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**IN THE NAME OF GOD**

**OSTEOPOROSIS  
TREATMENTS IN  
PEDIATRIC**

***DR MOHAMAD AHANGAR DAVOODI***

***PEDIATRIC ENDOCRINOLOGIST***

***ARAK UNIVERSITY OF MEDICAL SCIENCES***

## GENERAL MEASURES

### **Diet:**

- 1) Calcium
- 2) Vit D, A, K, C
- 3) protein
- 4) trace elements

### **Lifestyle:**

- 1) **physical activity** (Children with types III, IV, V, VI, and XI OI benefit from *gait aids* and a program of *swimming* and *conditioning*)
- 2) **reduced alcohol intake and smoking**
- 3) **exposure of skin to sunlight** (hands, limbs and face for a minimum time of *6–8 min* a day during the *summer* and *half an hour* a day during *fall and winter*)

## DAILY CALCIUM AND VITAMIN D REQUIREMENTS ACCORDING TO AGE

Age	Calcium (mg)	25 OH Vitamin D (IU)
0–6 months	200	400
6–12 months	260	400
1–3 years	700	600
4–8 years	1000	600
9–18 years	1300	600

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# PHARMACOLOGIC APPROACHES TO THE TREATMENT OF OSTEOPOROSIS

## ***Antiresorptive Agents:***

- ***1) Bisphosphonates***
- ***2) Estrogen***
- ***3) Selective Estrogen Receptor Modulators***
- ***4) Calcitonin***
- ***5) Denosumab***
- ***6) Strontium Ranelate***
- ***7) Cathepsin K Inhibitors***

# BISPHOSPHONATE

- **Intravenous** administration is considered to provide a greater benefit to **vertebral** fractures.
- **oral** administration: in **mild forms (OI)** and in the **absence of VFs** or **phobia of IV BP therapy**.
- Low-bone formation/turnover conditions, such as immobility-induced osteoporosis (**DMD or cerebral palsy**) or **OPPG (*Osteoporosis-pseudoglioma syndrome*)**, would be expected to respond less to BP therapy than high-turnover conditions, such as **ALL, HCS (*Hematopoietic cancers*) or OI**.
- **Ca, Ph, 25OHD, bone ALP, PTH, osteocalcin**, N-terminal propeptide of procollagen type 1-P1NP can be checked **every 6months**.
- **DXA** is performed **every 12months** to evaluate changes in BMD during treatment.
- Bisphosphonate therapy administered for **one to three years** appears to be safe.
- In **OI** After the initial phase of treatment and once BMD Z-score is **above – 2 SD**, BPs should be continued on a maintenance regimen (e.g., half dose) to enhance and stabilize the increase of BMD. After a **BMD Z-score value above 0** is reached, administration at a lower dosage or reduced frequency should be considered **until the end of growth**.

# BISPHOSPHONATE

## **Contraindications:**

- Pregnancy.
- Vitamin D deficiency
- Hypocalcaemia
- Documented allergic reaction to bisphosphonates.
- History of osteonecrosis of the jaw or recent (healing) / imminent dental extraction
- Renal impairment (*relative contraindication, dose adjustment can be considered*)
- Acute fracture (*delay zoledronate for 6 weeks or until callus formation*)

## **Side effect:**

- fever
- Malaise
- Diarrhea
- nausea
- myalgia
- Transient Hypocalcemia, hypophosphatemia
- CRP rising

Drug	Contraindications	Administration	Dose
Pamidronate (2nd generation)	Hypocalcemia, severe renal failure, hypersensitivity	IV, diluted in 100–250 mL physiological saline solution for 3–4 h	<1 year: 0.5 mg/kg every 2 months 1–2 years: 0.25–0.5 mg/kg/day for 3 days every 3 months 2–3 years: 0.375–0.75 mg/kg/day for 3 days every 3 months >3 years: 0.5–1 mg/kg/day for 3 days every 4 months Maximum dose: 60 mg/dose and 11.5 mg/kg/year
Neridronate (3rd generation)	Hypocalcemia, severe renal failure, hypersensitivity	IV, diluted in 200–250 mL physiological saline solution for 3 h	1–2 mg/kg every 3–4 months
Zoledronate (3rd generation)	Hypocalcemia, severe renal failure, hypersensitivity	IV, diluted in 50 mL physiological saline solution for 30–45 min	0.0125–0.05 mg/kg every 6–12 months (maximum dose: 4 mg)
Alendronate (2nd generation)	Hypocalcemia, delayed esophageal emptying, severe renal failure, hypersensitivity, inability to stand or sit for at least 30 min	Oral	1–2 mg/kg/week <40 kg: 5 mg/day or 35 mg/week >40 kg: 10 mg/day or 70 mg/week Maximum dose: 70 mg/week
Risendronate (3rd generation)	Hypocalcemia, delayed esophageal emptying, severe renal failure, hypersensitivity, inability to stand or sit for at least 30 min	Oral	15 mg/week (<40 kg); 30 mg/week (>40 kg) Maximum dose: 30 mg/week

