

Women's sex drive can be boosted with testosterone. Long-term risks need to be studied.

An absence of desire is not an inevitable facet of aging for women, [endocrinologist Susan] Davis says. There's a name for the condition in which women lose that spontaneous urge and interest: hypoactive sexual desire disorder, one form of FSD.

Previous studies have suggested that testosterone may be an effective therapy for low sexual desire in women, but data on other impacts, such as mood, and on the optimal delivery method were limited. Last week Davis and her colleagues published results in *Lancet Diabetes & Endocrinology* confirming that for women with this condition, [testosterone therapy can be effective](#). Unlike Viagra, it is not an acute treatment for overcoming physical difficulties and triggering in-the-moment arousal but rather a method of reinstating a desire for sex, Davis says.

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Both men and women naturally produce testosterone, which wanes with age in both sexes, contributing to dwindling sexual urges. It is not surprising that the effects of testosterone replacement in women echo those in men. The catch is that because this therapy and related research are primarily geared toward men, no one is quite sure what the long-term risks are for women, Davis says. The studies simply have not been done.

**Read full, original post:** [Testosterone Therapy Can Restore Women's Libido—but Questions Remain](#)