

TESTOSTERONE AND CORONARY ARTERY PLAQUE VOLUME IN OLDER MEN WITH LOW TESTOSTERONE

On-line Only Supplement 2 Materials

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TITLE: THE TESTOSTERONE TRIAL

PROTOCOL

Sponsors	National Institute on Aging (NIA) and AbbVie, Inc.
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Study Summary

Title	The Testosterone Trials
Protocol Number	808676
Study Design	Randomized, placebo-controlled, double-blind study of five coordinated trials
Study Duration	Six years
Study Centers	Multi-center set of trials involving 12 clinical sites geographically distributed across the United States
Objectives	The primary specific aims are to test the hypotheses that testosterone treatment of elderly men whose serum testosterone concentrations are unequivocally low – and who have symptoms and/or objectively measured abnormalities in at least one of five areas that could be due to low testosterone (physical or sexual function, vitality, cognition, and anemia) – will result in more favorable changes in those abnormalities than placebo treatment.
Number of Subjects	800
Diagnosis and Main Inclusion Criteria	A constellation of conditions that occur as men age will be studied: mobility disability, decreased libido, low vitality, reduced memory performance, as well as anemia, all of which could be at least partially the result of low testosterone. Primary entry criteria will be age ≥ 65 years, an unequivocally low testosterone concentration (average of 2 morning testosterone values, < 275 ng/dL), and symptoms and objective manifestations of mobility disability, low libido, or low vitality.
Study Product, Dose, Route, Regimen	AndroGel®, testosterone in an alcohol-water gel, will be administered transdermally in doses from 5 to 15 grams per day, as necessary to maintain the serum testosterone concentration within the range of normal for young men.
Duration of administration	AndroGel or placebo will be administered to each subject for 12 months.
Reference therapy	The effects of AndroGel on the primary and secondary end points will be compared to effects of placebo on these end points.
Statistical Methodology	The primary end points for each of the five trials (Physical and Sexual Function, Vitality, Cognitive Function and Anemia) will be analyzed separately by random effects models for each specific trial.

1. Introduction

This document is a protocol for a human research study to be conducted according to US and international standards of Good Clinical Practice (FDA Title 21 part 312 and International Conference on Harmonization guidelines), applicable government regulations and institutional research policies and procedures.

This trial is supported by the National Institute on Aging (NIA), the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS), the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD), the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute (NHLBI) and AbbVie , Inc.

1.1. Background

As men get older, they experience many conditions, often together, that eventually result in the inability to perform many activities of daily living, an increased propensity to fall, and decreased independence. These conditions include mobility disability and low vitality. Elderly men also experience increased anemia, metabolic syndrome, decreased sexual function and memory impairment. These conditions likely have multiple causes, but one cause that could contribute to all of them is a low serum testosterone concentration. When young hypogonadal men are treated with testosterone, they experience improvements in sexual function, muscle mass and strength, bone mineral density, sense of well being, and anemia. However, the benefits of testosterone therapy in older men with age-related decline in testosterone concentration are not known and are the subject of this investigation.

1.2. Decrease in Testosterone as Men Age

As men age, their serum testosterone concentration falls gradually from age 20 to over age 80, as demonstrated by both cross-sectional (1) and longitudinal studies (2-4). By the eighth decade, approximately 30% of men have concentrations of total testosterone lower than normal for young men and 70% have free testosterone concentrations lower than normal for young men (3). Age-related decline in testosterone concentrations is associated with decreases in physical function, sexual function, vitality, and, in some studies, decreases in memory and cognitive function.

1.3. Conditions that Testosterone Treatment Might Improve

1.3.1. Physical Function

As men age, they experience a decrease in muscle mass and strength and in physical function (5). Decreased muscle mass and strength leads to impairment of physical function and mobility (6, 7). Mobility disability is a highly prevalent recognized geriatric syndrome. The 6-minute walk test, which assesses walking speed and distance, is a standardized, reliable measure of mobility (8).

In population studies in elderly men (9, 10), lower testosterone concentrations are associated with decreased physical function. Testosterone treatment of young hypogonadal men significantly increases lean body mass (11, 12) and muscle strength (11). Clinical trials in which elderly men with low-normal serum testosterone concentrations were treated with testosterone have consistently demonstrated an increase in muscle mass, but less consistently demonstrated increases in muscle strength and physical function (13-15). Limited data from clinical trials suggest that testosterone therapy might improve walking speed.

1.3.2. Sexual Function

Aging in men is associated with reduced sexual activity, which may respond to testosterone. Sexual desire, erection, and ejaculation decrease linearly from 20 to 70 years (16-18). Erectile dysfunction occurs in approximately 20-30% of men in their 50s, and by age 70, most men have lost the capacity for firm erection or satisfying orgasm. One possible explanation for the decline in sexual function with age is the concomitant fall in testosterone. A meta-analysis of randomized, placebo-controlled studies concluded that testosterone improves sexual function, the more so the lower the pretreatment testosterone concentrations (19). The possibility that testosterone treatment will improve sexual function may depend on other factors, such as the availability of a willing partner, use of PDE5 inhibitors, and overall health. It is also possible that testosterone will affect some aspects of sexual function more than others, especially Hypoactive Sexual Desire Disorder (diminished libido).

1.3.3. Vitality

Several lines of evidence suggest that a decrease in testosterone contributes to age-related decreases in vitality, sense of well-being, and quality of life. Several epidemiologic studies have documented an association between serum testosterone concentrations and mood and vitality, mostly in the setting of depression (20, 21). Low testosterone in elderly men is associated more with subsyndromal depression and related symptoms than with major depression. The ability of testosterone treatment to improve vitality, mood, and well being in men who are severely hypogonadal due to known pituitary or testicular disease is accepted by endocrinologists. A few prospective studies have also documented improvements in vitality and well being during testosterone therapy (22-24).

1.3.4. Cognitive Function

The fall in testosterone levels with increasing age is accompanied by a decline in cognitive function, including reductions in verbal and visual memory, spatial ability and executive function (25-27). Several studies of elderly men suggest that age-related declines in circulating testosterone levels are associated with reduced cognitive function, and elderly men with prostate cancer made hypogonadal by androgen deprivation therapy show cognitive impairments relative to their pretreatment performance in verbal memory, visual memory, spatial ability, and executive function (28-30). In addition, a number of small randomized trials suggest that testosterone may benefit memory in elderly men. Together, these studies suggest that lower testosterone levels or androgen action are associated with poorer cognitive functioning in otherwise healthy elderly men and that testosterone treatment may improve memory functioning.

1.3.5. Anemia

Testosterone is well known to stimulate erythropoiesis (12). Low testosterone is associated with anemia in elderly men (31). Anemia in elderly men is associated with current disability (32) and predicts future morbidity and mortality after adjusting for comorbidities (33). We shall therefore determine if testosterone corrects anemia.

1.4. Conditions Testosterone Might Worsen

1.4.1. Prostate Cancer

Elderly men often harbor clinically silent prostate cancer. The testosterone-dependency of metastatic prostate cancer is illustrated by regression following surgical or medical castration

(34) and exacerbation following testosterone treatment (35). Many elderly men harbor occult prostate cancer (36). There is no direct evidence, however, that either high endogenous serum testosterone concentrations or testosterone treatment of men with low testosterone concentrations increases the risk of clinical prostate cancer. Randomized, placebo-controlled trials of testosterone in elderly men show that testosterone increases PSA but not prostate cancer, although their statistical power to detect a difference between treatment groups was very small (37).

One challenge with regard to prostate cancer in planning this trial is to protect individuals who volunteer. We shall exclude men who have a prostate nodule by manual examination or a serum PSA concentration above a defined value; and then we will monitor men who do enroll by repeating the manual examination and the PSA measurement during the trial. Unfortunately, there is no PSA value that has both high specificity and sensitivity for detecting prostate cancer (38). A Prostate Cancer Risk Calculator was devised to allow prediction of a man's risk of both overall and high-grade prostate cancer. This Risk Calculator (<http://www.compass.fhcrc.org/edrnci/bin/calculator/main.asp>) has been applied to another population of 3488 men (39). Because this Calculator does not take into account the serum testosterone concentration, and a low serum testosterone concentration results in a lower PSA, we shall adjust the serum PSA concentration to account for the low testosterone. This adjustment will be based on the regression coefficient (0.00128) derived from data from the European Male Aging Study showing a direct correlation between serum testosterone and PSA. Each man's PSA will be adjusted to what it would be if his serum testosterone were 460 ng/dL as in the following equation: Adjusted PSA = PSA + (460 - testosterone level) x 0.00128. For example, if a man's measured PSA is 1.0 ng/mL and testosterone is 200 ng/dL, the PSA will be adjusted upward by (460 - 200) x 0.00128 = 0.33. The adjusted PSA, 1.33 ng/mL, would then be used in the Prostate Cancer Risk Calculator. The serum PSA will also be increased, and specifically, doubled, before its use, when the subject is taking a 5-alpha reductase inhibitor.

In addition to selecting men at relatively low risk of developing prostate cancer by using the Prostate Risk Calculator, we have proposed criteria by which to monitor them during a testosterone trial. We chose a PSA increment criterion based on data from the placebo arm of a finasteride study. Taking into account the upward adjustment of the baseline PSA of 0.3-0.4 ng/mL, as above, we shall use an increment of 1.0 ng/mL above the adjusted baseline PSA confirmed by repeat determination, as the criterion for referral for urological evaluation and prostate biopsy.

1.4.2. Benign Prostatic Hypertrophy (BPH) and Lower Urinary Tract Symptoms (LUTS)

Despite the theoretical reasons that testosterone treatment could increase the risk of LUTS due to BPH, interventional studies have not demonstrated this risk. We shall monitor lower urinary tract symptoms during this trial.

1.4.3. Erythrocytosis

Testosterone stimulates erythropoiesis, so a potential consequence is erythrocytosis. We shall determine if a man whose hemoglobin is normal before treatment experiences an increase above normal (erythrocytosis) during treatment.

1.4.4. Sleep Apnea

Some evidence suggests that testosterone may exacerbate sleep apnea, although the evidence is weak. To be safe, we shall exclude men with diagnosed but untreated sleep apnea from these trials.

1.4.5. Cardiovascular Disease

In a recent study in men ≥ 65 years of age, men treated with testosterone experienced significantly more cardiac serious adverse events than men treated with placebo (unpublished). However, in another recent study (Srinivas-Shankar, J Clin Endocrinol Metab 95: 1220, 2010), no such excess occurred. In addition, Murad and Montori performed a meta-analysis of 51 randomized controlled trials of testosterone, in which nine reported serious cardiac adverse events. The quality of evidence was considered low because of few events, brief length of observation, and substantial loss of subjects to observation. Nonetheless, they concluded that “Compared with placebo, testosterone therapy was not associated with a significant increase in the risk of death, myocardial infarction (MI), revascularization procedures, cardiac arrhythmias, or a cardiac composite that included MI, revascularization procedures and cardiac arrhythmias.” Including these new trials did not change the conclusions.

1.5. Genetic Propensity to Respond to Testosterone

Variability in both beneficial and deleterious effects of testosterone may be explained by the fact that serum testosterone concentrations do not predict androgen responsiveness well, most likely due to genetic differences in 1) androgen action or metabolism due to relative conversion to active metabolites (such as estradiol or dihydrotestosterone), binding proteins (i.e. SHBG), and/or tissue-specific coactivators or corepressors; or 2) tissue-specific end-organ response to androgens due to coexistent polymorphisms of modulator genes. Our strategy is to evaluate this genetic predilection to beneficial and adverse effects of treatment by testosterone. Therefore, we shall collect peripheral blood lymphocytes for genetic analyses.

2. Study Objectives

The primary specific aims of the coordinated set of randomized, placebo-controlled clinical trials are to test the hypotheses that testosterone treatment of elderly men whose serum testosterone concentrations are unequivocally low – and who have symptoms and/or objectively measured abnormalities that could be due to low testosterone (physical or sexual function, vitality, cognition, or anemia) – will result in more favorable changes in those abnormalities than placebo treatment. The trials are highly coordinated, but each trial has its own primary, secondary, and exploratory specific aims, as follows:

2.1. Physical Function Trial

Primary specific aim: To test the hypothesis that testosterone treatment for one year, compared with placebo, of men ≥ 65 years who have an average serum testosterone concentration < 275 ng/dL and mobility disability, as defined by self-reported difficulty in walking 1/4 mile and objectively measured gait speed < 1.2 meters/second on the six-minute walk test, will be associated with a greater proportion of men improving their six-minute walking distance by > 50 m.

Secondary specific aim: To test the hypotheses that testosterone treatment of these same men for one year, compared with placebo treatment, will be associated with greater improvement in self-reported physical function by the 10-item physical function (PF10) component of the SF36.

Exploratory aims: To determine if testosterone treatment, compared with placebo, will be associated with

1. Better patient global impression of change in walking ability,

2. A greater proportion of men in all of the trials (combined) improving their six-minute walking distance >50m,
3. A lower frequency of falls in men in this Trial and in all trials.

2.2. Sexual Function Trial

Primary specific aim: To test the hypothesis that testosterone treatment for one year, compared with placebo, of men ≥ 65 years who have an average serum testosterone concentration < 275 ng/dL and decreased libido by self-report and by the Derogatis Interview for Sexual Functioning in Men-II (DISF-M-II) questionnaire, will be associated with greater improvement in sexual activity, as assessed by the Harbor-UCLA 7-day Sexual Function Questionnaire, question 4.

Secondary specific aims: To test the hypotheses that in these men, testosterone treatment for one year, compared with placebo treatment, will be associated with more favorable outcomes in

1. Harbor-UCLA 7-day Sexual Function Questionnaire, Questions 1–3, and 5-6,
2. Libido, as assessed by the DISF-M-II,
3. Erectile function as assessed by International Index of Erectile Function (IIEF).

Exploratory aims: To determine if testosterone treatment for one year, compared with placebo, will be associated with

1. Better patient global impression of change in sexual activity,
2. More favorable change in the UCLA 7-day Sexual Function Questionnaire among men in all trials combined.

2.3. Vitality Trial

Primary specific aim: To test the hypothesis that testosterone treatment for one year, compared with placebo treatment, of men ≥ 65 years who have an average serum testosterone concentration < 275 ng/ and poor vitality, as defined by a score of <40 on the FACIT-Fatigue scale, will be associated with a greater percentage of men who have an improvement of ≥ 4 points in this test.

Secondary specific aims: To test the hypotheses that testosterone treatment for one year, compared with placebo, will result in more favorable outcomes in vitality/fatigue, as measured by the

1. SF-36 vitality scale,
2. Mood, as assessed by the Positive and Negative Affect Scales (PANAS)
3. PHQ-9 depression scale

Exploratory aims: Testosterone treatment for one year, compared with placebo treatment, will be associated with

1. A greater improvement in a patient global impression of vitality
2. A greater percentage of subjects who have an improvement of ≥ 4 units in the FACIT-Fatigue scale among men in all trials combined

2.4. Cognitive Function Trial

Primary specific aim: To test the hypothesis that testosterone treatment for one year, compared with placebo treatment, of men ≥ 65 years who have an average serum testosterone concentration < 275 ng/dL, who have subjective memory complaints as determined by their score on the MAC-Q questionnaire, and who demonstrate memory impairment as defined by a score on the Wechsler Memory Scale Revised Logical Memory II subscale recall (WMS-R LM II) or by Benton Visual Retention Test (BVRT) more than one SD below the performance for young men, aged 20-24 years [a criterion for age-associated memory impairment (AAMI) (40)] will result in greater improvement, or less decline, in verbal memory as assessed by the WMS-R LM II.

Secondary specific aims: To test the hypotheses that testosterone treatment for one year, compared with placebo, in the **impaired subset** of the study population defined above, will result in greater improvement or less decline in:

1. Visual memory assessed by the Benton Visual Retention Test (BVRT),
2. Spatial ability assessed by the Card Rotation test, and
3. Executive function/working memory assessed by the Trail Making Test (TMT).

Exploratory aims: Testosterone treatment for one year, compared with placebo treatment will result in greater improvement, or less decline in:

1. Verbal memory as assessed by the Wechsler Memory Scale Revised (WMS-R) Logical Memory II (WMS-R LM II) subtest, in all subjects, regardless of extent of memory impairment at baseline. The rationale for performing these tests in all subjects, regardless of presence or absence of impairment at baseline, is to determine if the cognitive response to testosterone depends on a demonstrated baseline impairment.
2. Patient global impression of change (PGIC) in memory,
3. Global cognitive function assessed by the Modified Mini-Mental State Examination (3MSE).

2.5. Anemia Trial

Primary Specific Aim: Testosterone treatment for a year, compared with placebo, of men who are anemic at baseline (hemoglobin concentration < 13.5 g/dL) will be associated with a greater proportion whose anemia is corrected.

