

## Mayo Clinic Minute: Help with hot flashes due to menopause

Video	Audio
Suneela Vegunta, M.D. Women's Health Center Mayo Clinic	"During a hot flash, a woman's body temperature goes up by 1 to 3 degrees, and the heart rate also goes up by five to 10 beats."
	That means the body's temperature regulating system is not working.
	"Once the body perceives that the temperature has gone up, it tries to cool it down. And that's how the sweats happen. Once the sweats happen, the body cools down, the temperature comes down."
	That process can last up to 30 minutes, and it can be quite uncomfortable. Hormone therapy can be helpful.
	"It is really effective in making the hot flashes, sweats and sleep problems get much better."
	"There are some women, especially women with breast cancer or prior blood clots, that cannot use hormone therapy."
	Acupuncture is one alternative to medication and may reduce the frequency and severity of hot flashes. Other nonhormonal approaches include mindfulness meditation, yoga and supplements. Dr. Vegunta says they offer a ...
	"... significant quality of life improvement with a significant reduction in the intensity, the frequency, the duration of these hot flashes and sweats.
	For the Mayo Clinic News Network, I'm DeeDee Stiepan.