# CAN NATURE PROVIDE A **HEALTHY ALTERNATIVE?**

## REPORT BY CAROLINE MCDONAGH, CLINICAL NUTRITIONIST

As a Clinical Nutritionist with the Tony Quinn Health Centres, I find I am frequently asked for advice as to how to prevent or alleviate the symptoms of menopause. More and more women are seeking natural alternatives to Hormone Replacement Therapy and fortunately, nature may have provided the answer in the form of a group of recently-researched nutrients called isoflavones.

At mid-life, the body's oestrogen levels decline suddenly. This can be a challenging time when a woman can feel quite unlike her normal self. The most common reported symptoms are hot flushes, night sweats, headaches, inability to concentrate, dry skin. Loss of bone density is a major concern. Synthetic oestrogen is often used to help alleviate or postpone these effects. However many women either cannot tolerate this drug or are fearful of unwelcome side effects

### **HEALTH STUDIES**

For Europeans and Americans,

it is interesting to note that major health studies of Asian and Latin American women show mid-life to be a relative non-event both physically and emotionally. According to research in the United States, 65 to 80% of menopausal women experience hot flushes to some degree whereas in Japan only 10% of women report experience of hot flushes at the set of menopause. The incidence of hip and spinal fractures is much less common as well.

### RESEARCH

The typical Asian or South American diet is high in foods like lentils, soy and chickpeas, which contain high levels of isoflavones. The Western diet in contrast is dramatically lacking in isoflavones. The rapid reduction of isoflavones in Western diets in the twentieth century may have influenced not only menopause but an increase in sex hormone related conditions including heart disease, cancer and osteoporosis Research indicates that a high dietary isoflavone intake appears to balance out both excesses deficiencies of sex hormone that occur throughout life.

#### **1 TABLET PER DAY**

In my own clinic, I have been successfully recommending an isoflavone product called Promensil. It is derived from specially selected strains of the herb Red Clover and extracted using patented technology which concentrates the full activity of the plant in a reliable and standardised one-a-day dose

Fourteen years of research have made this possible. It is greatly superior to soya not only because of this standard form. but also because it contains the major isoflavones Daidzein and Genistein in a form much more absorbable by humans Moreover it is high in two other isoflavones. Formononetin and Biochanin which soya does not

#### **AMAZING FEEDBACK**

contain.

The feedback on this product is amazing. For example one lady who had been experiencing hot flushes at the rate of five a day and also at night reported that they disappeared completely after only two weeks on Promensil. Another client reported that after only a fortnight, not only had she felt much better in herself and had not suffered from menopausal symptoms, but also she began to lose weight which previously she had been unable to do! I feel



**Clinical Nutritionist** 

this totally natural product could make the vital difference to the health and well-being of many

# **AVOID PROCESSED FOODS**

Naturally, I encourage women to eat a good balanced diet, and avoid processed foods. Some women also find taking a good multivitamin and mineral tonic such as the Life Extension Mix beneficial. Of course it is very important to have adequate intake of calcium and other minerals at this stage of life to help prevent osteoporosis. Exercise, for example weight training and Yoga, is also part of my recommended lifestyle.

# VHAT OUR CUSTOMERS SAY.....



Could this her good news for H.R.T sufferers?

#### I FEEL LIKE A **DIFFERENT PERSON**

I started menopause at age 40 and began suffering with hot flushes, up to ten a day lasting 5 10 minutes, very erratic mood swings and also night sweats. My GP tried me on different types of HRT. Unfortunately, everything I tried made my whole body itch and therefore I had to take anti-

histamines to counteract the side-effects of the HRT! Eventually I had to come off the HRT and all my old symptoms came back. I came across Pomensil and after taking the first pack I felt much better and continued to use it. I no longer suffer with night sweats and l feel like a different person. I have been recommending it to my friends.

Marilyn L. Age 48.

#### I WAS AMAZED TO FEEL THE DIFFERENCE

When I first became menopausal, I was coping quite well - but then suddenly out of the blue at the age of about fiftyone it hit me: hot flushes, night eats and walking around feeling like I was wearing a suit of armour, my body was so dreadfully lethargic. Th flushes were dreadful. My GP decided the best thing would be to go on HRT - and it was very successful, for about five years. But then I developed very swollen knees and terribly painful joints, and realised because I made a point of reading up on HRT - that my tendonitis was linked to the drug. My GP warned me that all the menopausal symptoms would be squeezed into about five or six months, so I started to

look at alternative treatments. The good thing about coming off HRT, meanwhile, was that the weight fell off me Promensil food suppliment and I felt I had nothing to lose. Within the first week, I was amazed to feel a difference: I had more energy, the night sweats and flushes were drastically reduced. Ive been taking it for about 2 years now. I have a real sense of tranquility that you don't have when your hormones are all over the place. I'd feel comfortable taking it forever - which is what I plan to do - whereas I was very definately not keen on the idea of taking a drug like HRT for the rest of my life.

Sylvia S. Aged 58.

#### MORE ENERGY -MY OWN SELF AGAIN

I was only 45 when menopause struck: tiredness, exhaustion, lethargy: I'd lost interest in going out with friends. I am a chartered secretary and I need reserves of energy to draw on but they just weren't there. As soon as I started on Promensil the change was almost instantaneous, more energy, more life like my old self again, and literally within a matter of days I was bubbly, on cloud nine, grateful that I had found something that could make such a difference.

Janet A. Age 50.

# I FEEL NORMAL AGAIN!

I started on Promensil about 3 weeks ago with severe menopause symptoms; hot flushes, mood swings, irritability, lack of motivation. night sweats, lack of energy and up at least three or four times each night. I found H.R.T. had made me gain a lot of weight and so stopped taking it. using Promensil everything has improved 100% and I now feel normal again. I would recommend Promensil to anyone going through the menopause. Lillian Emmett.

Dublin 15.

#### **NO LONGER SUFFERS** FROM MOOD SWINGS & **FATIGUE**

Margaret a 46 year old grandmother began menopause symptoms about 2 years ago hot flushes, night sweats. terrible 'highs and lows' and also fatigue. After a week taking one Promensil each morning her flushes throughout the day alleviated and she no longer suffers with mood swings and fatigue. She also found that her night sweats subsided and she was able to sleep undisturbed Margaret.

# **NO MORE HOT FLUSHES**

I had started menopause symptoms, mainly hot flushes about four to five a day and some at night. After two to three weeks on Promensil I had absolutely no heat or flushes of any description and this is still the case.

I now buy a box in advance in case the shop goes short of them.

Thanking you Mary Connell,

# NO MENOPAUSE SYMPTOMS

I have been taking Promensil for the past three months. After about the first fortnight I began to feel much better in myself and for the first time I began to lose weight which previous to this I couldn't. I felt my hormones were more in balance and I have not suffered the severe symptoms of menopause

Catherine Gleeson, Dublin 3.