2.6. Measurements Across All Trials

The close coordination of the trials will permit measurements across all trials and hypotheses testing in the entire study group.

Secondary aim:

1. Testosterone treatment for one year, compared to placebo, of men in all trials will be associated with improved mood, as assessed by the Positive and Negative Affect Scales (PANAS) (41).

Exploratory aims:

1. Testosterone treatment for a year, compared with placebo, of men in all the trials, not just those who qualify for an individual trial, will be associated with better scores in each of the five primary end points.

2. Testosterone treatment for one year, compared with placebo, of all men in the study will be associated with a decrease in falls.
3. Testosterone treatment for one year, compared to placebo, of all men will be associated with better depression scores on PHQ-9.
4. Testosterone treatment for one year, compared with placebo, of men in all trials, will be associated with better scores on:
 - a patient global impression of change (PGIC) question in each primary efficacy area,
 - the sum of the PGIC questions in all primary efficacy areas, and
 - an overall PGIC question.
5. Testosterone treatment for one year, compared to placebo, will increase the incidence of a rise in prostate specific antigen (PSA), even after correction of the baseline value for low testosterone, sufficient to trigger a prostate biopsy.

3. Study Design

3.1. General Design

This study is designed as five separate, but highly coordinated, randomized, placebo-controlled clinical trials of the effect of testosterone in men ≥ 65 years who have a low serum testosterone concentration and symptoms and objective manifestations of abnormalities in the areas of physical function, sexual function, vitality and/or cognition.

The study will be conducted at 12 clinical sites across the United States. The data coordinating center at the University of Pennsylvania will coordinate the activities of the trial sites, central laboratory, central pharmacy, and associated reading centers. The trials are planned to take six years.

3.2. Study Endpoints

3.2.1. Physical Function Trial Endpoints

The physical function trial endpoints will be measured at 3, 6, 9 and 12 months.

Primary Endpoint:

- Mobility, as assessed by the 6-minute walk test

Secondary Endpoints:

- Physical function, as assessed by the physical function 10-item scale (PF10) of MOS SF36

Exploratory Endpoints:

- Patient global impression of change in walking a quarter mile
- Fall frequency in men in this trial and in all men

3.2.2. Sexual Function Trial Endpoints

The sexual function trial endpoints will be measured at 3, 6, 9 and 12 months.

Primary Endpoint:

- Overall sexual activity, as assessed by question 4 of the Harbor-UCLA 7-Day Sexual Function Questionnaire

Secondary Endpoints:

- Harbor-UCLA 7-day Sexual Function Questionnaire, Questions 1–3, and 5-6
- Libido, as assessed by the DISF-M-II
- Erectile function as assessed by International Index of Erectile Function (IIEF)

Exploratory Endpoints:

- Patient global impression of change in sexual activity

3.2.3. Vitality Trial Endpoints

The vitality trial endpoints will be measured at 3, 6, 9 and 12 months.

Primary Endpoint:

- Fatigue, as assessed by the 13-item FACIT-Fatigue Scale

Secondary Endpoints:

- Well-being, as assessed by the positive and negative scale (PANAS)
- Vitality scale of the SF-36
- PHQ-9 depression score

Exploratory Endpoints:

- Patient global impression of change in fatigue/vitality

3.2.4. Cognitive Function Trial Endpoints

The Cognitive Function Trial endpoints will be measured at 6 and 12 months. All subjects in all trials will be assessed by all cognitive function end points.

Primary Endpoint (in those subjects who have memory impairment at baseline):

- Verbal memory, as assessed by score on the WMS-R LM II

Secondary Endpoints (in those subjects who have memory impairment at baseline):

- Visual memory, as assessed by the BVRT
- Spatial ability, as assessed by the Card Rotations Test
- Working memory/executive function, as assessed by the Trail Making Test (B-A score)

Exploratory Endpoints:

- Patient global impression of change in cognitive function
- WMS-R LM II, BVRT, Card Rotations, and Trail Making Test in all subjects (both subjects who have memory impairment at baseline and those who do not)

3.2.5. Anemia Trial Endpoint

Primary Endpoint:

- Correction of anemia, as assessed by hemoglobin increasing from <13.5 to ≥ 13.5 g/dL.

3.3. Safety Measurements

Although this study will not have sufficient statistical power to assess the effect of testosterone on the safety parameters below, we shall monitor subjects for the development of these conditions because of the possibility that testosterone treatment could increase the risk.

3.3.1. Prostate Cancer

Prostate cancer will be diagnosed by prostate biopsy. Men will be referred for urologic evaluation for consideration of biopsy when either a prostate nodule is palpated on digital rectal examination or the serum PSA concentration increases ≥ 1.0 ng/mL above the testosterone-corrected baseline value, confirmed by a repeat determination.

3.3.2. Lower Urinary Tract Symptoms Due to Benign Prostatic Hyperplasia

Lower urinary tract symptoms will be evaluated by the International Prostate Symptoms Score (IPSS) questionnaire. An increase of >5 points or to an absolute value of >19 will result in a review of medications that affect urine flow rates and evaluation for prostatitis. If a cause is found, it should be treated. If no cause is found, treatment with an alpha blocker should be considered. If the subject is treated and symptoms persist, or if acute urinary retention occurs, the subject should be referred for urological consultation. If the urologist treats the subject and the score does not decrease below the above thresholds, gel treatment will be discontinued

3.3.3. Erythrocytosis

Erythrocytosis will be evaluated by hemoglobin. If the value increases to ≥ 17.5 g/dL, the subject will have repeat hemoglobin and testosterone measurements. If the testosterone concentration is above the target range, the number of depressions daily will be decreased and the hemoglobin repeated again. If the hemoglobin is still elevated, he will be referred for evaluation. If no treatable cause is found, the dose of testosterone will be decreased. At month 12, when treatment has stopped, men with elevated hemoglobin upon repeat will return for another hemoglobin test after 3 months time. The expectation is that after 3 months any effect the testosterone had on the hemoglobin will have dissipated.

3.3.4. Sleep Apnea

Men will be asked if they have been diagnosed with sleep apnea and are being treated. If they have been diagnosed but are not being treated, study medication will be discontinued. If subjects are being treated for sleep apnea, they will continue in the study.

3.3.5. Cardiovascular Disease

In order to determine if there is a relationship between testosterone treatment and cardiovascular events, we will administer a focused questionnaire about cardiovascular health at baseline and two others during treatment, one about incident cardiovascular events and one about incident symptoms. When a myocardial infarction, emergency revascularization, congestive heart failure, stroke or sudden death is reported, hospital records will be acquired

and evaluated. A committee of experienced cardiologists and neurologists will be appointed to adjudicate these events. The baseline questionnaire will allow us to assess balance between the two treatment arms in cardiovascular disease. The questionnaires about incident cardiovascular events and symptoms will help determine if testosterone treatment is associated with an increase in cardiovascular events. These questionnaires will be administered at each visit during the one year of treatment and also during the year of observation after treatment.

3.3.6. Fractures

Fractures will be monitored in follow up visits during the course of the trial. If a participant reports they had a fracture at a follow up visit the sites will follow up and request all possible medical records related to the fracture. This will include, but is not limited to, X-rays, CT scans, MRIs, other imaging exams, orthopedic and or operating notes. These documents will be sent for review to confirm the fracture diagnosis.

4. Subject Selection and Withdrawal

4.1. Number of Subjects

Subjects will be evaluated for study eligibility during Screening Visit 2. The total sample size is 800 for the entire study. Each clinical site is expected to enroll approximately 67 subjects. It is projected that 85% of subjects allocated to treatment will complete the 12 months of treatment.

4.2. Common Inclusion Criteria

The inclusion criteria common to all subjects in all trials are as follows:

- Men ≥ 65 years old
- Total serum testosterone concentration at screening visit 1 (SV1) < 275 ng/dL, at screening visit 2 (SV2) < 300 ng/dL and an average serum testosterone concentration of < 275 ng/dL
- If the main T Trial has reached its enrollment goals, men must be eligible for either the Bone Trial or the CV Trial, if they are still open to enrollment (Please refer to the separate Bone Trial and CV Trial protocols for study details and study specific inclusion/exclusion criteria)

Blood should be collected from subjects who have been fasting (only water in the previous 8 hours). Only fasting samples are acceptable.

4.3. Common Exclusion Criteria

The exclusion criteria common to all subjects are as follows:

- Diagnosed prostate cancer or prostatic intraepithelial neoplasia (PIN) or, by the Prostate Cancer Risk Calculator, a $> 35\%$ risk of having overall prostate cancer or $> 7\%$ risk of having high grade prostate cancer
- Severe lower urinary tract symptoms (score of > 19) by the International Prostate Symptom Score questionnaire
- Hemoglobin < 10 g/dL or > 16.0 g/dL. Subjects who have hemoglobin level below 10 g/dL will be referred to their primary care providers for evaluation of anemia.

- Sleep apnea, diagnosed but untreated
- Alcohol or substance abuse within the past year (based on self report)
- Angina not controlled by treatment,
- NYHA class III or IV congestive heart failure
- Myocardial infarction within the previous 3 months
- Stroke within the previous 3 months
- Hypertension, defined as systolic blood pressure of >160 mm Hg or a diastolic blood pressure >100 mm Hg.
- Severe pulmonary disease that precludes physical function tests
- Serum creatinine >2.2 mg/dL; ALT 3x upper limit of normal; hemoglobin A1c >8.5%
- TSH > 7.5 mIU/L
- Kidney disease requiring dialysis
- Diagnosis or treatment for cancer within the past 3 years, with the exception of nonmelanotic skin cancers
- Body mass index (BMI) >37 kg/m²
- Average testosterone concentration > 275 ng/dL; SV1 value > 275 ng/dL or an SV2 value of > 300 ng/dL
- Mini Mental State Exam (MMSE) Score <24

- Major psychiatric disorders, including major depression (PHQ-9 score > 14), mania, hypomania, psychosis, schizophrenia or schizoaffective disorders, that are untreated, unstable, have resulted in hospitalization or medication change within the previous three months, or would result in inability to complete the trial efficacy instruments. Subjects whose disorders have been stable while being treated for more than three months are eligible.
- Skin conditions at the testosterone gel application site, such as ulcer, erosion, lichenification, inflammation, or crust, or generalized skin conditions such as psoriasis or eczema that might affect testosterone absorption or tolerability of the testosterone gel
- Known skin intolerance to alcohol or allergy to any of the ingredients of testosterone gel

Medications:

Subjects who are using the following medications will be excluded:

- *Drugs that affect serum testosterone concentration*, (eg, testosterone, androstenedione, DHEA, estrogens, GnRH analogs, spironolactone, and ketoconazole) for 2 months during the previous 12 months or within the previous three months.
- rhGH or megestrol acetate within the previous three months.
- Anti-depressant medication that has been introduced within the past three months. (Subjects with diagnosed depression who have been stable for more than three months while taking anti-depressant medication are eligible.)
- Prednisone (dose of greater than 5 mg daily) use daily for more than two weeks, or equivalent doses of other glucocorticoids for more than two weeks during the previous three months.
- Opiate use within the past three months. Subjects who are using opiate analgesics intermittently for relief of chronic pain at doses that do not equal or exceed the equivalent of 20 mg methadone daily will be included. The following doses of opiate analgesics are considered equivalent:
 - Methadone 20 mg
 - Hydrocodone 30 mg

- Oxycodone 30 mg
- Morphine sulfate 30 mg
- Codeine sulfate 200 mg

4.3.1. Evaluation of T Level < 100

Men with a testosterone level < 100 ng/dL at SV1 or SV2 will be evaluated by the study physician or referred to an endocrinologist for the measures described below. Assessment of the following laboratory test results in combination will inform the physician of the need for further testing by MRI.

- serum LH > 9.3 mIU/mL
 - total T4 < 4.5 µg/dL
 - prolactin >30 ng/mL
 - cortisol <10 µg/dL
 - repeat testosterone
- a. These five (5) tests will require a 10 cc venous blood draw. Blood must be drawn between 7 – 10 AM. Participants must be fasting for these tests which is defined as drinking only water after midnight of the night before the blood draw.
 - b. Men will be excluded who have a sellar mass >1 cm by an MRI scan of the head, in the absence of an elevated LH level.
 - c. Men will be excluded who have a history of mumps orchitis, castration, Klinefelter's syndrome or chemotherapy with an elevated LH level.
 - d. Clinical site staff must document that the participant has been told that standard medical treatment for a serum testosterone concentration < 100 ng/dL, is testosterone replacement, yet there is a 50% chance he would receive placebo for one year if he participates in The Testosterone Trial.

4.4. Inclusion and Exclusion Criteria for Physical Function Trial

Inclusion criteria: symptomatic mobility disability, defined by

- Self-reported difficulty in walking one-quarter mile and/or self-reported difficulty in walking up one flight of stairs and
- Walking speed <1.2 meters/second on the 6-min walk test

Exclusion criteria:

- Not ambulatory
- Other conditions affecting mobility of sufficient severity that testosterone is unlikely to improve, including neurological conditions (multiple sclerosis) and severe disabling arthritis of the lower extremity, joints, or back

4.5. Inclusion and Exclusion Criteria for Sexual Function Trial

Inclusion criteria:

- Self reported decreased libido and a sexual partner willing to have sexual intercourse \geq twice/month
- Decreased libido, defined by a score of ≤ 20 on the DISF-M-II SR questionnaire

Exclusion criteria:

- Medical or nonmedical reasons that would preclude sexual activity (e.g., penile deformity, Peyronie's disease, pelvic surgery for bladder cancer)
- Severe peripheral vascular disease associated with an absence of pedal pulses
- Autonomic neuropathy

4.6. Inclusion and Exclusion Criteria for Vitality Trial

Inclusion Criteria:

- Decreased energy, self-reported
- Low vitality, defined by a score < 40 on the FACIT-Fatigue Scale

4.7. Cognition Trial

Cognitive function tests will be performed in all men in all trials, so there will be no specific inclusion or exclusion criteria for this Trial

During the informed consent process, subjects will be asked for permission to audio-tape the testing sessions. Subjects may refuse and continue to participate in the study. This is done for quality control purposes at the Wake Forest University (WFU) Cognitive Function Reading Center. Recordings will be erased after scoring is completed.

4.8. Inclusion and Exclusion Criteria for Anemia Trial

Inclusion Criterion:

- Hemoglobin concentration < 13.5 g/dL, the lower limit of normal for the central laboratory

Exclusion Criteria:

- Hemoglobin < 10.0 g/dL

4.9. Subject Recruitment and Screening

The principal goals of recruitment are to identify men who have conditions that might be caused by a low testosterone concentration and who are representative of the United States population geographically, racially and ethnically. Recruitment techniques will include use of national media, local media, mass mailings by zip code, including retirement communities, retired employee groups (military, unions), graduates of local universities of appropriate graduating classes; local talks; direct recruitment at residential facilities for the elderly; focus groups to identify potential barriers to recruitment; and listing on ClinicalTrials.gov.

4.10. Early Withdrawal of Subjects

Because these trials are based on the principle of “intent-to-treat”, every attempt will be made to follow and evaluate all enrolled subjects for the duration of the trials. Therefore, even if treatment is discontinued, the subject will be asked to complete the appropriate evaluations.

5. Study Drug

5.1. Description

The study drug is AndroGel®(AbbVie, Inc., North Chicago, IL), which contains 1% testosterone in an alcohol-water gel and is FDA-approved for treatment of low testosterone in men. AbbVie will provide AndroGel in pumps, which deliver 1.25 g of gel per depression. AbbVie will also provide identical pumps with placebo gel.

5.2. Treatment Regimen

AndroGel or placebo will be applied to the abdomen, shoulders or upper arms once a day at the same time to dry, intact skin. Subjects will be instructed to wash their hands after application and to let the gel dry before dressing. It is important not to have contact with women or children while the gel is wet. They will also be asked not to bathe or get this area wet for five hours after application. Subjects will be taught how to apply the gel and they will be provided with written instructions and precautions. This information will be reviewed at each contact and visit.

The initial dose of AndroGel will be 5.0 g once a day. The serum testosterone concentration will be measured monthly for the first three months. If the testosterone concentration is not between 500 and 800 ng/dL at any time point, the dose will be either increased by increments of 1.25-2.5 g/day, up to a maximum of 15 g/day or decreased by increments of 1.25-3.75 ng/day. If the serum testosterone concentration is >800 ng/dL following two consecutive reductions in AndroGel dose, treatment will be discontinued. A placebo subject will also be discontinued.

Men who stop treatment due to two consecutive reductions will have a repeat testosterone determination after two weeks. If the repeat testosterone value is <500 ng/dL (the lower limit of the target range) the participant will resume gel use. In this situation, the initial dose will be 1.25 g (one depression) a day, no matter how low the serum testosterone concentration. The matched placebo participant will resume gel use as well.

