

### Method

#### **Quantitative online survey**

#### Samples:

- 1. Online research was conducted on behalf of Essity by OnePoll between 27<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> January 2023
- 2. 500 women (18+) who have not yet started the menopause were interviewed
- 3. Data splits were provided based on:
  - Age
  - Region



## **Summary**

- Almost a quarter (24%) **know what the perimenopause** is. Of those who know what perimenopause is, on average they believe there to be **11.52 symptoms** with the most expected symptom being **hot flushes** (58%).
- On average, respondents expect there to be **12.23 symptoms of menopause**, with the most expected symptom being **hot flushes** (65%). 25% were surprised to learn that oral health changes were a symptom of menopause.
- The average expected age of menopause was 47.14 years old.
- 43% feel there is **not enough awareness of menopause** in the general public, while 40% think that there is some awareness but more needs to be done.
- 61% think that the age you start menopause can be hereditary, while 42% think there can be a correlation between the age you start your period and the onset of menopause.
- 36% agree that going through the menopause means you are officially old. With 45% thinking menopause begins when a woman stops having her period, and 44% that you can't get pregnant when going through the menopause.
- 73% of respondents believe all women go through menopause, and on average think menopause lasts for 5.51 years.

# Perimenopause

- Almost a quarter (24%) know what the **perimenopause** is
- While 43% have heard the term but don't know what it is

#### Of those who know what the perimenopause is (n=119):

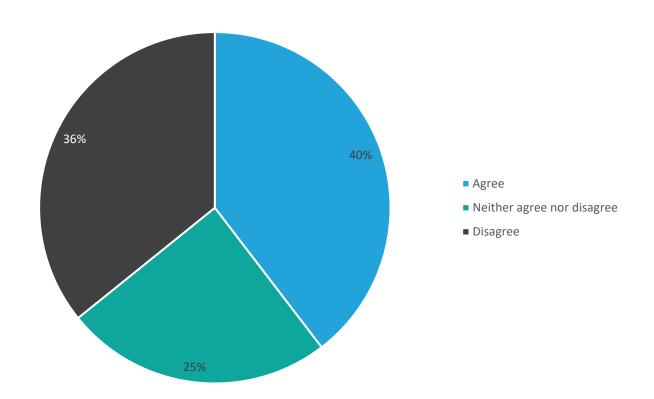
- 50% believe it is the natural process caused when your ovaries gradually stop working
  - 45% say it is a transitional time that ends in menopause
  - While 44% think it can last for many years
- On average, respondents believe there to be 11.52 symptoms of perimenopause
- 58% say **hot flushes** are a **symptom** of perimenopause
- This was followed by:
  - Tiredness (56%)
  - Increased weight (53%)
  - Mood Swings (51%)





#### Question:

To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement: "I am 100% confident I know everything there is to know about the menopause"



#### Insight

- 40% agree they are 100% confident they know everything there is to know about the menopause
  - 12% strongly agree this is the case
- 36% **disagree** they are confident about this



# Signs of menopause

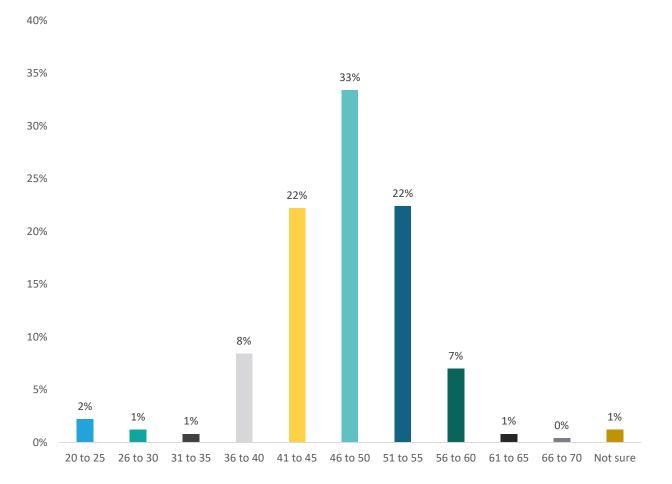
- On average, respondents believe there to be 12.23 symptoms of menopause
- 65% think **hot flushes** are a side effect or symptom of menopause
- This was followed by:
  - Increased weight (58%)
  - Tiredness (52%)
  - Mood Swings (47%)

