- Physical inactivity linked to high hsCRP is prevalent-increased with age (has inverse relationship with ASCVD)
- Recommendation of I50minutes/week of moderate intensity aerobic activity or 75 minutes of vigorous activity
- Anaerobic activity >2hours/week Physical Activity reduces inflammation
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HYPERTENSION

- Physiologically endogenous estrogen maintain vasodilation and maintain BP control
- Post menopausal increase of BP
- RCT-Systolic BP Intervention Trial (SPRINT)-SBP>130 and increased CVD risk randomized to intensive treatment goal <120 or standard treatment goal <140
- Intensive treatment resulted in 25% lower relative risk of MACE and overall deaths
 Inflammatory markers-PE during pregnancy linked to IL6,TNFα, and RAAS system

Inflammation, depression and cardiovascular disease in women: the role of the immune system across or remenductive events. Thempsouth Advances in Cardiovascular Disease May 2019, doi:

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DYSLIPIDEMIA

- Highest impact on women post menopause
- Dyslipidemia pre- menopause ASCVD not observed
- Lifestyle modification-diet and exercise of most importance
- Pharmacological therapy important in primary and secondary prevention
 Primary prevention is sex-specific now with AHA/ACC-more women will qualify for
 treatment with statins
- 45% of those additional eligible women inspite of guidelines are not prescribed statins
- * controversy surrounding statins may place women at risk for DM needs exploration
- Advanced lipid testing with Lp-PLA2 (lipoprotein-associated pholipase A2) predicting ASCVD may play a role

NON TRADITIONAL ASCVD FACTORS-PREGNANCY AND CVD

- · Pregnancy- considered a "stress test" for CV system. Can cause Hypertension and Metabolic disorders- independent risk factors for CVD
- Gestational HTN: SBP>140/90 after 20 weeks of pregnancy
- Chronic HTN: SBP>160/110 less than 20 weeks of pregnancy; greater risk for preeclampsia
- Pre-eclampsia (PE)
 - New onset of HTN >20weeks of gestation with e/o proteinuria (0.3g/24h) and or AKI, liver dysfunction, neurological involvement, thrombocytopenia, hemolysis, or fetal growth restrictions

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PRE-ECLAMPSIA AND CVD

- Systematic search -Medline and Embase
- 22 studies identified with >6.4 million women, 250,000 with PE
- · Pre-Eclampsia was independently associated with increased risk of future Heart Failure (RR4.19; 95% Confidence Interval)2.09-8.13, CAD (RR 2.50; 95% CI, 1.83-2.66 and Stroke (RR 1.81; 95% CI, 1.29-2.55)
- · Conclusion-PE associated with 4-fold increase in risk of HF, 2-fold increase CAD, Stroke, and Death
- · Permanent endothelial dysfunction with increase risk of future CVD; Inflammation and RAAS linked to PE

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CHAMPS STUDY & NURSES HEALTH STUDY

- Included: >1 million women
- Those with PE had 2x risk of developing CVD (HR 2.0 CI 95% 1.7-2.2)
- Those with PE and Metabolic Syndrome had 12 fold increase in CVD (HR 11.7, 95% CI 4.9-28.3)
- Co-Existence PE and poor fetal growth -increased maternal mortality hazard ratio compared to PE alone
- Gestational Diabetes-leads to onset of DM within 5-10years of post partum
- NHS: 43% increased risk of MI or stroke post GDM

NON TRADITIONAL ASCVD FACTORS-GESTATIONAL DIABETES

- Due to epidemic of obesity-increased number of women found to have DM in 1st trimester-T2DM
- 7-fold increased risk for DM; 2-fold increase of stroke and 4-fold for MI (5-10years post partum)
- Eclampsia and gestational diabetes (GDM)
- Glucose intolerance with plasma glucose diagnostic criteria fasting, I and 2- hour
- - Arnott C, et al. Women and Cardiovascular Disease: Pregnancy, the Forgotten

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NON TRADITIONAL ASCVD FACTORS PRE-TERM DELIVERY Defined as delivery <37 weeks gestation Underlying causes not well understood-factorion, vascular Diseases PTD is noted to be an independent risk nospitalizations Weight at 1 year portends likelihood of being overweight 1 Syears later

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AUTOIMMUNE DISEASE

RA AND SLE

- Association between inflammatory dz and increased mortality-CVD
- Self-antigen results in tissue destructionMicrovasculature plays a role in
- predisposition of women with RA/SLE to develop ASCVD
- RA-3 fold increase in MI; 50% risk stroke
 SLE 9-fold MI; 50 fold increased stroke
- RADIATION/CHEMOTHERAPY
- Radiation therapies –for breast cancer inadvertently damage heart-cause cardiomyopathy, valve dz
- Research suggests radiation to Lt breast with greater incidence of CAD eventsesp with predisposing risk factors
 Type-I (anthracycline-like) or Type-II
- Type-I (anthracycline-like) or Type-II (Trastuzumab-like) evidence of cardiotoxicity