Men who are increased to the maximum dose of 15g/day will be asked to return for a serum testosterone determination within one month of the dose change. A subject from the placebo-treated group will also be asked to return for testosterone determination.

If the serum testosterone level is >1500 ng/dL the testosterone test will be repeated by the central lab, Quest. If the level is still >1500 ng/dL, the participant will be called in for an unscheduled blood draw for safety and so appropriate dosing can be insured. Levels of testosterone which are this high are typically caused by incorrect application or contamination at the blood draw site; for this reason proper gel application instructions will be reviewed at the time of the unscheduled blood draw. In order to maintain blinding of the sites, the DCC staff will instruct a site to also bring in a placebo subject for a repeat blood draw.

Furthermore in the case of a need for a repeat value due to a problem with the blood draw or an out of range value for any lab result, participants will be asked to return for a repeat blood draw and will be matched with a placebo participant to maintain the blind. The matching will be done by the DCC.

To maintain blinding when the dose of a subject in the testosterone group needs to be changed, a designated, unblinded DCC staff member will instruct the clinical trial site personnel to change that subject's dose, and also instruct that the dose (i.e., amount of gel) of a subject in the placebo group be changed at a randomly selected site (if possible) as well.

Reasonable efforts will be made to maintain blinding of investigators and staff members at clinical sites, provided such efforts do not impede subject safety.

5.3. Method for Assigning Subjects to Treatment Groups

Treatment assignment and balancing on prognostic factors will be done by the technique of minimization, rather than stratified randomization, because the sample size for this study (800) is not large enough to assure balance given the large number of strata that would be needed using the latter technique. Minimization will be performed by using a computer program developed at the Mayo Clinic in SAS Version 8. Factors for balancing for each of the five primary efficacy trials in which a subject may participate include study site, baseline serum testosterone concentration, age, and current use of an antidepressant. Additionally, use of a PDE-5 inhibitor will be balanced for those participating in the Sexual Function Trial.

5.4. Preparation and Administration of Study Drug

AndroGel pumps containing active and placebo gels will be supplied by AbbVie to the Investigational Drug Service (IDS) at the University of Pennsylvania, which will be the Central Pharmacy. The IDS will supply the pumps to the research pharmacies at each of the 12 trial sites. Subjects will be asked to return used pumps, which will be weighed. The weight will provide an assessment of the subject's compliance.

5.5. Storage

Bulk supplies of study medication will be stored in the central pharmacy at controlled room temperature (20-25 Celsius). Study medication that is labeled for individual study subjects and shipped to participating study sites will be stored at controlled room temperature (20-25 Celsius) with short temperature excursions allowed within the range of 15 to 30 Celsius.

5.6. Dispensing of Study Drug, and Return or Destruction of Study Drug

Blinded, tamper-sealed treatment kits containing a 3-month supply of testosterone or placebo, will be shipped to each site and stored securely. Each kit will be labeled with a specific randomization number, which will be repeated on each individually-labeled pump bottle. The initial set of pumps will be dispensed to the study subject only after randomization has taken place. Additional blinded and tamper-sealed sets of pumps will be provided to the sites in 3-month increments as refills, labeled for the individual study subject, after randomization has taken place. At appropriate intervals, there will be reconciliation of drug shipped, drug consumed, and drug remaining.

5.7. Concomitant Medications

Concomitant medications will be recorded. Subjects will be asked specifically if they are taking PDE5 inhibitors, antidepressants, antipsychotic drugs, or androgenic drugs.

6. Study Procedures and Visits

6.1. Telephone Prescreening

Potential subjects who call the trial site in response to advertisements or respond to a trial staff member at a health fair, etc., will be asked the following questions:

- Are you willing to answer questions about your possible participation in a testosterone research study?
- Are you 65 years of age or older?
- Do you have difficulty walking a quarter of a mile or climbing one flight of stairs?
- Has your desire for sex decreased?
- Is your energy is low?

Subjects will be asked several questions about major exclusion criteria such as recent use of testosterone, use of medications that affect bone, history of spinal surgeries and spinal conditions, history of cancer, stroke, heart attack, atrial fibrillation (if the CV Trial is open to enrollment), and height and weight to calculate body mass index. If a potential subject is willing to answer questions, is ≥ 65 years old, and not excluded by the medical history, he will be asked to schedule Screening Visit 1, the first in-person visit.

6.1.1. Screening Visit 1

Subjects will first be asked to give written, informed consent for Screening Visits 1 and 2 and to be assessed for eligibility for the Bone and/or CV Trial, using the Screening Consent Form.

Screening Visit 1 - Assessments and Procedures

- Screening Consent
- Brief medical and medications history
- Blood draw – 30 mL (Serum T, PSA reflex and chemistry panel reflex/ eGFR)

If the serum testosterone concentration is < 275 ng/dL, and the risk of overall prostate cancer is $\leq 35\%$ and of high grade prostate cancer $\leq 7\%$, as determined by the National Cancer Institute Prostate Cancer Risk Calculator, the subject will be asked to schedule Screening Visit 2.

If the subject has a testosterone level < 100 ng/dL at either screening visit 1 or screening visit 2, he will be evaluated as described in Section 4.3.1.

6.1.2. Screening Visit 2

The following procedures and questionnaires will be completed:

- Complete medical history, including medications
- Blood draw - 30 mL (Serum testosterone, CBC, Hgb A1c, TSH)
- Urinalysis
- Height and weight (for BMI); waist, hip and blood pressure measurements
- Digital rectal examination (DRE)
- International Prostate Symptom Score (IPSS)
- 6-Minute Walk Test (Physical Function Trial screening test)
- Derogatis Inventory of Sexual Function Male (Sexual Function Trial screening test)
- PHQ-9 (Trial eligibility depression screening test)
- MMSE (for exclusion of moderate to severe dementia)
- Interactive Voice Response (IVR) System instruction
- Please refer to the Bone Trial protocol and/or CV Trial protocol, for specifics of procedures that may need to occur at SV2 for those trials

Eligibility will be determined based on the results of these screening tests. Subjects who have a second testosterone concentration <300 ng/dL, and an average testosterone concentration between screening visit 1 and screening visit 2 of <275 ng/dL, meet all the common eligibility criteria, described in 4.4, and meet all of the inclusion and exclusion criteria for at least one of the Physical Function, Sexual Function or Vitality Trials, described in 4.5 - 4.8, will be asked to schedule a baseline visit.

6.1.2.1. Data Collection and Interactive Voice Response (IVRS) System

Several methods will be used to collect data from study subjects including self-administration and interviewer-completed questionnaires. Data from a few questionnaires will be collected using the Interactive Voice Response System. IVR is a computer-based, automated touch-tone telephone system used increasingly to collect self-reported, personally sensitive data.

Clinical site personnel will train subjects in the use of the IVR system during the second screening visit in preparation for data collection by IVR, prior to randomization. Subjects will be registered in the IVR system by their T Trial identification number. Each subject will be provided a secure username and password that they will be instructed to change the first time they access the IVR system. The subject will complete the FACIT Fatigue Scale during SV2 using the IVR system. If the T level indicates that a subject is eligible, subjects will be contacted by site personnel and instructed to submit the following forms via the IVR system before the baseline visit:

- UCLA 7-day diary
- PANAS
- PHQ-9.
- Baseline status questions: general health, physical function, sexual function, vitality and cognitive function.

Clinical site personnel will communicate with subjects regarding use of the IVRS and missed responses. Data from the IVR database will be transferred to the DCC database electronically.

6.1.3. Baseline Visit

The entire study, including rationale, assessments, treatment, and potential risks, will be described to the subjects who are deemed eligible. Subjects will be given the option of participating in one or more of the Physical Function, Sexual Function, or Vitality Trials, if they qualify for them. Those who agree will sign the Trial Informed Consent. All subjects will participate in the Cognitive Function Trial, and those who are anemic will be considered as participating in the Anemia Trial. Only subjects who qualify for and agree to participate in the Sexual Function or Vitality Trials will be tested by the secondary end points in that trial.

6.1.3.1. Assessments and procedures for all subjects

All subjects will be tested for the primary efficacy endpoints for all the trials and by other common endpoints as listed below.

- Concomitant medications
- International Prostate Symptom Score
- Cardiovascular History Questionnaire
- Weight (for BMI), waist, hip and blood pressure measurements
- Blood draw - 30 mL (serum testosterone, PSA, Hct/Hgb, creatinine, FSH and LH, extra serum archived for SHBG, DHT, estradiol; pharmacogenomics)

- Additional serum (60 mL), plasma (10 mL), and urine (10 mL) will be collected and stored at -80° for assay of 25 hydroxyvitamin D and unanticipated assays
- An additional 10 mL of blood will be drawn for development of lymphoblastoid lines from men who agree to sign the separate and optional Genetics Consent Form.
- Primary Efficacy Endpoints for Each Trial:
 - 6-Minute Walk Test (Physical Function Trial)
- Other Common Endpoints:
 - Patient Global Impression Questions
 - Falls
 - 3MSE, WMS-R LM II, BVRT, Card Rotations, and Trail Making Test
 - MAC-Q
 - SF-36 (entire form)
- Please refer to the Bone Trial protocol and/or CV Trial protocol for specifics of procedures that may need to occur at the Baseline Visit for those Trials

6.1.3.2. Secondary efficacy endpoints

Subjects will be tested for secondary efficacy endpoints only for those trials in which they are specifically enrolled, with the exception of the physical function trial secondary endpoints, which will be tested in all men. All endpoints in the Vitality Trial will be completed by IVR. In the Sexual Function Trial, the UCLA Questionnaire will be completed via IVR.

Baseline Visit – Secondary Efficacy Endpoints for Each Trial

- Subjects enrolled in the Physical Function Trial:
 - PF-10
- Subjects enrolled in the Sexual Function Trial:
 - DISF-M-II SR
 - IIEF
- Subjects enrolled in the Vitality Trial:
 - SF-36 Vitality scale (IVR)

6.1.3.3. Endpoint for Anemia Trial

All subjects will have blood drawn for hemoglobin and hematocrit at the baseline visit, and at 3, 6, 9 and 12 months. Subjects who are anemic at the baseline visit will be considered to be enrolled in the Anemia Trial. They will require no additional tests.

6.1.3.4. Medication instructions

All subjects will be instructed in the use of the gel and given a three-month supply.

6.1.4. Months 1 and 2 Visits (\pm 7 days)

- Blood draw for serum testosterone (15 mL)
- Additional serum (20 mL), plasma (10 mL), and urine (10 mL) will be collected and stored at – 80°
- Concomitant medications
- Adverse Events
- Cardiovascular Event Questionnaire
- Cardiovascular Symptom Questionnaire
- Weigh used pumps
- Review gel application technique

- Dose adjustment, if necessary

After each of these visits, subjects will be notified by phone if an adjustment in gel dose is necessary.

6.1.5. Month 3 Visit (\pm 2 weeks)

6.1.5.1. Common assessments and procedures

- Concomitant medications
- Adverse events
- Cardiovascular Event Questionnaire
- Cardiovascular Symptom Questionnaire
- Weight, waist, hip and blood pressure measurements
- Digital rectal exam
- International Prostate Symptom Score
- Blood Draw – 30 mL (Serum T, PSA, Hct/Hgb; extra sera saved for SHBG, DHT, estradiol)
- Additional serum (60 mL), plasma (10 mL), and urine (10 mL) will be collected and stored
- Primary Efficacy Endpoints for Each Trial:
 - 6-Minute Walk Test (Physical Function Trial)
 - UCLA Sexual Function Questionnaire question 4 (Sexual Function Trial, IVR)
 - FACIT-Fatigue (Vitality Trial, IVR)
- Other Common Endpoints:
 - Patient Global Impression of Change (PGIC) Questions (IVR)
 - Falls
 - Positive And Negative Affect Scales (IVR)
 - PHQ-9 (IVR)
- Weigh used pumps
- Review gel application technique
- Dose adjustment, if necessary
- Dispense medication for three months

6.1.5.2. Secondary and exploratory efficacy endpoints for each trial.

Secondary endpoints will be performed only on subjects specifically enrolled in that trial, with the exception of the physical function trial secondary endpoints, which will be tested in all men enrolled in the Trial.

Month 3 Visit – Secondary and Exploratory Efficacy Endpoints for Each Trial

- Physical Function
 - PF-10
 - PGIC question for physical function (IVR)
- Sexual Function
 - UCLA Sexual Function Questionnaire-complete (IVR)
 - DISF-M-II SR
 - IIEF
 - PGIC question about sexual function (IVR)
- Vitality
 - SF-36 Vitality scale (IVR)

- PGIC question about vitality/fatigue (IVR)

6.1.6. Months 4 and 5 Assessments (\pm 7 days)

Subjects will be asked by **telephone** about adverse events, concomitant medications, and gel use.

- Concomitant medications
- Adverse events
- Review of instructions for use of testosterone gel

6.1.7. Month 6 Visit (\pm 2 weeks)

The Month 6 visit assessments will be similar to those of the Month 3 visit.

- Concomitant medications
- Adverse events
- Cardiovascular Event Questionnaire
- Cardiovascular Symptom Questionnaire
- Weight, waist, hip and blood pressure measurements
- Blood Draw – 30 mL (Serum T, Hct/Hgb; extra sera saved)
- Additional serum (60 mL), plasma (10 mL), and urine (10 mL) will be collected and stored at -80°
- Primary Efficacy Endpoints for Each Trial:
 - 6-Minute Walk Test (Physical Function Trial)
 - UCLA Sexual Function Questionnaire - question 4 (Sexual Function Trial, IVR)
 - FACIT-Fatigue (Vitality Trial, IVR)
- Other Common Endpoints:
 - Patient Global Impression of Change Questions (IVR)
 - Falls
 - Positive And Negative Affect Scales (IVR)
 - WMS-R LM II, BVRT, Card Rotations, and Trail Making Test
 - MAC-Q
 - PHQ-9 (IVR)
- Weigh used pumps
- Review gel application technique
- Dose adjustment, if necessary
- Dispense medication for three months

Month 6 Visit – Secondary and Exploratory Efficacy Endpoints for Each Trial

- Physical Function
 - PF-10
 - PGIC question for physical function (IVR)
- Sexual Function
 - UCLA Sexual Function Questionnaire-complete (IVR)
 - IIEF
 - PGIC question about sexual function (IVR)
- Vitality
 - SF-36 Vitality scale (IVR)
 - PGIC question about vitality (IVR)

6.1.8. Months 7 and 8 Assessments (\pm 7 days)

Subjects will be asked by telephone about adverse events, concomitant medications and gel use.

- Concomitant medications
- Adverse events
- Review of instructions for use of testosterone gel

6.1.9. Month 9 Visit (\pm 2 weeks)

Assessments and procedures at the Month 9 visit will be similar to those at the Month 3 visit except that prostate evaluation will not be performed.

- Concomitant medications
- Adverse events
- Cardiovascular Event Questionnaire
- Cardiovascular Symptom Questionnaire
- Weight, waist, hip and blood pressure measurements
- Blood Draw – 30 mL (Serum T, Hct/Hgb; extra sera saved)
- Additional serum (60 mL), plasma (10 mL), and urine (10 mL) will be collected and stored at -80°
- Primary Efficacy Endpoints for Each Trial:
 - 6-Minute Walk Test (Physical Function Trial)
 - UCLA Sexual Function Questionnaire question 4 (Sexual Function Trial, IVR)
 - FACIT-Fatigue (Vitality Trial, IVR)
- Other Common Endpoints:
 - Patient Global Impression of Change Questions (IVR)
 - Falls
 - Positive And Negative Affect Scales (IVR)
 - PHQ-9 (IVR)
- Weigh used pumps
- Review gel application technique
- Dose adjustment, if necessary
- Dispense medication for three months

Month 9 Visit – Secondary and Exploratory Efficacy Endpoints for Each Trial

- Physical Function
 - PF-10
 - PGIC about physical function (IVR)
- Sexual Function
 - UCLA Sexual Function Questionnaire-complete (IVR)
 - IIEF
 - PGIC about sexual function (IVR)
- Vitality
 - SF-36 Vitality scale (IVR)
 - PGIC about vitality (IVR)

6.1.10. Months 10 and 11 Assessments (\pm 7 days)

Subjects will be asked by telephone about adverse events, concomitant medications, and gel use.

- Concomitant medications
- Adverse events
- Review of instructions for use of testosterone gel

6.1.11. Month 12 Visit (\pm 2 weeks)

Month 12 will be the end of treatment. All common and trial-specific assessments will be made at this visit for all trials.

