## Hnf101712

Health newsfeed for Wednesday, October 17, 2012

**HEADLINE: KEEPS TRIAL** 

ANCHOR LEAD: A NEW TRIAL BRINGS HORMONE THERAPY BACK TO WOMEN WHO MAY NEED IT, ELIZABETH TRACEY REPORTS

Hormone replacement therapy got a bad rep several years ago in the wake of the Women's Health Initiative, but now the results of a trial called "KEEPS" may bring this therapy back to the armamentarium for women in the throes of menopausal symptoms. Redonda Miller, an internal medicine expert at Johns Hopkins, interprets the study.

MILLER: Right now I do still prescribe hormone therapy for women who are miserable. If they can't sleep at night because of the hot flashes and it's interfering with their ability to work and care for their families, I do prescribe short term hormone therapy. But I'd have a long conversation with the woman about the pros and cons. This trial probably won't change my practice and I don't think it's rigorous enough or big enough or long enough to change any of the guidelines, but what it does for me as a provider is it makes me feel more comfortable that treating women for five years or less really isn't doing much harm, at least based on what we know. :32

Miller underscores the term short term, however. At Johns Hopkins, I'm Elizabeth Tracey.