MENOPAUSE

- · Estradiol exposure during reproductive events control inflammatory response
- Estradiol influences cytokine secretion and reduced expression of IL-6, increased production of anti-inflammatory IL-10
- Known that early Menarche and menopause linked to CVD risk.
- Changes to the fluctuation of estrogen and progesterone can impact immune system
 (trigger CVD and depression)
- Lack of Estradiol causes pro inflammatory state leading to CVD

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SPONTANEOUS CORONARY ARTERY DISSECTION

Sudden separation of layers of coronary artery wall-causing hematoma

- Obstructs intraluminal blood flow resulting in MI
- Occurs in 25% of women in peripartum; average age is 42
- Presentation-young woman without risk factors with sudden onset of ACS
- Maybe a genetic predisposition
- Accurate diagnosis is a must since traditional PCI is less successful, there is spontaneous
- healing hence conservative management
- Statins are discouraged some association with statins. Use only if there is hyperlipidemia

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TAKOTSUBO SYNDROME-STRESS CARDIOMYOPATHY

- Transient LV systolic and diastolic dysfunction with SWMA
- Affects post menopausal women and follows period of extreme physical and emotional stress
- Clinical presentation similar to ACS, coronary anatomy without obstructive Dz
- Exact etiology unclear-may be related to disproportionate distribution of sympathetic receptors. Ventricular Fx improves with supportive therapy

Keteepe-Arachi, T. & Sharma, S. Carduloasular disease in women: Understanding symptosm and ris Economy Cardiology Busines 2017;12(1):10.15420/arr.2016/321

HEART FAILURE IN WOMEN

- Women suffer from HFpEF EF>52%, most likely due to diastolic dysfunction
- Limited LV systolic reserve, systemic and pulmonary vascular function, coronary microvascular endothelial inflammation and reduction of nitric oxide bioavailability, right heart function, left heart function, autonomic tone
- Treatment-Beta blockers to increased LV diastolic filling time
- Peripartum Cardiomyopathy-develops during or post partum without CVD, I-3000 deliveries, increased incidence in AA women, >30years, Pregnancy assoc. HTN
- Most women demonstrate recovery 2-6 months post diagnosis

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STROKE

- 53% of women have strokes annually- approx. 55,000 more strokes than men
- Meta-analysis 4, 371, 714 AF was a strong risk factor for stroke in women more than men
 - Also associated with higher all cause mortality, CV death, CV events, heart failure
 Routine screening for AF in women >75 using VS and auscultation
 - AC should be offered using CHA2D2 VASc score
- PAD portends equal morbidity and mortality to CAD and stroke
 - Intermittent claudication-ABI can be done
 - Screening to be done >65 or for Hx of tobacco or DM

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ABDOMINAL AORTIC ANEURYSMS

- AAA more common in men than women
- Women with AAA also portend poorer prognosis
- Meta-analysis showed annual risk of rupture AAA >5.0cm is 18%

AUTO-IMMUNE DISORDERS

- Patients with Auto-immune disorders especially those who have undergone radiation and or chemotherapy-recommended for long-term surveillance program
- Echocardiographic associations, American and European recommend evaluation based on symptoms and echo findings to continue surveillance Syears and high risk 10years post completion of therapies

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DEPRESSION AND CVD

- Chronic inflammation exists in depression and CVD
- Midlife those diagnosed with Major Depression disorder have 2x more CVD events
- Imbalance of Hypothalamus-pituitary-adrenal (HPA) axis, RAAS, Serotonin/Kynurenine pathways
- · All above cause inflammation and endothelial dysfunction
- Changes to inflammatory cytokines in relation to hormonal fluctuation associated with reproductive events (menstrual cycle/perinatal period/menopause)

Inflammation, depression and cardiovascular disease in women: the role of the immune system across a report during events. Therease the Advances in Cardiovascular Disease May 2019. doi:

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INFLAMMATION

related to hormonal changes

with CVD

Measuring cytokine level can provide input into inflammatory response
 Level of cytokine and IL6 are elevated in individuals with depression and also in individuals

to be related to higher BMI, HTN, and smoking

Higher CRP levels are noted in women with CVD. If CRP is elevated without CVD, it is found

- TNF α elevated in CHF patients <50, post this it rises sharply, stays steady in men \rightarrow likely

RAAS system-linked to activation by inflammation-increased aldosterone noted in depression.