Common Assessments and Procedures

- Concomitant medications
- Adverse events
- Cardiovascular Event Questionnaire
- Cardiovascular Symptom Questionnaire
- International Prostate Symptom Score
- Height, weight, waist, hip and blood pressure measurements
- Blood Draw – 30 mL (Serum T, PSA, Hct/Hgb, HgbA1c, chemistry panel; extra sera saved for SHBG, DHT, estradiol)
- Additional serum (60 mL), plasma (10 mL), and urine (10 mL) will be collected and stored
- Digital rectal exam
- Primary Efficacy Endpoints for Each Trial:
 - 6-Minute Walk Test (Physical Function Trial)
 - UCLA Sexual Function Questionnaire question 4 (Sexual Function Trial, IVR)
 - FACIT-Fatigue (Vitality Trial, IVR)
- Other Common Endpoints:
 - Patient Global Impression of Change Questions (IVR)
 - Falls
 - Positive And Negative Affect Scales (IVR)
 - 3MSE, WMS-R LM II, BVRT, Card Rotations, and Trail Making Test
 - MAC-Q
 - PHQ-9 (IVR)
- Weigh used pumps
- Please refer to the Bone Trial protocol and /or CV Trial protocol for specifics of procedures that may need to occur at the Month 12 Visit for these trials

Month 12 Visit – Secondary and Exploratory Efficacy Endpoints for Each Trial

- Physical Function
 - PF-10
 - PGIC about physical function (IVR)
- Sexual Function
 - UCLA Sexual Function Questionnaire-complete (IVR)
 - DISF-M-II SR
 - IIEF
 - PGIC about sexual function (IVR)
- Vitality
 - SF-36 Vitality scale (IVR)
 - PGIC about vitality (IVR)

6.1.12. Months 18 and 24 Assessments (\pm 1 month)

These are post-treatment assessments. Month 18 visit will occur at the trial site. The Month 24 visit will be conducted over the telephone.

Months 18 and 24 Assessments

- Blood draw – 15 mL for serum PSA – Month 18 only
- Adverse events
- Cardiovascular Event Questionnaire
- Cardiovascular Symptom Questionnaire

6.2. Subject Compensation

Subjects will be compensated during the course of the trial, based on the number of visits completed and the number of trials in which they participate. In addition, travel and parking expenses, and meal tickets will be provided for study visits.

6.3. Screening, Assessment, & Monitoring Schedule

PROCEDURES	Phone	Screen Visit 1	Screen Visit 2	Baseline	Treatment Month												Post-Rx	
					1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	18	24
Screening & Monitoring																		
Symptom screen	X																	
Serum T		X	X	X	X	X	X			X			X				X	
Efficacy trial screening			X															
PSA		X		X			X										X	X
IPSS			X	X			X										X	
Urine sample stored			X	X	X	X	X		X			X					X	
Hct/Hgb			X	X			X		X			X					X	
Hx for clinical events	X			X			X		X			X					X	X
Medical history		X	X															
DRE			X				X										X	
Cardiovascular Hx				X														
CV Events and Sx					X	X	X		X			X					X	X
Primary Efficacy Endpoints																		
Phys Fx				X			X		X			X					X	
Sexual Fx				X			X		X			X					X	
Vitality				X			X		X			X					X	
Cognition				X					X								X	
Secondary Efficacy Endpoints																		
Phys Fx				X			X		X			X					X	
Sexual Fx				X			X		X			X					X	
Vitality				X			X		X			X					X	
Cognition				X					X								X	
Other Efficacy Area																		
Anemia				X			X		X			X					X	
Measures Across Trials																		
PGICs				X			X		X			X					X	
Falls				X			X		X			X					X	
PANAS				X			X		X			X					X	
PHQ-9				X			X		X			X					X	
Abbreviation: IPSS, International Prostate Symptom Score; PGIC, Patient Global Impression of Change questions; PANAS, Positive and Negative Affect Scales																		
Primary efficacy endpoints will be assessed in all subjects; secondary efficacy endpoints will be assessed only in those who specifically qualify for that trial, except the endpoints for the Cognition Trial, which will be assessed in all subjects.																		

7. Statistical Plan

7.1. Analytical Methods and Sample Size Estimations: Overview

7.1.1. Analysis of Primary and Secondary Endpoints for the Individual Trials

Each of the efficacy trials (Physical Function, Sexual Function, Vitality, Cognitive Function and Anemia) is considered a separate trial, so the results will be analyzed separately. The primary and secondary endpoints of each of these trials will be evaluated for those subjects who participate in each specific trial. Primary analysis of outcomes with interim measures in addition to baseline and 12 months measures will be performed with random effects models for longitudinal data. Logistic models will be used for binary variables. Outcomes with measures at baseline and 12 months only will be compared using chi-square tests (binary outcomes) or Student's T test (continuous variables). Wilcoxon's rank sum test will be used for continuous variables that deviate substantially from a normal distribution. Dichotomous outcomes have been selected rather than continuous ones in order to determine not only if testosterone has a statistically significant effect compared to placebo, but if it also has an effect that is of clinical significance. All analyses will be adjusted for balancing factors. We shall perform sensitivity analyses to assess the potential impact of missing data by fitting shared parameter models that relax the missing at random assumptions of the proposed random effects models. We shall employ the methods of Benjamini and Hochberg to control for the impact of multiple analyses. Individuals will be analyzed in the group to which they were randomized regardless of compliance with assigned treatment (intention-to-treat principle), but sensitivity analyses accounting for compliance will be performed.

7.1.2. Sample Size Estimation

Sample sizes for each efficacy area were calculated based on two-sided 0.05 level tests and 90% power. Although our primary analyses will include data from each visit, we have calculated sample sizes based on tests considering only values at baseline and 12 months, which provide conservative estimates of sample size; therefore, we apply only a modest inflation factor of 5% to help compensate for subjects who drop out early.

We do not expect that all trials will complete enrollment at the same time. Once a trial reaches its target enrollment, no further subjects will be enrolled in that trial unless they qualify for that trial and a trial that remains open. Open Trials include the Bone Trial and CV Trial in combination of one of the 3 main trials (sexual, physical or vitality).

7.1.3. Physical Function Trial

We estimated the expected changes in 6-minute walking distance on the basis of unpublished data from the control group in the Walking and Leg Circulation Study (WALCS), in which the subjects performed the 6-minute walk at baseline and after one year. In this study the proportion of untreated subjects with an increase of 50 m or more at 12 months was 16%. To detect an increase from 15% to 30% with 90% power will require 350 subjects, inflated to 370 to compensate for dropout before the three-month visit.

We shall compare the proportions in each treatment group who achieve an increase of ≥ 8 points on the PF10 because such an improvement has been shown to be clinically meaningful.

We shall also compare the actual distributions of changes in distance on the 6-minute walk, and in PF10 scores, and differences in proportions with a 50m or greater decline in distance covered during the 6-minute walk, and in proportions experiencing one or more falls.

7.1.4. Sexual Function Trial

Published data suggest that testosterone treatment increases the mean sexual activity score (question 4 in the UCLA 7-day diary) by 0.75 units (SD of change: 1.86) (42). This difference of 0.75 units also appears to be clinically meaningful, in that hypogonadal men treated with a testosterone gel who increased their score by at least this amount had the same distribution of scores as eugonadal men. A sample size of 262 subjects (275 to compensate for missed visits) will be needed to detect this difference with high power.

7.1.5. Vitality/Fatigue

A change of 4 points on the FACIT-Fatigue Scale has been demonstrated to be a clinically meaningful difference (43, 44). We shall compare the proportions experiencing such a change in the two treatment groups. Because self-reported outcomes often show a substantial placebo response rate, we assume that 20% of those receiving placebo will show an improvement of 4 or more points on the FACIT-Fatigue Scale. A sample size of 420 will provide 90% power to detect an increase in this proportion to 35% in the testosterone arm.

7.1.6. Cognition Trial

We aim to detect an effect size of 0.3 (based on change from baseline to 12 months), which corresponds to a 3-point improvement in Paragraph Recall. On the WMS-R Logical Memory II Subscale Recall, the scaled-score that corresponds to the 50th percentile performance for a man 70-74 years old is 17; an effect size of 0.3, or 3 point increase, would improve that score to 20, corresponding to the 50th percentile performance for a man 45-54 years old. These data suggest that a 3-point difference will be clinically significant. The sample size required to attain 90% power for this difference is 235 per arm, 470 for both arms, or 500 to help compensate for missed visits. Based on previous studies, we expect that approximately 60% of men enrolled will have memory impairment more than one SD below the performance for young men, aged 20-24 years, a criterion for age-associated memory impairment. Therefore, of the 800 subjects enrolled in the Core Testosterone Trial, we expect that approximately 480 men, expected to be evenly distributed between treatment arms, will demonstrate age-associated cognitive impairment at baseline, as defined above.

7.1.7. Anemia Trial

We shall identify all subjects who have low hemoglobin at baseline and compare the proportions who are no longer anemic over the 12 months of treatment. We expect 10-20% of subjects to be anemic at baseline, providing 80 – 160 subjects in whom we shall evaluate the effect of testosterone on anemia. Assuming 10% of those assigned to placebo become non-anemic, we shall have 80-90% power to detect improvements ranging from 15 to 26 percentage points depending on the baseline proportion anemic.

7.2. Analytic Plans for Measures Across All Trials

7.2.1. Efficacy Endpoints from Individual Trials

The primary efficacy endpoint for each trial will be evaluated in all subjects, but the results will be considered exploratory. These analyses will take into account whether or not the subject

had actually participated in the trial associated with a given endpoint, in addition to all baseline balancing factors. Similarly, secondary endpoints from the physical function trial (falls) and the vitality trial (PANAS) will be evaluated in all subjects.

7.2.2. Patient Global Impression of Change (PGIC)

For the Physical and Sexual Function, Vitality and Cognition Trials and for global assessment overall, a seven-point Likert-scale for PGIC will be administered every three months. These data will be evaluated at each time point and over the entire 12-month observation period. In addition to a score for each trial for subjects who specifically participated in a trial and another for all subjects in all trials together, we will sum all scores to generate an overall score. There will also be a score for the overall questionnaire. In addition, we shall evaluate the extent to which the Likert scale outcomes are consistent with the changes in objective measures for subjects in each trial.

7.3. Adverse Events

We will compare proportions of men experiencing adverse events in each treatment group, with particular attention to areas that are plausibly associated with testosterone, including erythrocytosis, urinary tract symptoms, and prostate-related events.

7.3.1. Prostate Cancer

This is the safety parameter of primary interest and the focus of our interim monitoring plan described in Section 7.5. In addition to monitoring diagnosis of cancer, we will calculate rates and confidence intervals for biopsy requirement, and grade of cancer in those with cancer diagnoses.

7.4. Sample Size for the Entire Study

The total sample size for all trials is 1051, as shown in the table below. Assuming that approximately 33% of these men will qualify for, and participate in, two efficacy areas, the sample size for the entire study becomes 800 ($1051 \times 3/4 = 788$, rounded to 800).

Trial	One Arm	Both Arms	+5%
Physical function	174	348	366
Sexual function	131	262	275
Vitality	200	400	420
All Trials	505	1010	1051

The assumption that 33% of men will qualify for at least two trials comes from unpublished data in two studies. One is the Rancho Bernardo Study, showing that in response to the ADAM (Androgen Deficiency in the Aging Male) questionnaire of symptoms in three areas (energy, strength, sexual), 36% of men had symptoms in at least two areas, and some in three (unpublished). Because the men in the proposed study will all have low testosterone concentrations, the overlap may be even higher, an assumption supported by data from men in the EMAS study who were >65 years old and had testosterone concentrations <250 ng/dL. We now estimate that at least 33% of subjects will participate in two trials and 10% in three, but we

base our sample size estimates on the conservative assumption of only 33% participating in two trials.

We shall allow a variable degree of over enrollment in the main trials; Physical Function Trial, Sexual Function Trial and Vitality Trial if necessary to complete enrollment in one of the other trials, eg Bone Trial & CV Trial.

7.5. Interim monitoring

Interim monitoring in this trial will focus on safety; there is no intent to consider early stopping on the basis of any efficacy parameter. The primary safety concern related to testosterone treatment is increased risk of prostate cancer. Evaluating this risk during the study in an accurate and unbiased manner will not be possible, for several reasons. Approximately 60% of men this age harbor occult prostate cancer, and even after we select men who have reduced risk, we expect as many as 20% of the subjects will have biopsy-detectable cancer at study entry (unpublished data from the PCPT, rate for men >65 years). Thus, for any biopsy performed as a result of PSA changes or DRE finding, the probability of a positive finding will be at least 20%, yielding as many as 80 cases of prostate cancer per treatment arm. Because testosterone is known to cause PSA to rise, we might expect to perform more biopsies in the testosterone-treated group, and therefore might diagnose more cancers in that group, whether or not testosterone actually increases prostate cancer risk, i.e., we might have ascertainment bias. Further, the PSA increases in men receiving testosterone might be selectively observed in men with occult cancer, because testosterone may “unmask” such cancers, whether or not it exacerbates their growth. Therefore, even a large difference in numbers of cancer diagnoses between arms might not necessarily indicate a difference in cancer risk. On the other hand, any diagnosis of prostate cancer may lead to cancer treatment, which has its own potential risk of major adverse effects, particularly on quality of life. If testosterone truly does not increase cancer risk, but does increase risk of diagnosis of indolent tumors that are likely to remain asymptomatic during a man’s lifetime, then these diagnoses in themselves represent an adverse consequence of treatment. By adjusting the PSA for serum testosterone, however, we might mitigate the possibility of ascertainment bias.

Given these considerations, which impose great difficulties on the development of a statistical monitoring plan, we propose to use an approach that balances benefits and risks. We assume a rate of cancer diagnosis in the placebo arm of 1%/year, based on unpublished data from the PCPT, and a follow-up time of 24 months for each subject. Under these assumptions, we expect a total of 8 cases per arm under the null hypothesis of no excess cancers in testosterone-treated subjects. We propose as a basis for monitoring cancer diagnosis a one-sided O’Brien-Fleming boundary with an overall alpha of 0.20 and with a Lan-DeMets spending function modification for comparing time to cancer diagnosis. This plan provides 90% power for detecting a hazard ratio of 2.4 or higher. We specify a looser criterion for early stopping than would be typical for an efficacy boundary while still maintaining the probability of error at a relatively low level. We shall perform three interim analyses, specifically, after 25%, 50% and 75% of our target sample size has completed 12 months of follow up. Use of the spending function approach will permit additional analyses or a modified schedule, should the DSMB so request.

8. Safety and Adverse Events

8.1. Definitions

Definitions are per the January 2007 Guidance on Reviewing and Reporting Unanticipated Problems Involving Risks to Subjects or Others and Adverse Events, Office on Human

Research Protection (OHRP) Guidance. <http://www.hhs.gov/ohrp/policy/AdvEvtGuid.htm>. The requirements and processes for reporting adverse events are described in the corresponding National Institute on Aging (NIA) Guidelines.

8.1.1. Adverse Event

An *adverse event (AE)* is any untoward or unfavorable medical occurrence in a human study participant, including any abnormal sign (for example, abnormal physical exam or laboratory finding), symptom, or disease, temporally associated with the participant's involvement in the research, whether or not considered related to the subject's participation in the research.

8.1.2. Serious Adverse Event

A *serious adverse event (SAE)* is any AE that is:

- fatal
- life-threatening
- requires or prolongs hospital stay
- results in persistent or significant disability or incapacity
- results in congenital anomalies or birth defects
- an important medical event*

Important medical events* are those that may not be immediately life threatening, but are clearly of major clinical significance.

8.1.3. Unanticipated Problem

An Unanticipated Problem is any incident, experience, or outcome that meets all of the following criteria:

- unexpected (in terms of nature, severity, or frequency) given the research procedures that are described in the IRB-approved research protocol and informed consent document;
- related or possibly related to participation in the research; possible related means that there is a reasonable possibility that the incident, experience or outcome may have been caused by the procedures involved in the research.
- suggests that the research places subjects or others at a greater risk of harm (including physical, psychological, economic, or social harm) related to the research than was previously known or recognized.

8.1.4. Adverse Event Reporting Period

The study period during which adverse events must be reported is normally defined as the period from the initiation of any study procedures to the end of the study treatment follow-up.

8.1.5. Preexisting Condition

A preexisting condition is one that is present at the time of signing the consent form for the main study. A preexisting condition should be recorded as an adverse event if the frequency, intensity, or the character of the condition worsens during the study period.

8.1.6. General Physical Examination Findings

At screening, any clinically significant abnormality should be recorded as a preexisting condition. At the end of the study, any new clinically significant findings/abnormalities that meet the definition of an adverse event must also be recorded and documented as an adverse event.

8.1.7. Post-study Adverse Event

All unresolved adverse events should be followed by the investigator until the events are resolved, the subject is lost to follow-up, or the adverse event is otherwise explained. At the last scheduled visit, the investigator should instruct each subject to report any subsequent event(s) that the subject, or the subject's personal physician, believes might reasonably be related to participation in this study. The investigator should notify the study DCC of any death or adverse event occurring during the year after a subject has completed treatment.