	Indications	Contraindications	Route of administration	Dosing*	Most common adverse effects**	Notes
Alendronate	Osteoporosis, OI, Gaucher's disease	Hypocalcemia, delayed esophageal emptying, severe renal failure, hypersensitivity, inability to stand or sit for at least 30 min	Oral	Up to 30 kg: 5 mg once daily 30–40 kg: 5–10 mg once daily Above 40 kg: 10 mg once daily Continuously for 24 months	Hypocalcemia and/or hypophosphatemia, esophagitis (possible ulcers), dysphagia, retrosternal pain, abdominal pain, diarrhea, constipation, rash, musculoskeletal pain	Children > 2 years old
Neridronate	OI, Paget's disease	Hypocalcemia, severe renal failure, hypersensitivity	Intravenously	1–2 mg/kg in one day (max 100 mg) every 3 months	Hypocalcemia, acute phase reaction, rash	Possible intramuscular administration (same dose divided in 4 days)
Pamidronate	Hypercalcemia, OI, Steroid-induced osteoporosis, Idiopathic Juvenile Osteoporosis, Paget's disease	Hypocalcemia, severe renal failure, hypersensitivity	Intravenously	Hypercalcemia: 0.5–1.5 mg/kg over 4 h 2–3 consecutive days, every 6–8 weeks. OI and osteoporosis: 0.5–1 mg/kg once a day per 3 days or 2 mg/kg once, every 4 months, max 9 mg/kg/year	Hypocalcemia, acute phase reaction, rash, hypophosphatemia, hypomagnesemia, hypokalemia, anemia, hypertension, cough	Possible reduction of the first dose to reduce the acute phase reaction symptoms and hypocalcemia
Risedronate	Osteoporosis, Paget's disease	Hypocalcemia, delayed esophageal emptying, severe renal failure, hypersensitivity, inability to stand or sit for at least 30 min	Oral	5 mg/daily for 1 year (30 mg/daily for Paget's disease) or 35 mg/weekly	Hypocalcemia, abdominal pain, esophagitis, gastritis, constipation, diarrhea, headache, musculoskeletal pain, rash	Possible use in children with OI (2.5–5 mg/daily)
Zoledronate	OI, steroid-induced osteoporosis, immobility-induced osteoporosis	Hypocalcemia, severe renal failure, hypersensitivity	Intravenously	children aged 1–3 years: 0.025 mg/kg every 3 months, children aged 3–17 years: 0.05 mg/kg (max 4 mg/dose) every 3–6 months	Hypocalcemia, acute phase reaction, rash, hypophosphatemia	Possible reduction of the first dose to reduce the acute phase reaction symptoms and hypocalcemia. Not used < 2 years old



**Table 2.** Authors' approach for use of zoledronate in children with osteoporosis.

(A) Disuse osteoporosis secondary to CP, Retts and similar central neurological conditions (not primary muscle disorders):

2 years of full dose every 6 months (year 1 and 2 of treatment)

Then: 1 year of half dose (1/2) every 6 months (year 3 of treatment)

Then: one quarter (1/4) of the dose every 6 months (after 3 years of treatment)

If BMAD (height adjusted BMD) is  $>+2$  SDS, change to 1/4 of the dose every 12 months

(B) Primary bone fragility such as OI—primary muscle disorders such as DMD, or CMD—haematological disorders such as Thalassaemia, Sickle Cell Anaemia:

Full dose every 6 months until BMAD is  $>0$  SDS

If BMAD is  $>0$  SDS, give half (1/2) dose of zoledronate every 6 months

If BMAD is  $>+2$  SDS, give one quarter (1/4) dose of zoledronate every 12 months

(C) Conditions where the underlying condition may be controlled or treated such as ALL—IBD—renal transplant:

If commenced, they should have full dose every 6 months, but the duration of treatment will be individualised based on the continuation of steroid treatment, their BMD, pubertal status and their underlying condition.

Before each infusion vitamin D level  $\geq 50$  nmol/l, normal calcium and renal function is ensured. All patients are admitted for the first infusion which is half dose and continue with full dose at the day unit for subsequent ones. Prophylactic paracetamol is used to mitigate pyrexia and aches and pains. Treatment is stopped once skeletal maturity is achieved.