| Treatment | Dosing [‡] | | Precautions | |
|-----------|-----------------------------|--|--|--|
| NRT* | | | | |
| Patch | 21 mg, 14 mg, or 7 mg | Starting dose: 21 mg for >10 CPD; 14 mg for <10 CPD | Local irritation possible; avoid with skin disorders may remove for sleep if needed | |
| Gum | 2 mg or 4 mg | Starting dose: 4 mg if first tobacco use is | Hiccups/dyspepsia possible; avoid food or | |
| Lozenge | 2 mg or 4 mg | ≤30 min after waking; 2 mg if first tobacco use is >30 min after waking; maximum of 20 lozenges or 24 pieces of gum/d. Chew and park gum* | beverages 15 min before and after use | |

TABLE 8. HIGHLIGHTS OF RECOMMENDED BEHAVIORAL AND PHARMACOTHERAPY TOBACCO TREATMENT MODALITIES

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| Timing of Behavioral | Interventions† | |
|--|--|--|
| <3 min of tobacco status assessment with cessation counseling at each clinic encounter | >3-10 min of tobacco status assessment with cessation counseling at each clinic encounter | >10 min of tobacco status assessment wit cessation counseling each clinic encounter |

TABLE 8. HIGHLIGHTS OF RECOMMENDED BEHAVIORAL AND PHARMACOTHERAPY TOBACCO TREATMENT MODALITIES

INTERHEART Study-52 countries large case-control study screened patients post first

 9 risk factors identified-smoking, lipids, HTN, DM, obesity, diet, physical activity, alcohol, psychosocial factors) found to be 90% attributed to MI

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No more than moderate amount of alcohol

Healthy dietExercising

MI



| Treatment | Dosin | g‡ | Precautions |
|--------------------|-----------|---|-----------------------------|
| Other | | | |
| Bupropion | 150 | 150 mg once daily (am) | Avoid with history/risk of |
| (Zyban | mg SR | for 3 d; then 150 mg twice | seizures, eating disorders, |
| [GlaxoSmithKline], | | daily; may use in | MAO inhibitors, or CYP 2D |
| Wellbutrin SR | | combination with NRT | inhibitor |
| [GlaxoSmithKline]) | | (S4.5-21) | |
| | 0.5 mg | 0.5 mg once daily (am) for | Nausea common; take wit |
| | or 1 | 3 d; then 0.5 mg twice | food. Renal dosing require |
| Varenicline | mg | daily for 4 d; then 1 mg | Very limited drug |
| (Chantix [Pfizer]) | - | twice daily (use start pack | interactions; near-exclusiv |
| | | followed by continuation | renal clearance. |
| | | pack) for 3-6 mo | |
| ‡Dose | and durat | ion can be titrated on the basis of respo | onse |

| Treatment | Dosing‡ | | Precautions |
|--------------|-----------|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| NRT* | | | |
| | 10 | Starting dose: | Local irritation possible; |
| Nasal spray | mg/mL | 1-2 doses/h (1 dose=2 | avoid with nasal or |
| | | sprays); maximum of 40 | reactive airway disorders |
| | | doses/d | |
| | 10, | Starting dose: | Cough possible; avoid with |
| | 10-mg | Puff for 20 min/cartridge | reactive airway disorders |
| Oral inhaler | cartridge | every 1-2 h; maximum 6- | |
| | | 16 cartridges/d; taper | |
| | | over 3-6 mo§ | |

MENOPAUSE AND MENOPAUSE HORMONE THERAPY

- · Ovarian sex hormone, estrogen is cardio protective-Initial studies were observational studies. Prospective studies refute this conclusion
- Women's Health Initiative and Heart Estrogen/Progestin Replacement Study (HERS) based on study findings there was decline in Menopause hormone therapy
- Critical evaluation of trials along with another meta-analysis >39,000 women 23 trials concluded that hormone therapy reduces CAD risk for women<60years of age.
- Consensus is to prescribe HRT at lowest effective dosage for menopausal symptoms in early menopause (approx. Syears), NEVER FOR PREVENTION OF CVD

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BCRA CARRIERS, PROPHYLACTIC SLO, AND MENOPAUSE

- · Positive BCRA or BCRA2 greater elevated lifetime risk of ovarian, fallopian, breast cancer
- SLO-prophylactic recommended often before natural menopause, to prevent cancer
- Increased risk of premature CVD
- No guidelines for above
- Short term HRT, osteoporosis prevention, and possible effect on cognition

ASPIRIN

Women's Health Study (WHS) 40,000 women >45years old on low dose as a 100mg or placebo for 10years

- Satistically non significant reduction in primary composite outcome Asa significantly lowered risk of stroke by 17%, increased risk of GIB Did not lower the risk of MI or CV death (opposite effect of asa in men)
- Subgroup analysis revealed benefit>risk>65years or age for primary prevention of both MI and Stroke (class Ila level of evidence B); (must be given to those with controlled HTN). Maybe reasonable for those <65 (class Ilb level of evidence B)
- ASA and DM-controversial-Acc to ADA low dose ASA should be considered for those with 10year risk of 10% or more (not at increased risk for bleeding +>60+at least 1 risk factor)
- ASA should NOT be recommended for adults with DM and low risk men<50 and women<60 & no CVD risk factors

