

Domain	NAMS (TMS) (2022)	ACOG (PB-141, reaffirmed 2024)	American Heart Association (2020)	International Menopause Society (2024–25)	NICE NG23 (2024)	Australasian Menopause Society / Toolkit (2023)	SOGC 422a (2021)
MHT is first-line for VMS	Yes Most effective treatment for VMS	Yes Effective; SDM required	Yes Offer MHT	Yes Most effective for VMS and urogenital symptoms	Yes Offer HRT for VMS; use lowest effective dose	Yes Endorsed TMS 2022; SDM-guided	Yes Systemic MHT first-line for VMS with no contraindications
Timing / age guidance	Benefits > risks for women <60 or within 10 yrs of menopause onset ; less favorable >60 or >10 yrs out	People in early menopause in good CV health at low CV risk are candidates; approved for osteoporosis risk	Earlier menopause = higher CVD risk; early intervention important ; emphasizes timing hypothesis, <60 years old, within 10 years of initiation	Benefits outweigh risks for perimenopausal and younger postmenopausal women with symptoms ; 5Ws framework guides individualization	For early menopause (40–44), benefits and risks lie between POI and typical menopause; consider HRT up to average age of menopause	Aligned with TMS 2022 ; strong SDM emphasis at all ages	Benefits outweigh risks for most healthy women under 60 or within 10 yrs of onset
Duration	No fixed maximum ; individualize; may continue beyond 65 for persistent VMS, QOL, or osteoporosis with periodic re-evaluation	Periodic reassessment recommended; no arbitrary cut-off endorsed	Not addressed explicitly, references ACOG, NAMS, Endocrine Societies	Lower doses can maintain quality of life in many for longer duration; individualize approach; no fixed maximum duration	Use the lowest effective dose; review regularly; no duration limit specified but periodic reassessment required	No fixed duration ; individualize based on indication	Reassess annually; ongoing therapy acceptable for documented indications
Route preference	Transdermal preferred to reduce VTE and stroke risk ; oral option for many; vaginal	Route individualized; transdermal lowers VTE risk vs. oral	Transdermal recommender for everyone who is not at low risk of complications	Multiple routes acceptable; lower doses even at non-standard routes may suffice	Route not prescribed; individualize; transdermal noted as potentially lower	Transdermal preferred for VTE risk reduction in eligible women	Transdermal route preferred especially where VTE risk is a concern

	estrogen appropriate for GSM at any age				thrombotic risk		
Compounded preparations	Not recommended FDA-approved preferred; lack safety/efficacy data	Not recommended Clinical Consensus No. 6 (2023): explicitly against routine compounding	Not recommended ; emphasize harm of unregulated hormones	Not recommended Regulatory-approved preparations preferred globally	Not directly addressed Licensed doses only in scope	Not recommended ; Aligned with TMS and IMS positions	Not recommended ; FDA/Health Canada-approved products preferred
Testosterone	Recommended for hypoactive sexual desire disorder (HSDD); not FDA-approved; off-label with SDM	No FDA-approved formulation for menopause; use compounded testosterone with SDM; recommend against pellet therapy	Not addressed	Androgen replacement for clinical signs of androgen insufficiency; individualize	Not addressed in NG23 directly	Emerging evidence; off-label; SDM required	Brief sexual history at initial assessment; testosterone options reviewed; SDM framework
Vaginal estrogen / GSM	Low-dose vaginal estrogen appropriate at any age and extended duration for GSM; may be used in breast cancer survivors (observational support)	Appropriate for urogenital symptoms ; consider in breast cancer survivors after non-hormonal options exhausted	Recommended for GSM ; low risk as its not systemic	Vaginal estrogen for urogenital atrophy does not require progestogen co-medication; effective and low systemic absorption	Offer vaginal oestrogen for GSM ; consider in breast cancer survivors if non-hormonal insufficient (off-label noted)	Low-dose vaginal estrogen appropriate for GSM at any age ; endorsed for breast cancer survivors with caution	Local vaginal estrogen appropriate for GSM ; not contraindicated in most breast cancer survivors
HT for bone protection	Supported FDA-approved for prevention	Supported; Approved for osteoporosis prevention ;	Not addressed	Supported ; Effective for all osteoporosis-related fractures	Conditional HRT offers bone protection;	Supported MHT for bone loss prevention ; gap identified for	Supported MHT approved for bone loss prevention ; use with

	(not treatment) of osteoporosis; reduces fracture risk Level I	periodic reassessment		including vertebral and hip; even lower doses effective	may use for this in early menopause; not offered primarily for prevention at average menopause age	asymptomatic women	documented indication
HT for CVD prevention	Not recommended Not for primary CVD prevention in average-age menopause	Not recommended Against primary or secondary CVD prevention	Not recommended Does not recommend HT for cardiovascular protection	Not recommended; Primary CVD prevention not an indication; timing hypothesis supported but not CVD prevention framing	Not recommended; Do not offer HRT for primary or secondary CVD prevention	Not recommended; Aligned with NAMS (TMS) and IMS	Not recommended; MHT should not be prescribed for primary or secondary CVD prevention
POI / early menopause	HT recommended until at least average age of menopause (~52); higher risks without treatment (CVD, bone, cognitive)	HT supported; evaluate risks and benefits given longer exposure period	Earlier menopause = higher CVD risk; screening and prevention critical	HT strongly supported; benefits clearly outweigh risks; duration to natural menopause age at minimum	HRT until average age of menopause; benefits and risks between POI and typical menopause age group	HT recommended until average age of menopause; higher absolute benefit in this group	HT recommended until ~52 unless contraindicated; oral contraceptives as alternative in younger women