8.1.8. Abnormal Laboratory Values

A clinical laboratory abnormality should be documented as an adverse event if any one of the following conditions is met:

- The laboratory abnormality is not otherwise refuted by a repeat test to confirm the abnormality
- The abnormality suggests a disease and/or organ toxicity
- The abnormality is of a degree that requires active management

8.1.9. Hospitalization, Prolonged Hospitalization or Surgery

Any adverse event that results in hospitalization should be documented and reported as a serious adverse event. Any condition responsible for surgery should be documented as an adverse event if the condition meets the criteria for an adverse event and reported as a severe adverse event if hospitalization is required. Neither the condition, hospitalization, nor surgery is reported as an adverse event if the hospitalization was for diagnostic or elective surgical procedures for a preexisting condition.

8.2. Recording of Adverse Events

At each contact with the subject, the investigator must seek information on adverse events by specific questioning and, as appropriate, by examination. Information on all adverse events should be recorded immediately in the source document, and also in the appropriate adverse event module of the case report form (CRF). All clearly related signs, symptoms, and abnormal diagnostic procedures results should be recorded in the source document. All adverse events occurring during the study period must be recorded. The clinical course of each event should be followed until resolution, stabilization, or until it has been determined that the study treatment or participation is not the cause. Serious adverse events that are still ongoing at the end of the study period must be followed up to determine the final outcome. Any serious adverse event that occurs during the year after completion of treatment will similarly be recorded and reported.

8.3. Reporting of Serious Adverse Events

8.3.1. Study Sponsor Notification by Investigator

Clinical sites are required to report serious adverse events to the DCC, within 24 hours of first knowledge of the event. The DCC will facilitate the timely reporting and updates to regulatory authorities, the DSMB, NIH and the FDA according to the standard MedWatch guidelines. A

Serious Adverse Event (SAE) form must be completed by the investigator and faxed to the DCC within 24 hours. The DCC will report all SAEs to the DSMB Chairman and DSMB safety Monitor within 48 hours of first knowledge of the event. The investigator will keep a copy of this SAE form on file at the study site. At the time of the initial report, the following information should be provided:

- Study identifier
- Study Center
- Subject number
- A description of the event
- Date of onset
- Current status
- Whether study treatment was discontinued
- The reason why the event is classified as serious
- Investigator assessment of the association between the event and study treatment

Within the following 48 hours, the investigator must provide further information on the serious adverse event in the form of a written narrative. This should include a copy of the completed Serious Adverse Event form, and any other diagnostic information that will assist the understanding of the event. Significant new information on all ongoing serious adverse events should be provided promptly to the study sponsor.

8.3.2. IRB Notification by Investigator

Reports of all serious adverse events (including follow-up information) must be submitted to the IRB within 10 working days. Copies of each report and documentation of IRB notification and receipt will be kept in the Clinical Investigator's binder.

8.4. Unblinding

Treatment assignment will be blinded to all but a single designated "unblinded" physician at the trial site. Although testosterone treatment might increase the risk of certain diseases, such as prostate cancer, lower urinary tract symptoms due to benign prostatic hyperplasia, or erythrocytosis, the blind will not be broken even if a subject develops one of these conditions during the study. Instead, the following approach will be taken.

- a. If a subject is diagnosed with prostate cancer during the study, treatment will be discontinued, whether the treatment is testosterone or placebo.

If the subject's score on the International Prostate Symptoms Score increases by > 5 points above the baseline value or to an absolute score of >19, suggesting worsening of lower urinary tract symptoms, the subject will be referred to a urologist for evaluation of medications that affect urine flow rate and for prostatitis. Treatment with an alpha blocker will be considered. If the subject's score does not decrease below the above threshold in response to treatment, gel treatment will be discontinued.

- b. If a subject develops a hemoglobin \geq 17.5 g/dL, he will be evaluated for causes of secondary erythrocytosis. If none are found, the dose of gel will be lowered. If the hemoglobin is still \geq 17.5 g/dL, treatment will be discontinued.

8.5. Stopping Boundaries

Interim Analysis	Nominal Alpha for Boundary	Hazard Ratio on Boundary
1	0.01	4.9

2	0.067	2.1
3	0.118	1.6
Final	0.157	1.4

Because of the considerations described in Section 7.5, Interim Monitoring, we would not want to base early stopping solely on the cancer cases, as these may be subject to substantial bias — any of the boundary scenarios outlined in Section 7.5. are possible without any true excess risk due to the likelihood of ascertainment bias. We shall ask the DSMB to consider the cancer data together with the interim efficacy data from all the trials. Should the interim data suggest no emerging benefit, the stopping boundary shown might be applied. If the interim data are consistent with potentially valuable effects of treatment, however, a somewhat greater imbalance in cancer cases might be tolerated. The proportion of cases on each arm that are of high grade (Gleason score ≥ 7) will also be a consideration, but the number of such cases we expect to observe in this trial will be small, perhaps a fourth of all cases. We shall also ask the DSMB to consider the extent to which ascertainment bias might affect the comparison of cancer rates in each arm, and in this regard shall present relevant data, eg the number of biopsies by arm and the proportion of cancers among those with biopsies.

8.6. Monitoring Subject Safety

8.6.1. Potential Risks to Subjects

Several conditions to which elderly men are particularly prone are, at least partly, testosterone-dependent. These and other potential risks are described below:

8.6.1.1. Prostate cancer.

The basis for monitoring men in a testosterone trial for prostate cancer is that it is, to some degree, testosterone-dependent, and because elderly men often harbor clinically silent prostate cancer. There is no direct evidence, however, that either endogenous serum testosterone concentrations or testosterone treatment of men with low testosterone concentrations increases the risk of clinical prostate cancer.

8.6.1.2. Prostate biopsy.

Prostate biopsy will be performed if medically indicated. The two primary risks of this biopsy, which is performed by a transrectal, ultrasound guided approach, are bleeding and infection. By taking proper precautions, the risk of these complications requiring hospitalization is <1%.

8.6.1.3. Benign prostatic hyperplasia.

Testosterone treatment of elderly hypogonadal men might also increase the risk of lower urinary tract symptoms, because the prostate is a testosterone-dependent gland and because BPH is common in these men.

8.6.1.4. Erythrocytosis.

One potential consequence of testosterone treatment is the development of erythrocytosis. We shall therefore evaluate the men who participate in this study to determine if those whose hemoglobin values are normal before treatment experience an increase above normal (erythrocytosis) during treatment.

8.6.1.5. Sleep apnea.

Another potential risk is exacerbation of sleep apnea, although the evidence is weak.

8.6.1.6. Physical function testing.

There is a very small risk of injury from a fall or ankle sprain during the 6-minute walk test.

8.6.1.7. Sexual function and vitality testing.

The potential risks of these studies are the time the testing takes, minor distress of answering questions of a personal nature, and the fear of lack of confidentiality.

8.6.1.8. Time burden.

The large number of tests proposed could be tiring for an elderly man, especially one who participates in more than one protocol. In a pilot study in which 10 men, mean age 75 years, at each of three sites (30 men total) were administered all of the tests for all trials, the mean time for completion of all the tests was <100 min, and the subjects found most of the tests relatively easy. However, there was variability, and a few subjects took longer. Trial site personnel should be cognizant that some subjects could have difficulty in participating in multiple trials.

8.6.2. Protection Against Risk

Subject selection and monitoring procedures have been designed to minimize the risks. First, we shall select subjects who are at low risk of the potential side effects. Second, we shall employ procedures to minimize the potential risks. Third, we shall monitor enrolled subjects for the potential side effects.

8.6.2.1. Erythrocytosis.

A potential subject will be enrolled only if his hemoglobin is ≤ 16 g/dL. Men who enroll will be monitored by hemoglobin at 3, 6, and 12 months. An increase above the upper limit of normal (17.5 g/dL) in either treatment group will lead first to repeat measurements of hemoglobin and testosterone. If the serum testosterone level is above the target range, the gel dose will be decreased. If the repeat hemoglobin is still elevated, the subject will be referred for evaluation for causes of erythrocytosis and, if found, treatment. If no cause of secondary erythrocytosis is found, or, if erythrocytosis does not return to

normal within one month, treatment will be discontinued. The external (unblinded) physician who evaluates subjects for erythrocytosis will consider all standard treatments including phlebotomy.

The exception to this is month 12, at which time all men stop treatment/placebo. At the month 12 visit, if a man has an elevated hemoglobin upon repeat, he will be brought back in after 3 months of being off of treatment. At which point it is expected his hemoglobin will have lowered. If the hemoglobin has not been lowered after 3 months, men will be referred.

8.6.2.2. Prostate cancer.

We shall exclude men with diagnosed prostate cancer or prostatic intraepithelial neoplasia (PIN). Men will also be excluded who have a >35% risk of having a prostate cancer and a >7% risk of having high grade prostate cancer by the Prostate Cancer Risk Calculator (<http://www.compass.fhcr.org/edrnci/bin/calculator/main.asp>). This Risk Calculator will be used because it takes into account not only PSA, but also other known risk factors, including age, race, family

history, and previous biopsy and is therefore more conservative and exposes the subjects to less risk than if exclusion were based only on PSA.

Risk will be reduced further by adjusting the baseline PSA concentrations upward to account for the likelihood that those concentrations are lower than they would have been had the subjects' testosterone concentrations been normal. Each man's PSA will be adjusted to what would be expected if his serum testosterone were 460 ng/dL. The adjusted PSA would then be used in the Prostate Risk Calculator. Although adjusting the PSA for serum testosterone is not standard clinical practice, we think this approach is preferable to using the unadjusted value because it takes into account the physiologic relationship between testosterone and PSA and because, by raising the PSA, it is more conservative.

The use of the Risk Calculator, instead of PSA alone, allows us to account not only for PSA, but also other known risk factors, including age, race, family history, and previous biopsy and therefore is more conservative and exposes subjects to less risk than if exclusion were based only on PSA. It illustrates to a subject that every man of this age has some risk.

The rationale for choosing 35% of overall prostate cancer risk and 7% risk of high grade cancer is two-fold: 1) It is low enough to be quite conservative. For example, for a 65 or 75 year-old white man with no other risk factors to have a risk of $\leq 35\%$, his PSA would need to be ≤ 3.0 ng/mL, which would not be a cause for biopsy in routine clinical care. 2) It is high enough to include enough subjects that recruitment will still be practical.

Subjects will be monitored during the one year of treatment by repeating the PSA measurement at 3 and 12 months. An increment of ≥ 1.0 ng/mL above the corrected baseline PSA (for low testosterone and 5-alpha reductase inhibitor usage) value will lead to referral for urologic evaluation for consideration of prostate biopsy, confirmed by a repeat determination. Treatment will be discontinued for any subject who is diagnosed as having prostate cancer during the trial.

8.6.2.3. Benign prostatic hyperplasia.

Men who have evidence of moderately severe lower urinary tract symptoms, i.e., a score of >19 on the International Prostate Symptom Score (IPSS) questionnaire, will be excluded. An increase of >5 points or to an absolute value of >19 will result in a review of medications that affect urine flow rates and evaluation for prostatitis. If a cause is found, it should be treated. If no cause is found, treatment with an alpha blocker should be considered. If the subject is treated and symptoms persist, or if acute urinary retention occurs, the subject should be referred for urological consultation. If the urologist treats the subject and the score does not decrease below the above thresholds, gel treatment will be discontinued.

8.6.2.4. Cardiovascular disease

Men will be monitored for the occurrence of cardiovascular events during the entire course of the two-year trial. Treatment will be discontinued in men who have a myocardial infarction or stroke. The number of subjects whose treatment is discontinued for serious adverse events will be monitored and assessed with the DSMB.

8.6.2.5. Sleep apnea.

We shall exclude men who have diagnosed sleep apnea that is not being treated, and during treatment we will question men for newly diagnosed but untreated sleep apnea.

8.6.2.6. Physical and cognitive function testing.

The small risk of physical and cognitive function testing will be minimized by training the research assistants who perform the tests how to instruct the subjects how to perform the tests

properly. For the 6-minute walk, there will be a standardized protocol for warm-up and careful supervision of the subjects during the testing. The risks associated with cognitive testing are small and primarily consist of anxiety related to concerns about performance. Testers will be trained to encourage and reassure subjects that the tests are designed to be difficult for most people.

8.6.2.7. Sexual function and vitality testing.

We shall employ several means to minimize the burden of time, the minor distress of answering personal questions, and the perceived loss of confidentiality. Use of interactive voice response (IVR) for all vitality questionnaires and for the Harbor-UCLA 7-Day Questionnaire (the primary end point for sexual function) will allow the subjects to answer these questionnaires from their homes at their convenience and thereby reduce the time they spend at the trial sites. Their answers will also be anonymous this way, and not seen by trial site personnel. The subjects may refuse to answer a question that causes them discomfort or anxiety.

8.6.2.8. Time burden.

Subjects who qualify for more than one protocol will be offered the chance to participate in those for which they qualify, but they will also be told of the approximate time burden. Study staff will be taught to be mindful of a subject's fatigue and to offer to a subject who appears fatigued the chance to resume testing on another day.

8.6.2.9. Prostate biopsy.

The standard precaution that minimizes the chance of bleeding during and after a prostate biopsy is avoiding agents that impair clotting, such as aspirin, nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory agents, and herbal supplements. The standard precaution that minimizes the risk of infection is administration of antibiotics.

8.6.2.10. Risk of using excessive testosterone gel.

No risk is expected if a subject takes a greater dose of AndroGel than prescribed, and any elevation of the serum testosterone from a single larger dose would be transient, i.e., 1-2 days. If a subject takes a larger dose than prescribed chronically, it would be detected in the serum testosterone measurements at 1, 2, 3, 6, 9 and 12 months, and the dose would be lowered.

8.6.3. Clinical Management of Participants

The T Trial Investigators recognize the obligation and importance of reporting information acquired during the research study visit to the health care provider (HCP) of participants. Participants and their HCP will be notified as soon as possible if potentially serious medical problems are identified during any of the T Trial procedures, or reported during a T Trial study visit.

8.6.3.1. Notification to Health Care Provider

Participants will be asked about several specific medical and cardiovascular events at each T Trial follow-up visit. They will be asked in the appropriate lay terms if they have experienced any of the signs and symptoms of angina and transient ischemic attack. If possible, this information will be evaluated by a T Trial physician who will determine the appropriate disposition. If the participant reports that he has not informed his HCP, the T Trial staff will notify the participant's HCP (with the participant's permission) by fax or email, as soon as possible. If determined necessary, the participant will be transported to the emergency department or escorted to an urgent care hospital visit for further evaluation and/or treatment.

If the participant is unable to identify a primary care physician or HCP, the site staff will identify one within the site's medical institution.

8.6.4. Data and Safety Monitoring Board.

An external DSMB will be established to monitor all aspects of the study. The Board will consist of experts in geriatrics, biostatistics, clinical trials, endocrinology, and prostate disease. The DSMB members will not be affiliated with the study and will be appointed by the NIA Director in consultation with the principal investigator. The Board will meet every six months to review subjects' safety, study progress and data integrity and completeness. After each meeting, the DSMB will provide the NIA Director with its recommendations, and the Director will decide whether or not to accept them.

9. Data Management

9.1. Data Management System

The Data Coordinating Center (DCC) at the University of Pennsylvania will develop a data management system for the collection, storage and management of data. This system will be developed using Oracle Corporation's suite of pharmaceutical applications. The data management systems will use a combination of tools to perform the following study functions:

- Subject tracking – to monitor recruitment and provide visit schedules for subjects and composite visit schedules for clinical sites.
- Eligibility determination - to evaluate screening data (serum testosterone, PSA, etc.) to determine eligibility for one or more efficacy areas.
- Treatment allocation - to allocate subjects to receive testosterone or placebo and to balance the treatment groups based on the minimization technique.
- Dose modification – to identify out-of-range testosterone levels.
- Specimen tracking- to document specimens from collection and processing to storage and retrieval.

9.2. Data Entry

Electronic data entry will be used primarily to achieve accuracy and efficiency. The following methods will be utilized:

- Remote data capture will permit authorized personnel to enter data remotely via a secure Internet connection.
- Electronic data transfer methods will be developed and tested to ensure that data are completely and accurately transmitted. This will include data transferred from the central laboratory and associated reading centers, as well as data collected via the Interactive Voice Response System (IVRS).

9.3. Data Quality

Oracle Clinical includes a data quality module to identify incorrect data based on a set of rules that describe the expected data. The DCC will collaborate with the investigative team to establish these parameters for primary and secondary outcomes, safety, regulatory, and descriptive values. The data management team will develop a data validation plan, rule set specifications, and programming logic to implement data validation rules. The DCC staff will interact with clinical site staff to verify queried data and track all queries to resolution.