STATINS

- ACC/AHA guidelines revised to reduce ASCVD in adults with MI-moderate to high dosage of statins
- There is proportional reduction of CV event for every 1.0mmol/L LDL reduction.
- Those between 40-75 without CVD treat with statin for LDL>189;if with DM treat with moderate to high dosage of statins based on 10-year ASCVD risk
- If the 10-year ASCVD risk is >7.5% moderate to high dosage statin only after discussion regarding patient risk benefit to address other risk factors and optimized lifestyle is discussed and implemented.
- · Fixed dosage of statins without testing for lipid level

THE FALLER

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STATIN CONT.

- Lipid level can be checked prior to initiation of therapies to guide Framingham Risk Score and to evaluate patients compliance
- JUPITER trial found slightly higher HgbA1c level 5.9 vs 5.8 P=.001, in addition to greater risk of developing DM
- Meta-analysis of 13 statin trials 91,140 patients revealed a 9% increased risk of DM however no sex-specific analysis performed.
- · Overall it is felt that benefits outweigh the risk for both sexes

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CORONARY ARTERY DISEASE CONT.

· Medications NOT recommended for primary or secondary prevention

- Hormone therapy
- SSRI
- Antioxidant Vitamin supplements (Vitamin C, E and beta carotene) Folic acid-with or without B6 and B12 supplements
- Diagnostic testing should include Stress Echo more reliable than standard exercise testing AA and Hispanic women awareness of risk factors decreased since 1009

TREATMENT ACS/MICROVASCULAR DYSFUNCTION IN WOMEN

- Statins -improve endothelin dysfunction
- Angina-improved with beta blockers, calcium channel blockers, nitrates.
- · Ranolazine not found to be effective
- · Antidepressants may be effective in pain perception
- ASA for known CAD and has been discussed prior
- Exercise
- Modifiable risk factor modification

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PRE TEST PROBABILITY OF CAD

| ige, y | Sex | Typical/Definite Angina Pectoris | Atypical/Probable Angina Pectoris | Nonanginal Chest Pain | Asymptomatic |
|---|--|---|---|---|------------------------------------|
| 30-39 | Men | Intermediate | Intermediate | Low | Very low |
| | Women | Intermediate | Very low | Very low | Very low |
| 40-49 | Men | High | Intermediate | Intermediate | Law |
| | Women | Intermediate | Low | Very low | Very low |
| 50-59 | Men | High | Intermediate | Intermediate | Low |
| | Women | Intermediate | Intermediate | Low | Very low |
| 60-69 | Men | High | Intermediate | Intermediate | Low |
| | Women | High | Intermediate | Intermediate | Low |
| igh indicate No data exi extremes o | es >90%; intermediat sts for patients <30 o I the decades listed m | e 10% to 90%; low <10%; very r >69 y but it can be assumed t ray have probabilities slightly or | low <5%. Reused with permissi hat prevalence of coronary artery diside the high or low range. | on from Gibbons et al. ⁸⁰² disease increases with age. In | a few cases, patients with ages at |

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INVASIVE/NON INVASIVE TESTING

- Cardiac catherization as has been discussed before
- · PET/MPI testing can be done to detect ischemia and or flow reserve
- Stress MRI
- CT perfusion
- Exercise treadmill –best diagnostic test for anyone with normal EKG.IT provides information regarding exercise tolerance and hemodynamic response.
- CTA

WESTERN DIET AND INFLAMMATION

- Prospective trial 25,994 US women followed for 12years (published 2018)
- · 40 Biomarkers collected-lipids, inflammatory markers
- HIGHEST REDUCTION NOTED IN MIDDLE AND UPPER GROUPS-MED INTAKE ASSOCIATED WITH REDUCTION OF INFLAMMATORY BIOMARKERS-29.6% AND OVERALL 25% REDUCTION OF CVD
- Whole Food mostly plant based diet-incudes fish and chicken and eggs low quantity, low
 amount of processed foods and white breads
- Modification of overall dietary pattern key to success

Amman, S. et al. Assessment of Risk Pactors and Boomanian's Associated With Risk of Cardi-Among Women Consuming a Mediterranean Disc. (AMMA) associations 2018;12(3):e182(3):4110.0011/second-analysis.2018;12(3))

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CONCLUSION

- Women as a gender are understudied in area of CVD
- CVD risk has correlation with reproductive events, there is evidence of inflammation, endothelial dysfunction leading to CVD
- Multiple traditional and non traditional risk factors contribute to CVD
- Important new correlation between Depression, diet and CVD and inflammatory markers are noted-research is ongoing
- Diet may hold the key to improving inflammation
- , , , , ,