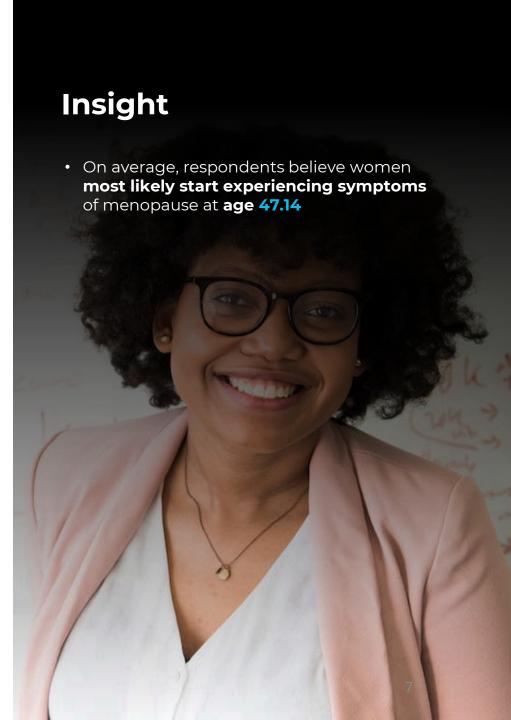
#### Of those who did not select all listed symptoms in the previous question (n=497):

- 25% were **most surprised** that **oral health changes** was a side effect or symptom of menopause
  - 23% were surprised by increased allergies
  - With another 23% selecting 'tinnitus'
  - And 22% were surprised that they might experience brain fog in menopause

#### Question:

# At what age, do you believe, women are most likely to start experiencing symptoms of the menopause?





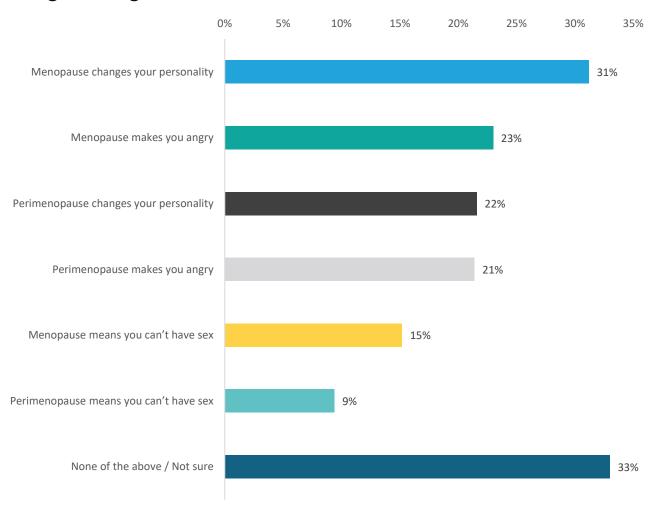
# Menopause awareness

- 14% think there is a **lot of awareness** surrounding the menopause among the general public
- With 40% saying there is some awareness, but more could still be done
- And 43% feel there is **not enough awareness**
- 61% believe the age you start the menopause is hereditary
  - With 17% thinking this is the case for all women
- 27% do not think it is hereditary at all
- 42% believe that if you start your periods early this can mean you will start the menopause early
  - With 15% thinking this is the case for all women
- 44% do not think there is any correlation here
- Just over a quarter (27%) think that women still produce oestrogen after the menopause
- While 37% think they do not



#### Question:

# Which of the following statements, if any, do you believe to be true?



#### Insight

- 31% think that menopause changes your personality
  - With 23% believing that it makes you angry
  - And 22% think perimenopause changes your personality



# Menopause myths

- 45% believe menopause begins when a woman stops having her period
- This was followed by:
  - You can't get pregnant when going through menopause (44%)
  - Menopause will make you gain weight (39%)
  - Menopause leads to a decrease in sex drive (37%)
- Thinking of 'old wives tales' they would try to help ease the symptoms / side effects of menopause, 47% would drink lots of water to reduce dryness caused by menopause
  - 39% believe sage in tea would reduce excess sweating and hot flushes
  - And 34% would avoid caffeine, alcohol, and foods that are sugary or spicy to reduce excess sweating
- 36% agree that going through the menopause means you are officially old
- 35% **disagree** this is the case

# Surgical menopause

- 73% believe all women go through the menopause
- On average, respondents believe menopause lasts for 5.51 years
  - 34% think menopause lasts for 5 or more years
- 11% say they **know what surgical menopause** is
- While 81% do not

#### Of those who know what the surgical menopause is (n=53\*):

- Over half (51%) think surgical menopause stops a woman's menstrual periods
  - 40% believe that it **removes ovaries**
  - 38% think that it causes an abrupt menopause
  - And 32% think surgical menopause will trigger menopause regardless of age following the procedure













OnePoll

Any questions?

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