9.3.1. Quality Control Activities

The Quality Control Committee and the DCC will develop a quality assurance and control plan that ensures that study data are as precise and reliable as possible.

Manual of Procedures (MOP) - The MOP will describe the sequence of study conduct and provide detailed instruction for the performance of screening, baseline, enrollment, treatment allocation and follow-up procedures. The MOP will provide instruction in case report form completion, use of the electronic data management system, and collection, documentation and transfer of specimens and tests to laboratories and reading centers.

Training and certification procedures - The DCC will conduct a training session before the study starts to train and certify personnel in the performance of study procedures.

Site visits – Findings from site visits will be used to resolve problems and develop corrective action plans.

External data sources - The DCC will monitor quality control of data received from study laboratories and reading centers.

Internal quality control procedures - A data validation plan, rule set specifications, and programming logic to implement data validation rules will be implemented.

9.3.2. Routine reports

The DCC will develop a set of standard enrollment, tracking, quality review, and safety monitoring reports. Adverse event reports, DSMB reports and reports for statistical analysis will be developed and produced on an appropriate schedule.

9.4. Data Security

The data management system will be designed to prevent unauthorized access to trial data and to prevent data loss due to equipment failure or catastrophic events. The procedures to do so encompass user account management, user privilege assignment, data loss prevention (database backup), computer systems validation, performance monitoring, and DMS change management. User access will be controlled by assignment of confidential usernames, passwords and role assignment. The system will meet the applicable Federal regulatory requirements and those described in the E6 Good Clinical Practice Guidelines to ensure the confidentiality of trial subjects.

Study data collected at the clinical sites will be entered into a web based data management system. This data management system uses a secure connection between the client browser at the clinical site and the web server at the DCC. Data transmitted over this connection is authenticated by the use of digital certificates and is encrypted as it travels the Internet to the DCC.

Electronic files containing data from hand held devices, the central laboratory, or the central reading center will be transferred to the DCC using secure FTP technology. The DCC team will maintain a secure FTP server. The files transmitted using this method will be encrypted during the exchange.

The DCC project team will collaborate with the Investigational Drug Service (IDS) and the biostatistics team to protect the blinding of treatment assignments and electronic access to information that could indirectly or directly lead to unblinding treatment assignment or codes. Internal access to such information is stored in password-protected files. Documentation is

stored in the locked files of the IDS at the University of Pennsylvania. Within the DCC this information is locked in files to which only department managers have access.

9.4.1. Maintaining Anonymity of Submitted Medical Records

Clinical site personnel will de-identify all medical records before sending them to the DCC by obliterating any Protected Health Information (PHI). Upon receipt, DCC personnel will review the records to ensure that no PHI is visible.

9.4.2. Confidentiality

Information about study subjects will be kept confidential and managed according to the requirements of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) of 1996.

Subjects will be asked to provide their Social Security Number (SSN) for the purpose of tracking their status in the National Death Index in the event they become lost to follow-up. This information will be locked in a secure location with access limited to the TTrial staff only. It will not be entered or stored in the electronic system and will be used for this purpose only. Subjects may refuse to provide this information without consequence to their study participation.

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Appendix A – Questionnaire and Procedure Schedule

T Trial Questionnaires & Procedures [Revised 8/27/10]	Treatment Phase (M = Month)											Follow-up	
	Screen 2	† After SV2	Base-line	M 1 & M 2	M 3	M 4 & M 5	M 6	M 7 & M 8	M 9	M 10 & M 11	M12	M18	M24
Tests or Procedures in All Subjects: (Visit Type: V = Visit to clinic, P = phone, ** by IVR)	V		V	V	V	P	V	P	V	P	V	P/V	P
Informed consent			X										
Eligibility determination (Post-SV2) & Randomization (Baseline)	X		X										
Blood draw	X		X	X	X		X		X		X	X	
- Testosterone level	X		X	X	X		X		X		X		
- PSA			X		X						X	X	
- Hemoglobin/hematocrit	X		X		X		X		X		X		
Urinalysis (SV2 only) & stored urine (Baseline – M12)	X		X	X	X		X		X		X		
Concomitant Medication	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
Medical history	X												
Adverse events/recent medical events				X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Cardiovascular symptoms and events			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Gel instruction & review			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
Medication Compliance				X	X		X		X		X		
Weight, waist, hip, blood pressure measures, [Ht.(SV 2 and M12 only)]	X		X		X		X		X		X		
Rectal exam (DRE)	X				X						X		
International Prostate Symptom Score (IPSS)	X		X		X						X		
All Subjects – Primary End Points													
6 Minute Walk Test	X		X		X		X		X		X		
UCLA Sex Diary – Question 4** (+ entire diary after SV2 only)		X+			X		X		X		X		
FACIT Fatigue**	X				X		X		X		X		
WMS-R-LM-II (verbal memory - paragraph recall)			X				X				X		
PANAS*		X			X		X		X		X		
Falls			X		X		X		X		X		
PHQ-9** (on paper at SV2 followed by IVR)	X	X*			X		X		X		X		
DISF-M-II	X												
3MSE			X								X		
MMSE	X												
MAC-Q			X				X				X		
SF-36			X										
Trial specific - Global Impression questions**		X			X		X		X		X		
General - Global Impression question**		X			X		X		X		X		
Tests in Subjects in Specific Trials: Secondary End Points (except PF-10-all men)													
Physical: PF-10			X		X		X		X		X		
Sexual: UCLA Sex Diary** (complete), IIEF, DISF-M-II			X		X		X		X		X		
Vitality: SF-36-Vitality**			X		X		X		X		X		
Cognitive: BVRT, Card rotation, TMT			X				X				X		

TITLE: THE TESTOSTERONE TRIAL
THE CARDIOVASCULAR TRIAL PROTOCOL

Sponsors National Heart Lung and Blood Institute (NHLBI), National Institute on Aging (NIA), and Abbott Laboratories

NIH Grant Number U01 AG030644

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Study Summary

Title	The Testosterone Trial - The Cardiovascular Trial
Protocol Number	808676
Study Design	Randomized, placebo-controlled, double-blind study
Study Duration	One year
Study Centers	Multi-center trial involving 9 clinical sites geographically distributed across the United States
Objectives	The primary specific aim of the main Testosterone Trials is to test the hypotheses that testosterone treatment of elderly men whose serum testosterone concentrations are unequivocally low – and who have symptoms and/or objectively measured abnormalities in at least one of three areas that could be due to low testosterone (physical or sexual function and vitality), cognition, and anemia) – will result in more favorable changes in those abnormalities than placebo treatment. The primary objective of The Cardiovascular Trial is to determine if testosterone treatment is associated with favorable changes in cardiovascular risk indicators, including atherosclerotic plaque burden by CT angiography and serum markers of cardiovascular and metabolic risk.
Number of Subjects	160
Diagnosis and Main Inclusion Criteria	Subjects who qualify for The Testosterone Trial will be recruited for The Cardiovascular Trial if they have an estimated glomerular filtration rate of >60 mL/min/1.73 m ² and no history of coronary artery bypass graft.
Study Product, Dose, Route, Regimen	AndroGel®, testosterone in an alcohol-water gel, will be administered transdermally in doses from 5 to 15 grams per day, as necessary to maintain the serum testosterone concentration within the range of normal for young men.
Duration of administration	AndroGel or placebo will be administered to each subject for 12 months.
Reference therapy	The effects of AndroGel on the primary and exploratory end points will be compared to effects of placebo on these end points.
Statistical Methodology	The primary end point for this trial will be the effect of testosterone on change in atherosclerotic plaque burden, compared with placebo. Exploratory end points will be left ventricular mass, calcium score change, serum markers of cardiovascular risk, blood pressure, and central adiposity by CT.

Introduction

This document is a protocol for a human research study to be conducted according to US and international standards of Good Clinical Practice (FDA Title 21 part 312 and International Conference on Harmonization guidelines), applicable government regulations and institutional research policies and procedures.

1.1. Effects of Aging in Men

As men get older, they experience many conditions, often together, that eventually result in the inability to perform many activities of daily living, an increased propensity to fall, and decreased independence. These conditions include mobility disability and decreased vitality. Elderly men also experience increased rates of anemia and metabolic syndrome, decreased sexual function, and memory impairment. These conditions likely have multiple causes, but one cause that could contribute to all of these conditions is a low serum testosterone concentration. When young hypogonadal men are treated with testosterone, they experience improvements in sexual function, muscle mass and strength, bone mineral density, sense of well-being, and anemia. However, the effects of testosterone therapy on the cardiovascular system are not well described. This Cardiovascular Trial is designed to assess the effects of testosterone treatment on several cardiovascular end points in men ≥ 65 years and have serum testosterone concentrations < 275 ng/dL who are participating in the Testosterone Trial. These end points include coronary atherosclerosis as assessed by CT angiography, and cardiovascular risk factors, such as blood pressure, lipids and lipoproteins, and markers of glucose metabolism, inflammation, coagulation and platelet function, endothelial function, and myocardial damage.

Decrease in Testosterone as Men Age

As men age, their serum testosterone concentration falls gradually from age 20 to over age 80, as demonstrated by both cross-sectional (1) and longitudinal studies (2, 3). By the eighth decade, approximately 30% of men have concentrations of total testosterone lower than normal for young men and 70% have free testosterone concentrations lower than normal for young men (3). Age-related decline in testosterone concentrations is associated with decreases in physical function, sexual function, vitality and, in some studies, decreases in memory and cognitive function. Whether this change contributes to, or is independent of, atherosclerosis is currently unknown.

Significance of Adding a Cardiovascular Trial to the Testosterone Trial

Although testosterone was once considered to be a risk factor for cardiovascular disease, several recent observational studies show an inverse association between serum testosterone concentration and cardiovascular disease, the metabolic syndrome and diabetes. For example, in a study of 40-79 year-old community dwelling men in Rancho Bernardo, the serum testosterone concentrations were inversely correlated with blood pressure (4), prevalence of

diabetes and the risk of future diabetes (5). In the same cohort, men with a testosterone level less than 250 ng/ml had a significantly increased risk of mortality compared to men with higher levels, independent of covariates. In a larger cohort study from England, testosterone levels in men were inversely associated with cardiovascular risk with a graded stepwise association throughout the entire range of testosterone (6). This association was independent of common risk factors.

End Points of Cardiovascular Risk

Coronary Atherosclerosis

Computer tomographic angiography (CTA) using 64+slice multidetector computerized tomography (MDCT) will be the principal imaging modality in this Trial to assess coronary atherosclerosis. The advantages of CT angiography compared to electron beam or multidetector CT to assess coronary calcification are the ability of the former to provide comprehensive information regarding the location, severity, and characteristics not only of calcified and mixed atherosclerotic plaques, but also of non-calcified plaques, which might respond better to intervention.

Multidetector CT angiography (MDCTA) has emerged as a promising non-invasive tool to examine directly the coronary artery wall, determine the degree of plaque burden and assess the degree of coronary artery stenosis (7). In addition, based on the tissue specific x-ray attenuation characteristics, MDCTA also provides additional information about atherosclerotic plaque composition. It is able to differentiate plaques that are calcified, predominantly fibrous, or ones that contain a large lipid pool (8, 9). Until recently, the only imaging test used in clinical practice to image the vessel wall was intravascular ultrasound, which risks complications at both the arterial access site and coronary arteries. Plaque characterization (i.e. determining the vulnerability of plaque rupture by examining its tissue components) is now possible using coronary CT angiography. New 64+ slice cardiac CT technology has high accuracy for the detection of lesions obstructing more than 50% of the lumen, with sensitivity, specificity, and positive and negative predictive values all better than 90% in patients without known CAD and has an important role in characterizing the vulnerable non-obstructive plaque (10). Tissue density measured by MDCT can be used to characterize atherosclerotic plaque composition.

We shall collect serum and plasma for the following cardiovascular and metabolic risk factors and consider measuring them at the end of the study depending on which ones are considered most informative.

Lipids and lipoproteins

In order to evaluate the effect of testosterone on lipid metabolism, we shall save sera for lipids and lipoproteins, total, HDL and LDL cholesterol, triglycerides, Lp(a), lipid particle size and number by NMR.

Markers of inflammation

In order to evaluate the effect of testosterone on biomarkers of inflammation, we shall save samples for high sensitivity C reactive protein (hs-CRP), lipoprotein phospholipase A2 (LpPLA₂), interleukin 6 (IL-6), matrix metalloproteinase 9 (MMP-9), myeloperoxidase and cell adhesion molecules (ICAM).

- Hs-CRP is a protein made by the liver that increases with inflammation and is a well-validated biomarker of cardiovascular risk.
- LpPLA₂ is a calcium-independent phospholipase A2 enzyme, secreted by leukocytes and associated with circulating LDL and macrophages in atherosclerotic plaques. The preponderance of current evidence shows a proatherogenic role of this enzyme. Lp-PLA2 generates two proinflammatory mediators, lysophosphatidylcholine (LPC) and oxidized nonesterified fatty acids (oxNEFAs), which are ultimately responsible for atherosclerotic lesion development and formation of a necrotic core leading to more vulnerable plaques.
- IL-6 is a pro-inflammatory cytokine secreted by T cells and macrophages. This protein is associated with increased risk, especially in older individuals, for cardiovascular events and with decreased survival.
- The matrix metalloproteinases (MMPs) are a large family of zinc-dependent, extracellularly acting endopeptidases, the substrates of which are proteins of the extracellular matrix and adhesion proteins. Matrix metalloproteinase 9 (MMP-9), also known as gelatinase B, 92kDa gelatinase, or 92Da type IV collagenase (which represents the largest and most complex member of this family) has recently been a subject of growing interest in human pathology. MMP-9 is increased in patients with three-vessel coronary artery disease compared with controls or patients with one or two-vessel disease, implying that elevated levels of MMP-9 mirror severity of coronary atherosclerosis.
- Myeloperoxidase (MPO) is a leukocyte-derived enzyme that catalyzes the formation of a number of reactive oxidant species. In addition to being an integral component of the innate immune response, evidence has emerged that MPO-derived oxidants contribute to tissue damage during inflammation. MPO-catalyzed reactions have been attributed to potentially proatherogenic biological activities throughout the evolution of cardiovascular disease, including during initiation, propagation, and acute complication phases of the atherosclerotic process.
- Endothelial recruitment and adhesion of monocytes is the earliest detectable event in the pathogenesis of atherosclerosis. Normally, vascular endothelial cells have low adhesiveness for leucocytes, but when stimulated they express surface adhesion molecules that increase the adhesiveness and rolling of leucocytes along the endothelium. Adhesion molecules, such as ICAM-1 and VCAM 1, are shed into the circulation and can be measured, and increased serum concentrations have been

associated with clinical atherosclerotic disease, acute coronary syndromes and ischemic stroke.

Coagulation-platelet Markers

In order to evaluate the effect of testosterone on coagulation and platelet activation, we shall save plasma for levels of fibrinogen, d-dimer, CD40-ligand and tissue plasminogen activator. All of these biomarkers have been associated with increased risk for cardiovascular events. In addition urinary levels of thromboxane B2 will be measured. Thromboxane A2 (TXA2) is involved in platelet aggregation, vasoconstriction and reproductive functions, but has a half-life of only 37 seconds under physiological conditions. Thromboxane B2 (TXB2) is the stable product of the non-enzymatic hydration of TXA2, thus the production of TXA2 in vivo is typically monitored by measurement of TXB2 and its metabolite 2,3-dinor TXB2. 11-dehydro-TXB2 is a major metabolite of Thromboxane B2 (TXB2) found in urine and plasma produced by its dehydrogenation by the enzyme 11-OH-dehydrogenase.

Endothelial Dysfunction Markers

In order to evaluate the effect of testosterone on vascular stress, so called endothelial dysfunction, we shall save platelet poor plasma for circulating levels of microparticles as described below. We hypothesize that testosterone treatment will result in reduced levels of microparticles.

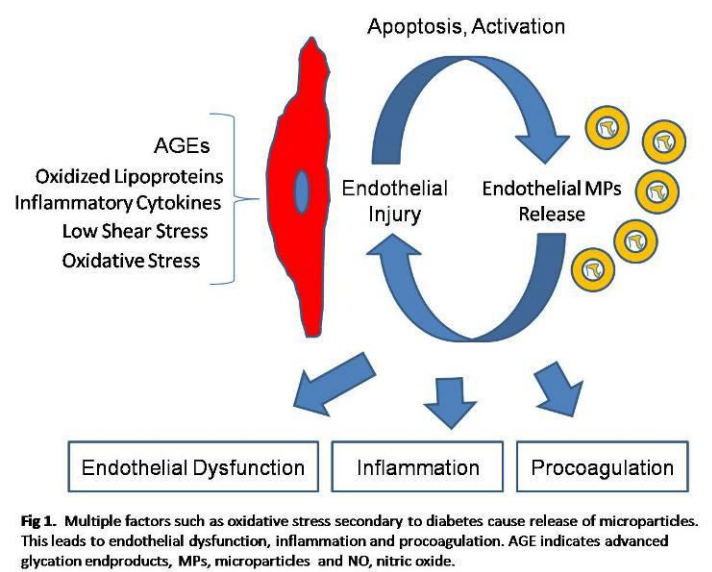


Fig 1. Multiple factors such as oxidative stress secondary to diabetes cause release of microparticles. This leads to endothelial dysfunction, inflammation and procoagulation. AGE indicates advanced glycation endproducts, MPs, microparticles and NO, nitric oxide.

