Low testosterone levels were linked to elevated levels of C-reactive protein, a marker of inflammation. Inflammation is the body's response to cell injury caused by germs, high levels of blood fats or high blood pressure.

Long term inflammation leads to tissue destruction and health problems such as allergy, hardening of the arteries, cancer, arthritis and autoimmune diseases.

A Chinese study found that the link was particularly strong in overweight men and those with risk factors for heart disease, such as high blood pressure, obesity, diabetes, smoking and high blood fats.

Low testosterone is an independent risk factor of heart disease.

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