The Women's Health Initiative (WHI) continues to provide evidence that leads to advanced knowledge of how researching sex differences can impact the health of women. This prospective study of postmenopausal women from the WHI by Madsen et al. demonstrates the importance of sex hormones and their related proteins, sex hormone-binding globulin (SHBG), in ischemic stroke. Simply put - the lower the SHGB level, the greater the chance of ischemic stroke. This discovery can provide greater risk stratification for ischemic stroke as well as lead to further research on the possible mechanisms.

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