Full dose based on age:

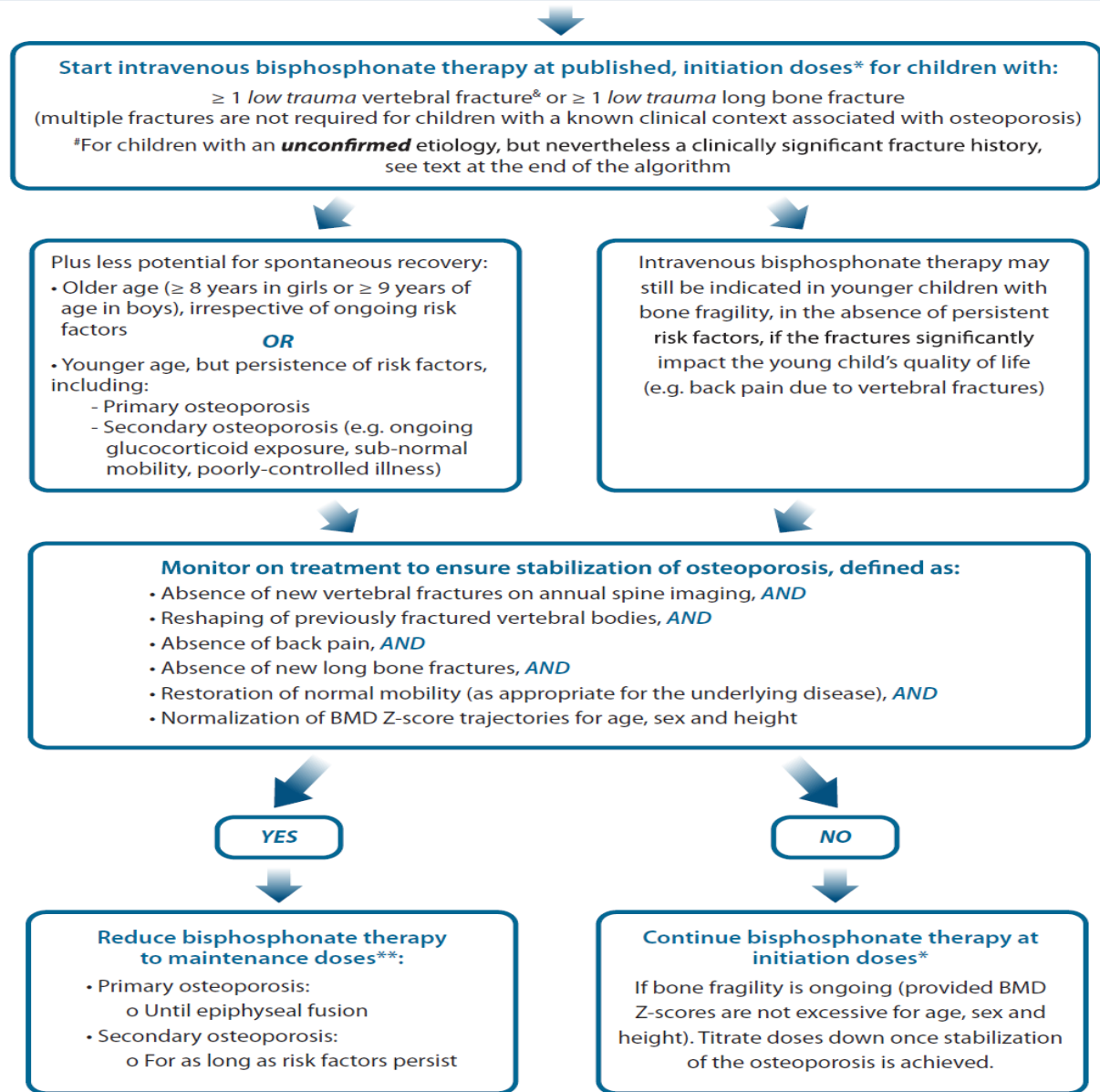
$<2$  years 0.025 mg/kg max dose: 2 mg 3 monthly

2–5 years 0.035 mg/kg max dose: 2 mg if  $<3$  years, 4 mg if  $>3$  years 4 monthly

$>5$  years 0.05 mg/kg max dose: 4 mg 6 monthly

ALL, acute lymphoblastic leukaemia; BMAD, bone mineral apparent density; BMD, bone mineral density; CMD, congenital muscular dystrophy; CP, cerebral palsy; DMD, Duchenne muscular dystrophy; IBD, inflammatory bowel disease; OI, osteogenesis imperfecta; SDS, standard deviations.

## The Treatment of Bone Fragility in Children with Confirmed Primary or Secondary Osteoporosis



# GONADAL HORMONES

- **Estrogen** treatment inhibits both **cortical and trabecular** bone loss, and BMD generally increases by **3% to 5% after 3 years**.
- Indication: **Turner** and **HH, Thalassemia**, ...
- Complications: troublesome is the increased risk of **breast cancer** with the long-term use.
- **Testosterone** administration in boys with **delayed puberty** will increase their BMD, but also muscle strength, and subsequently reduce the risk for fractures.
- Testosterone treatment on **DMD** confirmed that there is interestingly motor functions scores in non\_ambulatory boys improved and there was statistically significant increase in median BMD of the lumbar spine.
- **Oxandrolone** is not commonly used to induce puberty and prevent osteoporosis.

