HORMONAL THERAPY AND SEXUAL DYSFUNCTION IN POSTMENOPAUSAL WOMEN FROM THE COLOMBIAN CARIBBEAN. ASSESSMENT WITH THE BRIEF FEMALE SEXUAL FUNCTION INDEX
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Introduction: a brief scale of 6 items has been proposed for the assessment of female sexuality, which derives from the FSFI scale. To approach the sexuality for the identification of the magnitude of the deterioration must be considered when climacteric women are attended. Objective: To compare the prevalence of sexual dysfunction (SD) in postmenopausal women according to the use of hormonal therapy. Methods: Comparative study that is part of CAVIMEC (Calidad de Vida en la Menopausia y Etnias Colombianas) project, carried out in women from the Colombian Caribbean of different ethnic groups (Mestizo, indigenous and afro-descendant), aged between 40-59 years, in postmenopause, who expressed having sexual partner and regular sexual activity. They were assessed in their own communities with a general questionnaire and the brief FSFI of 6 questions (FSFI-6). To lower score, higher sexual deterioration and SD is a score <=19. Data analysis was performed using the EPI-INFO-7. A p<0.05 was considered significant. Results: 1280 Colombian women from the Caribbean Coast were assessed. They were distributed in two groups: 241 (18.8%) who used any form of hormonal therapy and 1039 (81.1%) who do not use it. Significant differences were not observed in desire, arousal, lubrication, orgasm and sexual satisfaction. Users of hormonal therapy presented better score when discomfort or pain during intercourse was evaluate (p=0.01); however, they presented worse total score of the scale (p=0.04). There was not observed significant difference in the presence of SD between users of hormonal therapy: 49.5% [44.3-54.8] and non-users of hormonal therapy: 42.2% [40.2-44.2]. Conclusions: There was not observed significant difference in the presence of SD between users or non-users of hormonal therapy. Women who take hormones had significantly lower presence of pain or discomfort during intercourse.