Figure 1. Microparticles (MPs) as Both Biomarker and Pathological Agent

There has been a resurgence of interest in circulating MPs from endothelial cells, platelets and leucocytes because of their newly recognized and diverse physiological and pathological functions. MPs are plasma particles of <math><1\ \mu\text{m}</math> diameter that are formed by the exocytic budding of cell membranes. During their formation, the symmetry of the plasma membrane lipid bilayer is altered, resulting in the exposure of

a surface that is rich in negatively charged phospholipids. In addition, the MPs bear antigens expressed on the surface of the cells from which they originate. It is this anionic phospholipid surface that can bind coagulation factors, and the expression of functional molecules such as tissue factor or selectins that mediate the biological actions of MPs. Furthermore, elevated levels of MPs have been found in a number of conditions associated with vascular dysfunction, thrombosis and inflammation (Figure 1). Thus, MPs are not innocent byproducts of cell

membranes but pathological vesicles that significantly promote cardiovascular disease.

Glucose Metabolism Markers

In order to evaluate the effect of testosterone on markers of glucose metabolism, we shall measure fasting serum glucose and insulin and hemoglobin A1c.

Myocardial Damage Markers

High sensitivity troponin indicates ongoing cardiac damage and predicts worsening congestive heart failure. Testosterone was recently shown to improve myocardial function in patients with cardiomyopathy. We therefore plan to save samples for troponin.

Study Objectives

The primary specific aim of the Cardiovascular Trial is to test the hypothesis that testosterone treatment of elderly men whose serum testosterone concentrations are unequivocally low will result in more favorable changes in cardiovascular risk markers than placebo treatment.

Primary Specific Aim

The primary specific aim of the Cardiovascular Trial is to test the hypothesis that testosterone treatment for one year, compared with placebo, of men ≥ 65 years who have an average serum testosterone concentration < 275 ng/dL will decrease progression of coronary artery plaque, independent of baseline blood pressure, statin use or other cardiovascular risk factors.

Exploratory Specific Aims

To test the hypotheses that testosterone treatment for one year, compared with placebo treatment, will be associated with:

- Slowing of progression of atherosclerosis, as measured by coronary artery calcification (CAC)
- Decrease in abdominal visceral and subcutaneous fat, as measured by abdominal CT
- Improvement in markers of inflammation, coagulation-platelet activation, endothelial dysfunction and myocardial damage, as described above.
- Improvement in markers of glucose metabolism, including fasting serum glucose and insulin and hemoglobin A1c
- Improvement in fasting serum lipids and lipoproteins (total, HDL and LDL cholesterol, triglycerides, Lp(a), lipid particle size and number by NMR).

Study Design

General Design

This study is a randomized, placebo-controlled, double-blind trial of the effect of testosterone treatment on cardiovascular end points in men ≥ 65 years who have a low serum testosterone concentration who have enrolled in The Testosterone Trial and who meet additional entry criteria for the Cardiovascular Trial.

The study will be conducted at nine trial sites across the United States. The CT reading center at Los Angeles Biomedical Research Institute at Harbor-UCLA will coordinate the CT angiography studies. The Clinical Research Computing Unit at the University of Pennsylvania will be the Data Coordinating Center, and other central services will be the same as for The Testosterone Trial.

Study Endpoints

Cardiovascular Trial Endpoints

Primary Endpoint: Change in atherosclerotic plaque burden from 0 to 12 months, as assessed by cardiac CT angiography

Exploratory Endpoints:

- Coronary artery calcium by CT scan
- Visceral and subcutaneous fat by CT
- Lipids, lipoproteins, and lipid particle size
- Markers of glucose metabolism: fasting glucose and insulin, hemoglobin A1c
- Markers of inflammation, coagulation, endothelial dysfunction, and myocardial damage

Early Withdrawal of Subjects

Because these trials are based on the principle of “intent-to-treat”, every attempt will be made to follow and evaluate all enrolled subjects for the duration of the trials. Therefore, even if treatment is discontinued, the subject will be asked to complete the appropriate evaluations. If subjects develop renal insufficiency or develop a significant contrast allergy prior to follow up CT scan, a follow up contrast scan will not be conducted. These subjects will not be withdrawn from the CV trial, but will undergo a non-contrast calcium scan at 12 months, rather than a contrast study.

Subject Selection and Withdrawal

Number of Subjects

Subjects will be evaluated for study eligibility during their screening process for the main T Trial. Please note that if each of the main trials (Vitality, Physical Function, and Sexual Function) within the Testosterone Trial has met its

enrollment goals, subjects will be required to be eligible for and to participate in either the Bone Trial or the CV Trial, if they are still open to enrollment. At that time, all subjects who are screened for the Testosterone Trial will also be screened for the Cardiovascular Trial. In addition, all subjects who sign the T Trial baseline consent form will also receive details about the Cardiovascular Trial and will consent to the Cardiovascular trial. . The number of subjects will be 160 for CT angiography studies. Each of the nine sites is expected to enroll approximately 20 participants until the goal of 160 is reached. However, sites who are enrolling at a higher rate should continue to enroll in the trial above 20 participants, until the overall recruitment goal is met. It is projected that 85% of subjects allocated to treatment will complete the 12 months of treatment and be available for follow up measures by CT.

Inclusion Criteria for the Cardiovascular Trial

- Normal baseline renal function as assessed by eGFR (estimated glomerular filtration rate) > 60 ml/min/1.73m² at Screening Visit 1 and Month 12
- Willingness to consent and participate

Exclusion Criteria for The Cardiovascular Trial

- Weight >300 pounds
- Known allergy to iodinated contrast medium
- Inability to breath-hold for 10 seconds
- Current diagnosis of active atrial fibrillation
- Prior coronary artery bypass grafting by patient report or medical records

Trial Sites

The Cardiovascular Trial will be conducted at 9 of the 12 sites in The Testosterone Trial. These sites all have 64-slice MDCT scanners and sufficient experience using them, as determined by a questionnaire completed by the sites. Subjects will be identified and recruited by coordinators at the 9 sites with sufficient cardiac CT capabilities as identified by prior survey. The coordinators will approach patients for interest in participation in The Cardiovascular Trial.

CT Scanning

CT Reading Center

The Reading Center for CTA will be based at the Los Angeles Biomedical Research Institute at Harbor-UCLA and directed by Dr. Matthew Budoff. The Center will coordinate and oversee the collection of the data, store backup copies of the data, read each scan, send the results to the DCC and maintain quality control.

Subject participation

The Testosterone Trial site staff will communicate with the eligible subjects to explain the cardiac CT measurements and provide information concerning

cardiac CT imaging. The trial site staff will obtain informed consent and provide instructions to and assistance with travel to the CT scanning location.

CT examination

In a single session, each participant will receive sequential scans. A series of noncontrast scans will be performed, including a calcium scan of the heart to measure coronary artery calcium. Three slices through the umbilicus will be performed to measure visceral and subcutaneous fat. Then a contrast-enhanced study will be performed. Assessment of the location and degree of severity of coronary artery stenosis will be performed in each study.

The CT reader will interactively use axial images, multi-planar reconstructions and MIPs to assess the degree of luminal narrowing stenosis in all assessable coronary segments. Standard display settings will be used for the evaluation of the contrast-enhanced CT scans (window width 800 HU; window center 250 HU). Segments with stenosis 1-25% diameter narrowing will be defined as having minimal stenosis, 26%-50% diameter narrowing will be defined as mild stenosis, 51-75% diameter narrowing will be defined as moderate stenosis and those with >75% diameter narrowing will be defined as severe stenosis. We will specifically report ranges of percent diameter stenosis (not area stenosis), since the spatial resolution of CT angiography cannot achieve the precision of quantitative coronary angiography. The most narrowed diameter in each segment will be reported even if the plaque is eccentric. Segment stenosis score will also be generated based on the degree of underlying stenotic disease in each segment (0 = no plaque, 1 = 1-25% stenosis, 2 = 26-50% stenosis, 3 = 51-75% stenosis, 4 = >75% stenosis). The extent scores of all 15 individual segments will be summed to yield a total score ranging from 0 to 60. In addition, each coronary territory (right coronary artery left main, left anterior descending and left circumflex artery) will also be scored according to presence of most significant lesion.

Plaque quantification

Plaque area will be manually traced per slice in all affected coronary segments. The plaque area of each coronary plaque visualized in at least 2 adjacent slices (reconstructed slice thickness 0.6 mm) will be determined on all affected slices and plaque volume will be assessed by multiplying the area with the slice thickness. The total plaque per segment will be summed. A semi-quantitative plaque score previously utilized will be applied in each subject. Each segment of the coronary arteries and visual semi-quantification of coronary artery calcific and non-calcific plaque will be used. Each plaque will be multiplied by 1 for small plaque volume, 2 for medium plaque volume and 3 for large plaque volume. A small plaque will be defined as <1 mm in diameter perpendicular to the artery, medium as 1-2 mm in diameter and large as >2 mm. "Total Plaque Score" will be determined by summing the number of evaluable coronary segments with individual plaque scores (maximum plaque score = 45 [score of 3 for all 15 segments]). Since there may be difficulty making measurements from vessels

<1.5 mm in diameter, we will use both a ‘raw’ score (total of 45) and a percent plaque score that normalizes the plaque burden if the total number of measurable segments varies from subject to subject. The “Percent Plaque Score” (%PS) will be calculated as follows: (number of segments with plaque / total number of assessable segments) x 100. Both total plaque score and % plaque score will be evaluated as independent variables compared to other measures obtained in The Testosterone Trial, including demographics, cardiac risk factors, plasma hormone levels, coronary artery calcification, and coronary intimal medial thickness. The relationship between coronary plaque volume and traditional risk factors for cardiovascular disease will be investigated.

Composition of coronary atherosclerotic plaque

Plaque will be evaluated from both axial source images and multi-planar reconstruction images of the long axis at each site of the coronary arteries. Each coronary segment will be classified as either *normal* (no plaque), containing *non-calcified plaque*, containing *mixed plaque* with either predominantly non-calcified plaque (<50% of plaque area occupied by calcium) or containing *calcified plaque* (>50% of plaque area occupied by calcium) (9). Measurements are summarized in Table 1 below.

Calcified atherosclerotic plaque

This will be defined as any discernable structure which 1) has a CT density greater than the contrast-enhanced lumen; 2) is clearly assignable to the coronary artery wall; and, 3) is identified in at least 2 independent planes (11).

Non-calcified atherosclerotic plaque

This will be defined as any discernable structure which 1) has a CT density less than the contrast-enhanced coronary lumen but greater than the surrounding connective tissue; 2) is clearly assignable to the coronary artery wall; and, 3) is identified in at least 2 independent planes (11). Standard display settings will be used for the evaluation of the contrast-enhanced CT scans (window width 800 HU; window center 250 HU).

Cardiac chambers volume and mass

Left ventricular volume and mass will be measured on all CT scans using Simpson’s method of discs as previously validated (12). Left atrial volume (and indexed volume) will also be simultaneously calculated on all scans.

Abdominal Subcutaneous and Visceral Adiposity

Abdominal adipose tissue areas will be measured by three CT slices obtained at the same visit as coronary measures. This will require the addition of one abdominal slice to the coronary calcium scanning protocol. After coronary artery scanning, a single CT slice will be obtained at the level of the umbilicus to assess intra-abdominal and subcutaneous fat distribution. Intra-abdominal adipose tissue area is quantified by delineating the intra-abdominal cavity at the internal-

most aspect of the abdominal and oblique muscle walls surrounding the cavity and the posterior aspect of the vertebral body (Figure 2). Using supine axial CT data at the umbilicus, the body wall of each subject will be manually traced, excluding all subcutaneous fat, using a spline tool available on the image software program. After each spline has been traced, the internal region (visceral tissues including visceral fat) of interest will be selected (Figure 2b). The total area within the visceral fat range will be computed. Fat is considered as pixels with densities between -130 and 0 Hounsfield units. The amount of extra-abdominal (subcutaneous) fat is calculated by subtracting intra-abdominal fat from total abdominal fat. This method limits the radiation exposure to a very minimum (one slice represents <0.01 mSev exposure), and the results are highly correlated with total abdominal fat. This single abdominal CT cut will be used to calculate the visceral, subcutaneous and intermuscular adipose tissue compartments.

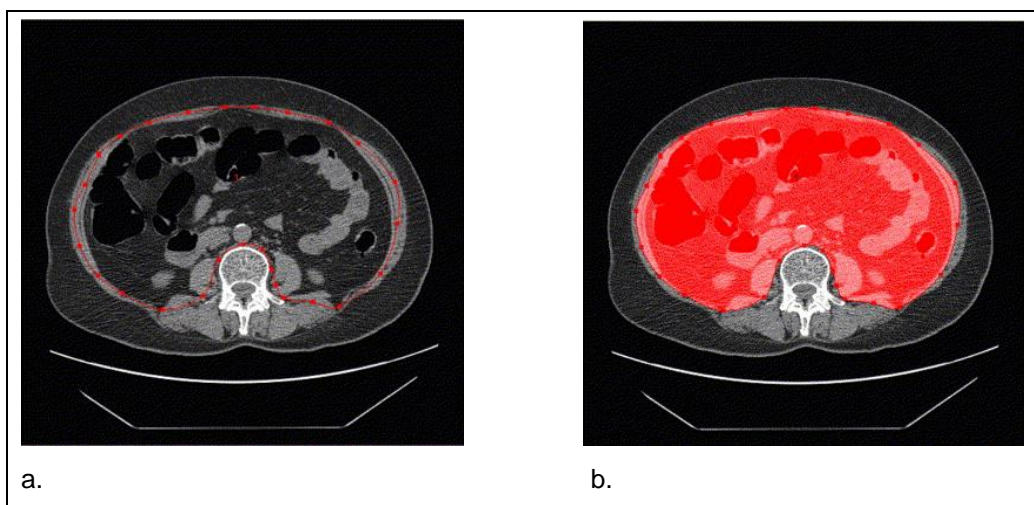


Figure 2. CT scan images showing a slice taken through the umbilicus. **(a)** The tracing of the body wall using the spline tool. Multiple points can be made using the spline tool to accurately outline the visceral fat. **(b)** The highlighted region of interest to be analyzed.

Table 1: Measurements from CTA for each coronary artery segment

Plaque Presence and Coronary Artery Stenosis
Small artery (diameter <1.5 mm, therefore cannot assess)
No stenosis or plaque present
Plaque present - minimally narrowed (stenosis grade 1% to 25%)
Plaque present - mildly narrowed (stenosis grade 26% to 50%)
Plaque present - moderately narrowed (stenosis grade 51% to 75%)
Plaque present - severely narrowed (stenosis grade >75%)
Size of each Plaque
Small (<1 mm in diameter perpendicular to the coronary artery)
Medium (1-2 mm in maximum diameter)
Large (>2 mm in diameter)
Plaque Composition
Non-calcified
Mixed
Calcified
Cardiac Chambers
Left ventricular mass
Left ventricular volume
Left atrial volume

Measurement of Biomarkers

Blood Sampling and Processing for Biomarkers

All subjects will fast from the night before the visit, and blood samples will be drawn between 7 and 10 AM. Blood will be collected for serum and citrated and EDTA plasma that will be stored at -80° C in the central laboratory until assay. Samples will be frozen and thawed only once.

Additional Processing of Blood for Microparticles

For eventual determination of microparticles, 10 mL of citrated blood will be centrifuged at 1,500 g for 15 minutes. The supernatant will then be centrifuged at 13,500 g for 5 minutes to remove the platelets. The resulting supernatant of platelet-free plasma will be frozen, shipped to the central laboratory on dry ice, and stored at -80° C until assay. Samples will be frozen and thawed only once.

Cardiovascular Events Ascertainment and Adjudication

See the T Trial Cardiovascular Event Adjudication Manual for a complete description of the ascertainment and adjudication process.

Study Procedures and Visits

Prescreening/Screening Visit 1/Screening Visit 2 Men will be screened over the phone and in person to determine if they qualify for the CV study. Screening for the CV Trial will take place over the course of the telephone screen, Screening Visit 1 and Screening Visit 2 of the Main T Trial.