## SELECTIVE ESTROGEN RECEPTOR MODULATORS

- Inhibit bone resorption by the same mechanisms used by estradiol.
- Only **Raloxifene** is approved by the **FDA** for the prevention and treatment of osteoporosis (increases spine BMD slightly, and lowers the risk of **vertebral** fracture by 40%, although it has no effect on nonvertebral fracture risk)
- **Low-density lipoprotein cholesterol** levels are also **reduced**.
- **bazedoxifene/conjugated** estrogen as “TSEC” is **more effective** than only raloxifene and approved for osteoporosis.

# CALCITONIN

- **Rapidly** inhibit bone resorption.
- Nasal(200 IU/day) and subcutaneous(100 IU/day) calcitonin are both approved for the treatment of postmenopausal osteoporosis.
- Reduced **vertebral** fracture incidence by one third.
- Reduced the **pain** associated with new spine fractures.
- **Not enough potency** only and first choice recommendation.

# HUMAN MONOCLONAL ANTIBODY

- **Denosumab** : antibody (IgG2) against receptor activator of nuclear factor kappa-B ligand (**RANKL**) (1 mg/kg q 12 w)
- The inhibitory effects of **osteoprotegerin** and decrease in bone turnover(**inhibits osteoclast formation without binding to bone**)
- short degradation period(half-life of approximate **30 days**), which lasts for around three to four months, avoiding the long-term accumulation side effects of BPs
- **first biologic** approved by the **FDA** for the treatment of osteoporosis in both men and women.

## DENOSUMAB INDICATION IN PEDIATRIC

- OI types I, III, IV and VI not responsive to BPs has shown promising benefits with relatively high safeness.
- Choice treatment for Hypercalcemia of hematopoietic stem cell transplantation in patients with osteopetrosis.
- Children (3 and 12 years) with loss-of-function mutations in the TNFRSF11A gene encoding RANK.
- Rheumatoid arthritis and bone metastases in adults.
- Giant cell tumors
- juvenile Paget's disease
- DMD
- fibrous dysplasia and spinal aneurysmal bone cysts

