

Table 2.6. Case-control studies of estrogen-only menopausal therapy and colorectal cancer

Reference, study location and period	Characteristics of cases	Characteristics of controls	Exposure assessment	Organ site (ICD code)	Exposure categories	No. of exposed cases	OR(95% CI)*	Adjustment for potential confounders	Comments
Jacobs <i>et al.</i> (1999) west Washington state, USA, 1984-93	441 women diagnosed with invasive adenocarcinoma of the colon, from Group Health Cooperative of Puget Sound (GHC), aged 55-79 years, identified through Seattle-Puget Sound SEER database	2180 controls selected from GHC, 5:1 matched by year of birth (5-year categories) and length of GHC enrollment (3-year categories)	Primary source: GHC computerized pharmacy database; secondary source: GHC breast cancer screening questionnaire	Colon (153.0-153.9)	Unopposed estrogen <i>Recent use during a 5-year period</i> 0 <750 ≥750 Estrogen tablet count <i>Recent use during a 10-year period</i> 0 <750 ≥750	268 21 28 96 18 26	1.0 0.86 (0.53-1.40) 1.07 (0.69-1.65) 1.0 1.07 (0.61-1.86) 1.11 (0.69-1.80)	Age	Unopposed estrogen use
Prihartono <i>et al.</i> , (2000) Massachusetts USA 1992-1994	1201 incident cases of large bowel cancer, all having had a natural menopause or a hysterectomy, identified from tumor registrars of 71 collaborating Massachusetts hospitals that treated an estimated 90% or more of incident large bowel cancers in Massachusetts (65% response rate)	1201 matched controls, all having had a natural menopause or a hysterectomy, drawn from Massachusetts town lists, which give the gender and age of all adult residents, matched on 5-year age group, gender, and town precinct (66% response rate)	Structured telephone interviews	Colon	<i>Unopposed estrogen use</i> Never use Interval since last use <1 year Duration 5+ years	212 22 17	1.0 0.5 (0.2-0.9) 0.5 (0.2-0.9)	Fat, fruit and vegetable intake, vigorous leisure time physical activity, BMI, history of colorectal screening	Results not given for rectal cancer

GHC, Group Health Co-operative