Baseline Visit

- Sign Baseline consent form
- CT scan without and with contrast for coronary artery calcium score, non-calcified plaque volume, and total plaque volume
- CT scan for visceral and subcutaneous on three slices through abdomen at L3-4

Month 12 Visit

- Re-evaluation of medical history for development of allergy to iodinated contrast medium
- Review of renal function based on month 12 e-GFR calculation (> 60 ml/min/1.73m²)
- CT scan including coronary artery calcium score, non-calcified plaque volume, total plaque volume
- CT scan for visceral and subcutaneous on three slices through abdomen at L3-4

Subject Compensation

Subjects will be compensated during the course of the trial, \$50 for the baseline visit and for the month 12 visit, for a total of \$100 if a subject completes the trial. In addition, subjects will be compensated for travel and parking and provided meal tickets for study visits.

Statistical Plan

Analytical Methods and Sample Size Estimations

The CV trial sample size has been revised based on new data provided by Dr. Matthew Budoff, the director of the CTA Reading Center for the T Trial. The data were derived from a similar population of evaluated at two time points approximately one year apart. The measurement used was of fatty (noncalcified) plaque volume, which is the primary end point of CT angiography, since fatty plaque volume is what is most likely to change in response to testosterone treatment. We project that about 140 subjects will enroll by the end of enrollment in the main trial and that 85%, or about 120, will have a second scan. However we also expect about a 15% attrition in the T Trial overall, but it is likely that some subjects who remain in the T Trial for 12 months will develop a condition that would exclude them between the baseline and 12 month scans, so we have decided to target enrollment in the CV Trial at 160 in order to be more sure of having 120 subjects complete both baseline and month 12 scans.

The reason for the difference between the previous estimate and the current one results from our change in primary end point from total plaque volume to noncalcified plaque volume. The reason for the change in the primary end point from total to noncalcified plaque volume is the growing acceptance in the CTA community that not only is noncalcified plaque more important biologically (it is more likely to rupture than calcified plaque), but also is more likely to change in response to statin or anti-inflammatory treatment than calcified plaque. For example, a study of statin treatment showed a significant reduction in noncalcified plaque volume with statin treatment but not in calcium score (Burgstatter, *Invest Radiol* 42: 189, 2007). Similarly, a study of the anti-inflammatory drug VIA-2291 showed a significant reduction in noncalcified plaque volume but not in total plaque volume (Tardiff, *Circimaging* 3: 298, 2010).

Clinical cardiovascular events

Although this Trial will not likely have adequate power to detect a difference between treatment groups in incidence of clinical cardiac events, we shall track and adjudicate cardiovascular events in all subjects in all trials to look for trends. Additionally, although this trial is designed to test whether treatment with testosterone reduces volume of coronary plaque compared with placebo treatment, the supporting data are limited and we recognize that effects in either direction could be observed. Given the increasing use of testosterone in elderly men, data suggesting that testosterone treatment decreases or increases plaque volume would be valuable. As for all other hypothesis tests in The Testosterone Trial, two-sided tests will be performed and will permit conclusions regarding effects in either direction.

Safety and Adverse Events

Definitions

Definitions are per the January 2007 Guidance on Reviewing and Reporting Unanticipated Problems Involving Risks to Subjects or Others and Adverse Events, Office on Human Research Protection (OHRP) Guidance. <http://www.hhs.gov/ohrp/policy/AdvEvtGuid.htm>. The requirements and processes for reporting adverse events are described in the corresponding National Institute on Aging (NIA) Guidelines and collected as per the main Testosterone Trial protocols.

Abnormal Laboratory Values

A clinical laboratory abnormality should be documented as an adverse event if any one of the following conditions is met:

- The laboratory abnormality is not otherwise refuted by a repeat test to confirm the abnormality.
- The abnormality suggests a disease and/or organ toxicity.
- The abnormality is of a degree that requires active management.

- Creatinine will be specifically assessed to evaluate safety of contrast administration

Safety Measures Related to CT Angiography.

Use of CT angiography raises two important safety issues: the amount of radiation absorbed by the body tissues and the exposure to iodinated contrast agents, which have the potential to produce allergic reactions and acute renal injury. A number of strategies have now been validated to lower the radiation dose of CT angiography to just above background doses.

Allergy to Contrast Media.

Subjects will be asked at the baseline and 12 month Testosterone Trial visit if they have a known allergy to contrast media. Subjects with known or suspected contrast allergy will not be eligible for the CV trial.

Renal Function.

Subjects will have a serum creatinine measurement as part of a chemistry screening panel at the time of the baseline and 12 month Testosterone Trial visit. If the estimated GFR is $<60 \text{ mL/min/1.72m}^2$, CT angiography will not be done.

Radiation Exposure

Total Radiation for the entire cardiac CT protocol is expected to be 3.2-6.5 mSv, including scout imaging, coronary artery calcification and CT angiography, dependent on BMI, cardiac height and heart rate. Beta-blockers will be used to control the heart rate and thus maintain the radiation dose as low as reasonably achievable.

Radiation Reduction Methods:

The primary drawback to the use of CT angiography has been the relatively high radiation doses administered to the participants using previous generations of CT scanners, as high as 20 mSv or more using some protocols. We shall employ several techniques to reduce radiation:

- *Prospective Triggering.* In this technique imaging is performed in only one phase of the cardiac cycle, rather than continuous imaging during the entire cycle. Both Siemens Dual Source and Toshiba 320 scanners have the ability to perform prospective imaging.
- *Limiting the Field of View.* The field of view will be limited to 25 cm. This will both reduce radiation dose by up to 30%, and limit incidental findings related to non-cardiac disease (primarily lung nodules).
- *Limiting the scan length.* Scan length (height of chest imaged) will be limited to 1 cm above the visualized top of the coronary arteries and 1 cm below the distal arteries based on the calcium score. The use of the calcium score anatomical landmarks (rather than the scout image) has

been shown to reduce radiation by 30%, independent of other dose reduction strategies (14).

- *Reducing tube voltage.* Tube voltage will be 100 kVp for subjects <85 kg rather than the typical voltage of 120 kVp (15), which lowers radiation exposure by 40% independently of other techniques.

The CT Reading Center will work closely with sites to ensure average doses remain below 5 mSv. It will use direct measure of radiation. If a site is found to be delivering average doses >5 mSv, the Reading Center will reinstruct the site. If doses are not reduced to below 5 mSv, the site will be asked to stop recruitment until a member of the CT Reading Center can be present for acquisition and protocol adjustment.

Total Radiation.

The CT angiography examination we shall perform has an estimated effective dose of 3.2-6.5 mSv. This value is comparable to the 3-7 mSv people receive annually (based on geography) from natural sources. In comparison, catheter diagnostic coronary angiography delivers effective doses of 7 mSv, while stress nuclear thallium imaging deliver doses of 20-41 mSv. We have tabulated cumulative exposure including estimates for the CT angiography exam. The cumulative average estimated exposure to participants in the MESA study to date is <7 mSv, which is 14% of the participants' cumulative background exposure from natural sources. The Cardiovascular Trial would increase background to 20%. In this study we shall measure radiation, rather than estimate it, as done in previous CT angiography studies.

Quality Assurance of CT Scanning

Acquisition of data from CT angiography is challenging, so this study will be performed only at sites that are very experienced in this technique. The CT Reading Center will instruct each site prior to the initiation of the Trial to ensure protocols are programmed into the computer and the technologists understand the protocols. In addition, each scan will be reviewed at the reading center for compliance to field of view, voltage and power, pitch and other parameters. If the Reading Center finds any scan has been performed in a way that deviates from the protocol, the technologist and the local PI will be advised. If more than two consecutive scans at a site are found to deviate from the protocol, the director of the Reading Center will revisit the site and review the protocols and technique prior to any further imaging at that center.

Data and Safety Monitoring Board

The DSMB of the main Testosterone Trial will monitor the safety of the subjects in the Cardiovascular Trial.

Data Management

Data Management System Components

The Data Coordinating Center (DCC) at the University of Pennsylvania will develop a data management system for the collection, storage and management of data, as consistent with the main Testosterone Trial Protocol.

Manual of Procedures (MOP) – The MOP will describe the sequence of study conduct and provide detailed instruction for the performance of screening, baseline, enrollment, treatment allocation and follow-up procedures. The MOP will provide instruction in case report form completion, use of the electronic data management system, and collection, documentation and transfer of specimens and tests to laboratories and reading centers.

Training and certification procedures – The CT Reading Center, in conjunction with the DCC, will conduct a training session before the study starts to train and certify personnel in the performance of study procedures.

CT technologists should have appropriate knowledge of cross-sectional anatomy, physiology, and pathology related to the heart. Technologists must be certified as RTs in their state. It is recommended that technologists also have at least two years of experience in chest computed tomography. The technologist should also have a basic knowledge of cardiac CT, knowledge of computer software applications, data formatting, and experience with the workstations and data formatting / transmission procedures used.

Each technologist involved in the study should also have a complete understanding of this protocol, be experienced at providing breath-holding instruction, ECG gating, and operation of the CT. To ensure quality control, each site should have designated CT technicians who will perform the examinations.

Training will be performed using a standard training PowerPoint presentation and interactive internet and teleconference system to train technologists. This allows ongoing training and certification of technologists. Other NIH studies have demonstrated that there will be a turnover of technologists, and doing on-site training for each technologist is not possible or practical. Using the standard interactive presentation and teleconference, each site can get specific training and follow-up as needed. Further, quality assurance will be performed on each scan (see below), and necessary feedback given to the specific technologist promptly (within 1-2 days) after the scan is received at the reading center. This will allow for rapid identification of improper scan techniques and has been shown to dramatically decrease inadequate data sets in previous multicenter studies done at this core reading center.

Site visits – Findings from site visits will be used to resolve problems and develop corrective action plans.

External data sources – The DCC will monitor quality control of data received from the CV reading center.

Internal quality control procedures – A data validation plan, rule set specifications, and programming logic to implement data validation rules will be implemented.

Routine reports

The DCC will develop a set of standard enrollment, tracking, quality review, and safety monitoring reports. Adverse event reports, DSMB reports and reports for statistical analysis will be developed and produced on an appropriate schedule.

Urgent Alerts

Several safety alerts (e.g. aortic aneurysm [$> 5\text{cm}$], severe coronary artery disease [defined as left main or 3 vessel disease], non-calcified lung masses [$>6\text{mm}$] and large pericardial effusions) will require urgent notification and reports forwarded to the local participating clinical centers by the Reading Center PI. The Reading Center PI will be responsible for notification of both the trial site PI and study coordinator, as well as the Data Coordinating Center within 24 hours. The site PI will then be responsible for notifying the subject within the following 24 hours and also notifying the Data Coordinating Center that the subject has been contacted.

Data Security

The data management system will be the same as the main Testosterone Trial Study designed to prevent unauthorized access to trial data and to prevent data loss due to equipment failure or catastrophic events. The procedures to do so encompass user account management, user privilege assignment, data loss prevention (database backup), computer systems validation, performance monitoring, and DMS change management. User access will be controlled by assignment of confidential usernames, passwords and role assignment. The system will meet the applicable Federal regulatory requirements and those described in the E6 Good Clinical Practice Guidelines to ensure the confidentiality of trial subjects.

Maintaining Anonymity of Submitted Medical Records

Clinical site personnel will de-identify all medical records before sending them to the DCC by obliterating any Protected Health Information (PHI). Upon receipt, DCC personnel will review the records to ensure that no PHI is visible.

Confidentiality

Information about study subjects will be kept confidential and managed according to the requirements of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) of 1996.

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V. Cardiovascular Trial

V.A Primary endpoint

V.A.1 Primary Analysis. The primary endpoint analysis will evaluate the impact of Androgel treatment on the change in CT Angiographic (CTA) atherosclerotic (non-calcified) plaque volume between baseline and month 12 through an intent-to-treat comparison of the Androgel and placebo arms. Efficacy will be measured through a multivariate linear model that adjusts for baseline non-calcified plaque volume and all variables incorporated in the minimization procedure, including study site, indicator variables of participation in each primary efficacy trial, baseline testosterone concentration (≤ 200), age (≤ 75), use of antidepressants, and use of PDE inhibitors. All subjects with a baseline and 12-month plaque volume measurement will be included in the analysis. Responses will not be transformed following customary approaches for this type of data. Significance will be assessed through the two-sided Wald test and confidence interval of the Androgel coefficient.

V.A.2 Sensitivity Analysis for Missing Data. Sensitivity of results to missing post-baseline responses will be evaluated using inverse probability of censoring weighting methods (Bang and Robins 2005). In this approach, estimating equations for regression model coefficients are weighted by a subject's probability of presenting post-baseline, which may be estimated by the proportion of subjects with a post-baseline measurement or through logistic regression with an indicator of presenting for follow-up as the outcome.

V.B Secondary Endpoints

Secondary endpoints measured at baseline and 12 months only will follow the multivariable linear regression model detailed in the primary endpoint analysis. Secondary endpoints measured at months 0, 3, and 12 will be compared using random effects models with change from baseline as the outcome and time entered categorically as in indicator for month 12. The baseline value of the marker will be included as a covariate for adjustment. Response values will not be transformed unless indicated. Models will adjust for the same set of baseline covariates detailed in the primary endpoint analysis and the baseline value of the outcome of interest. Markers of glucose metabolism will be compared between treated and untreated subjects across the entire T-Trial, adjusting for CV Trial participation in addition to primary trial participation.

V.B.1 Coronary artery calcium by CT scan (measured at months 0 and 12). Change in log-transformed coronary artery calcium by CT scan, where the value 25 is added to responses prior to the log transformation as suggested by Kronmal et al. 2007.

V.B.2 Total Plaque Volume (measured at months 0 and 12). Change in total plaque volume from baseline to 12 months.

V.B.3 Subcutaneous fat by CT (measured at months 0 and 12). Change in subcutaneous fat from baseline to 12 months.

V.B.4 HgA1C (measured at months 0, 3, and 12) – Change in HgA1C among all T-trial participants who are not being treated for diabetes at baseline.

V.B.5 HOMA-IR (measured at months 0, 3, and 12) Change in HgA1C among all T-trial participants who are not being treated for diabetes at baseline.

V.C.1 Exploratory Endpoints

Exploratory endpoints measured at baseline and 12 months only will follow the multivariable linear regression model detailed in the primary endpoint analysis. Measures collected at baseline, 3 months, and 12 months will be compared using the random effects models described in the secondary endpoint analysis. In either approach, change from baseline will be the outcome modeled, and the baseline measurement included as an adjustment variable. As with secondary endpoints, markers of glucose metabolism and inflammation will be compared between treated and untreated subjects across the entire T-Trial, adjusting for CV Trial participation in addition to primary trial participation. Structural Mean Models will be used to account for differential statin use throughout study follow-up.

V.C.1.1 Visceral fat by CT (months 0 and 12)

V.C.1.2 LV mass (measured at months 0 and 12)

V.C.1.3 HDL (measured at months 0, 3, and 12)

V.C.1.4 LDL (measured at months 0, 3, and 12)

V.C.1.5 Triglycerides(measured at months 0, 3, and 12)

V.C.1.6 Total cholesterol (measured at months 0, 3, and 12)

V.C.1.7 Fasting glucose (measured at months 0, 3, and 12)

V.C.1.8 C-reactive protein (measured at months 0, 3, and 12)

V.C.1.9 IL-6 (measured at months 0, 3, and 12)

V.C.1.10 Thromboxane (urine) (measured at months 0, 3, and 12)

V.C.1.11 Microparticles (leukocyte, platelet, and endothelial) (measured at months 0, 3, and 12)

V.C.1.12 Troponin (high sensitive) (measured at months 0, 3, and 12)

V.C.1.13 BNP (measured at months 0, 3, and 12)

V.C.2 Exploratory Analyses

V.C.2.1 Correlation of Change in Non-imaging Markers with Imaging Markers. A Pearson correlation matrix will be calculated to determine the correlation of change from baseline in soft plaque, subcutaneous fat, lipids, glucose metabolism markers, and inflammatory markers from baseline to 12 months.

V.C.2.2 Correlation of Baseline Framingham Risk Score and Cardiovascular outcomes. The association of the baseline Framingham risk with cardiovascular outcomes will be analyzed through linear mixed models for repeated-measures outcomes and linear regression for outcomes only measured at baseline and 12 months. Analyses will adjust for treatment and other potential confounders including ()

V.D Subgroup Analyses

Subgroup analysis will be performed by adding interactions of baseline subgroup-defining variables and treatment assignment to the primary outcome model. Baseline subgroup-defining variables include:

V.D.1 Low Framingham risk (potentially modified from standard according to available data)

V.D.2 Age

V.D.3 Lipids

V.D.4 Smoking

V.D.5 Diabetes

V.D.6 6MWT

V.D.7 Erectile dysfunction based on IIEF score

V.D.8 Total Testosterone (<200)

V.D.9 Free Testosterone

V.D.10 Estradiol