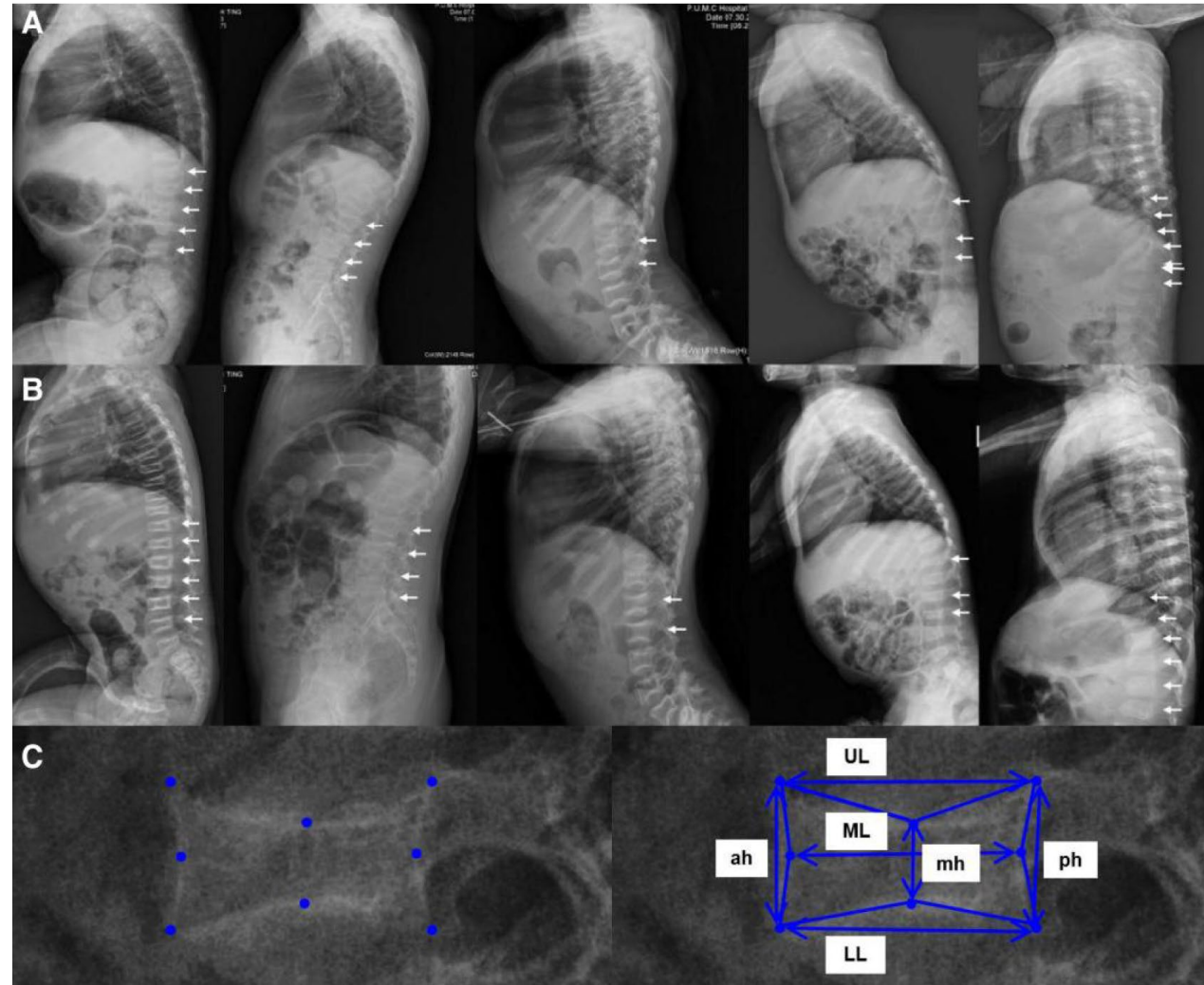
# DENOSUMAB EFFICACY

- Increase in **BMD**
- Normalization of **vertebral shape**
- **Reduced fracture rate**
- **Bone turnover markers**
- **Growth** (Vertebral height and projection area significantly increased after denosumab and zoledronic acid treatment)
- **Mobility** : Contradictory results
- **Monitor calcium and mineral levels** (phosphorus and magnesium) **within 14 days** of administration in patients with risk factors for hypocalcemia



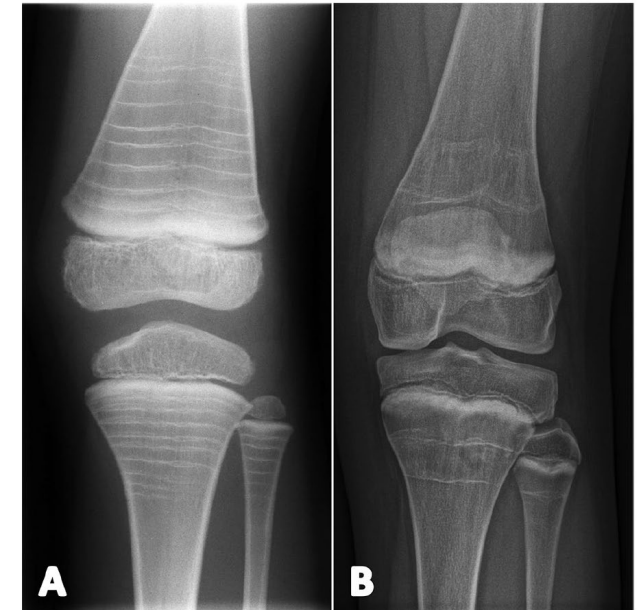
# DENOSUMAB

- Reshape of fractured vertebrae after denosumab treatment. A, Thoracolumbar lateral films at baseline. B, Thoracolumbar lateral films after 12-month denosumab treatment. C, Quantitative measurement of vertebral morphometry on lateral films.



## DENOSUMAB COMPLICATIONS:

- Hypocalcemia
- Rebound effect (an increase in vertebral fractures after discontinuation of treatment, and severe hypercalcemia is observed within  $\uparrow$  weeks of administration 14.3% )
- Dermatitis
- Metaphyseal sclerosis and the retention of calcified cartilage
- Osteonecrosis of the jaw (ONJ) high doses are used to treat a giant cell tumor of the bone (GCTB)

