

WOMEN'S WELLNESS: FOOD, BODY, HORMONES Week FIVE

RELAXATION and **SLEEP**

Cathy Houghton
Women's Health, Food & Movement Coach

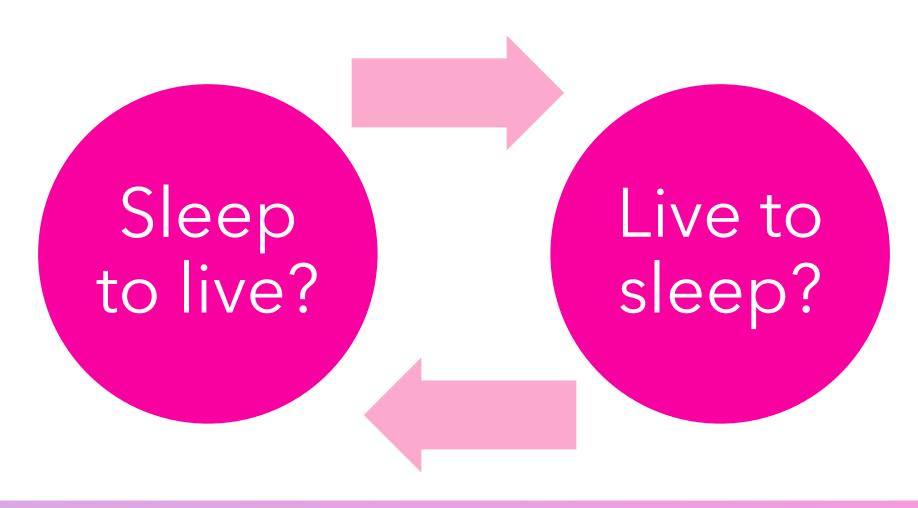
How do you know if your sleep is ok?

1. NHS online test - https://assets.nhs.uk/tools/self-assessments/index.mob.html?variant=72

 2. Dr Michael Moseley's test – afternoon sit down, with a spoon!

3. How do you feel????

Which way round?



Why does it get harder to sleep?

What's happening?	Why?	What can we do?
Decreased sex hormones - direct impact	Reduced oestrogen and testosterone are linked to sleeping lighter and waking more.	Replacement Oestrogen - NHS or private Replacement testosterone - probably private Boost naturally - phytoestrogens + T friendly foods Build muscle + lower body fat. Avoid alcohol.
Vasomotor menopause	Decreasing oestrogen = night sweats	Above + improve bedding / bedroom CBT
Higher stress	Raised cortisol impacts ALL hormones negatively - particularly progesterone	Improve relaxation tools. Take time out. Avoid / reduce alcohol, sugar, caffeine
Ageing - less melatonin	Natural decrease in men & women	Prioritise your circadian rhythm. Eat well - melatonin rich foods + boost serotonin
Disturbed sleeping	Sleep apnoea, snoring - weight gain. Restless legs. Other people!	Aim to reduce excess weight. Tape up mouth at night. Get help for restless legs Eye masks and ear plugs.

Sleep v relaxation