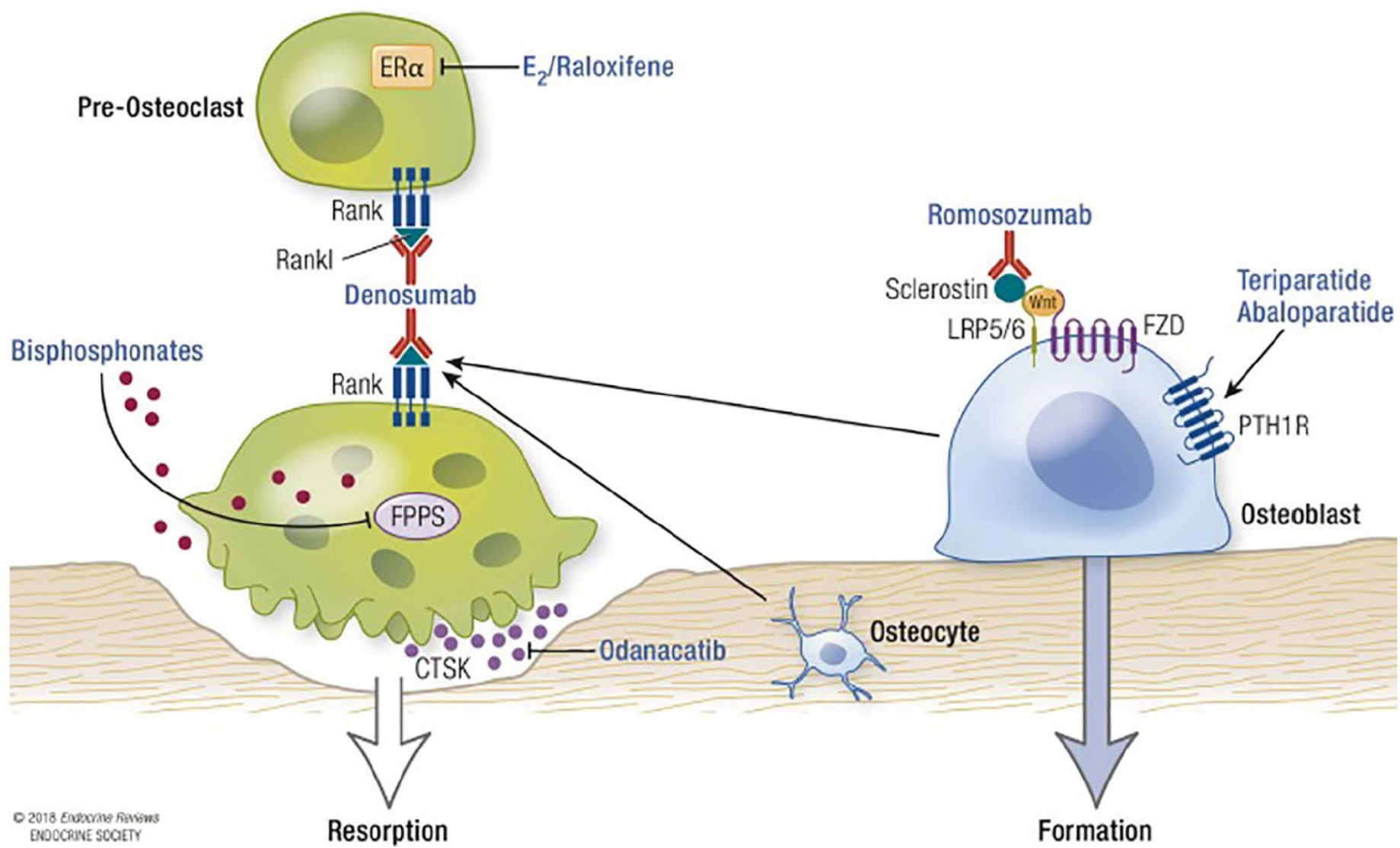


**Fig. 1** Effect of BPs and denosumab on bone metaphysis; left knee radiographs. **A** Band-like metaphyseal sclerosis in a boy diagnosed with OI by the age of 3.5 years, 3 years after the start of BPs (pamidronate intravenously at 4-month intervals). **B** Metaphyseal sclerosis in a 13-year-old girl long-term treated with denosumab because of a recurring spinal aneurysmal bone cyst

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## CATHEPSIN K INHIBITORS

- **Odanacatib:** effective suppressor of **bone resorption** in **postmenopausal** women with osteoporosis.
- odanacatib in the setting of **bony metastases from breast cancer** demonstrated that it suppressed a **biochemical marker of** bone resorption, N-terminal telopeptide, in much the way that zoledronic acid did.



# STRONTIUM RANELATE

- stimulates **calcium uptake in bone** while it inhibits bone resorption.
- **postmenopausal** women with established disease, daily strontium reduced the risk of **vertebral** fractures by 40% (approved by **European**).
- **Complication:** severe allergic skin reactions, **venous thromboembolism**, stroke, and heart ischemia.



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# PHARMACOLOGIC APPROACHES TO THE TREATMENT OF OSTEOPOROSIS

## ***Anabolic Agents:***

- ***1) Growth Hormone***
- ***2) PTH-Related Protein***
- ***4) Monoclonal Antibodies to Sclerostin***
- ***5) Future Agents***

# GROWTH HORMONE

- Increase bone remodeling presumably by directly synthesis of osteoprotegerin by **osteoblasts**, regulating **phosphate homeostasis (Osteocytes)**, IGF1 stimulates **osteoclasts**, increase in **osteocalcin** and in bone resorption **markers**, stimulation of **cartilage cell proliferation**.
- patients with **hypopituitarism** and **GHD** have a **2–5 times** increased **fracture risk**.
- mostly with **OI** types **I** and **IV**, may respond to growth hormone treatment by **increasing linear growth rate** with a **mild improvement in bone density**.
- Overall, growth hormone treatment appears to be **less efficient** in the more severe **OI type III**.

# GROWTH HORMONE IN OSTEOPOROSIS OF ADULTS

- Two hundred patients had **adult-onset (AO) GHD** which Most patients had **multiple pituitary hormone deficiencies**. **Fifteen years of rhGH replacement** in GHD adults resulted in a sustained increase in **BMD** values at the lumbar spine, particularly in **men**, and stabilization of BMD values at the femoral neck. Clinical **fracture** incidence was suggested not to be increased during long-term rhGH replacement.
- Adults with **GHD**, **human immunodeficiency virus associated cachexia** and **short bowel syndrome**, have benefit of GH use to treat age-related bone loss.
- A significant decrease in fracture risk as compared to control in **post-menopausal** women.



## RECOMBINANT HUMAN PTH 1-34

- The N-terminal fragment of **PTHrelated** peptide analogue (**abaloparatide**) received approval from the **FDA(2017)** for subcutaneous application in **postmenopausal** women with osteoporosis at high risk for fracture.
- **Teriparatide** therapy in **adult OI** patients showed a significant **increase in BMD in OI type I**, although therapy **does not seem to be as effective in moderate to severe OI types III and IV**.
- Teriparatide 20 mcg/day S/C was approved for **only 2 years** for moderate to severe osteoporosis.(Europe and Asia postmenopausal osteoporosis)

# RECOMBINANT HUMAN PTH 1-34

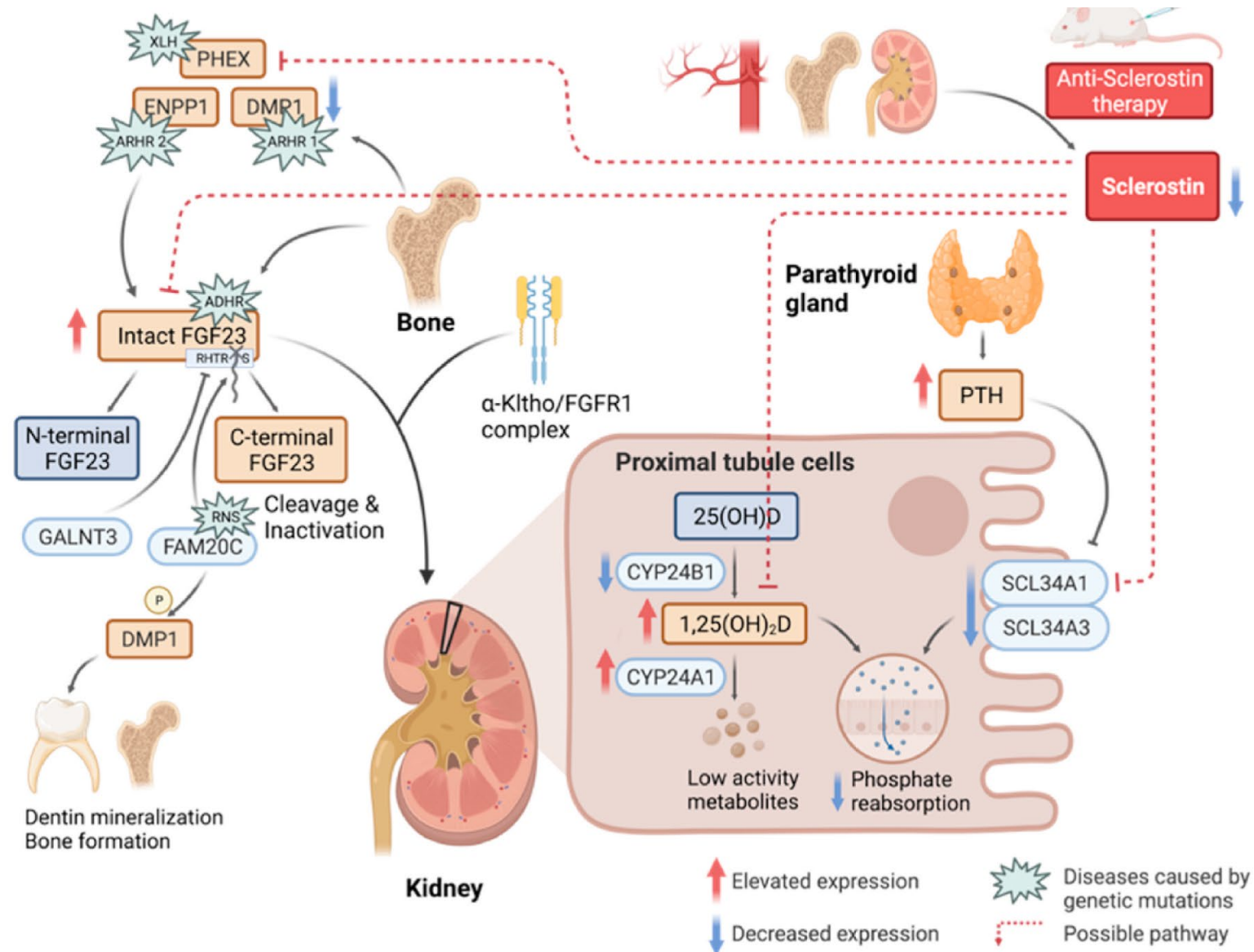
- PTH plus bisphosphonates initiated together do not raise BMD more than PTH alone in either men or women.
- PTH plus denosumab has been shown to increase BMD in the spine to 13% after just 1 year.
- **COMPLICATIONS:** nausea, flushing, hypotension, and mild but asymptomatic hypercalcemia, Cost and compliance, osteosarcoma.



# SCLEROSTIN-INHIBITORY ANTIBODIES(MONOCLONAL ANTIBODIES)

- **Inhibits Wingless-type MMTV** integration site family, member 1 (WNT) signaling involved in osteocytes—osteoblasts stimulation.
- Serum **sclerostin levels were higher in young OI-I patients**, while lower in adult **OI-I/III/IV**.
- **Romsozumab**((210 mg subcutaneously monthly): increased bone density at the lumbar spine, total hip, and femoral neck in postmenopausal.
- **setrusumab** is currently **under evaluation** in patients with OI.
- **CMPLICATION:** cardiovascular adverse events in the highrisk patients for **CVD** (vascular calcification, heart **valve calcification** and atherosclerosis, **myocardial infarction**)





XLH PHEX  
ENPP1 DMP1  
ARHR 2 ARHR 1



Anti-Sclerostin therapy

Sclerostin ↓



Bone

Parathyroid gland



PTH ↑

Intact FGF23  
ADHR  
RHTR/S

α-Kltho/FGFR1 complex

N-terminal FGF23

C-terminal FGF23

Proximal tubule cells

GALNT3  
FAM20C  
RNS

Cleavage & Inactivation

25(OH)D

CYP24B1 ↓

SCL34A1 ↓

SCL34A3 ↓

P

DMP1

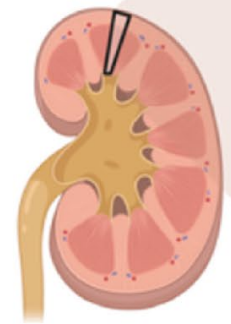
1,25(OH)<sub>2</sub>D ↑

CYP24A1 ↑

Low activity metabolites

Phosphate reabsorption ↓

Dentin mineralization  
Bone formation



Kidney

# ANTI-TGFB ANTIBODY(TRANSFORMING GROWTH FACTOR-BETA)

- **Anti-resorptive** and **anabolic** treatments improve bone mass.
- A **clinical trial** is currently ongoing to evaluate the safety and efficacy of TGF beta inhibition in **adult OI** patients.
- **Fresolimumab**(GC1008 antibody): previously used to treat **cancer patients**, currently in the treatment of **OI** in adult patients and **systemic sclerosis** patients
- **Losartan** as an angiotensin II-receptor agent with anti-TGF- properties.

## CELL AND GENE THERAPY

- **Stem Cells Transplantation:** Increase in **growth and mineral** content and **decrease in fractures** rates were reported in **OI** patients with bone marrow transplanted from HLA-matched siblings.
- **isolated bone marrow/mesenchymal stem cells (BMSCs)** was needed.
- Results depend mostly on **the type of transplant**, whole bone marrow, MSCs, human foetal mesenchymal stem cells (hfMSCs), transplantation technique, and the age of the animals employed in the studies.
- Successful application of stem cell therapy in paediatric patients, both **prenatally (severe OI)** and postnatally, has been also reported in other studies.

# WHOLE BODY VIBRATION THERAPY

- Children with **CP** and paediatric **disabling conditions** have demonstrated a beneficial effect of wholebody vibration (WBV)
- Improving **walking speed, muscle strength, spasticity,** and **balance** is helpful in managing osteoporosis.
- In children with **OI**, WBV resulted **increase in lean mass** without changes in muscle function or bone mass, suggesting reduced biomechanical responsiveness of the muscle-bone unit.
- WBV is most beneficial in children affected by **muscular impairment** rather than in children affected by primary bone defects.

## SURGICAL INTERVENTIONS

- Correct deformities of the limbs (corrective **osteotomy and intramedullary rodding**), to **improve limb function**, or to treat **progressive scoliosis and kyphosis** of the spine to prevent **pulmonary insufficiency, pain, and disability**.
- Indications to perform surgery (**rodding of severely deformed long bones with or without frequent fractures**) usually start from the age when the **child can stand more or less independently** to assist locomotion and reduce the risk of fractures.
- Surgical treatment for OI is based on the **Sofield-Millar technique**, described in 1959, which consists of multiple osteotomies of the bowed long bones followed by intramedullary rodding using, at that time, **Kuntscher or Rush rods**.
- Utilizing **Faisser-Duval rods** in a surgical setting to correct lower extremity deformities and fractures.



THANK YOU

