

# Is hormone therapy really harmless in elderly people?

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# COI

Dr Aapro is a consultant for  
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Helsinn, Hospira, Ipsen, JnJ OrthoBiotech,  
Merck, Merck Serono, Novartis, Pfizer, Pierre  
Fabre, Roche, Sandoz, Sanofi, Teva, Vifor

No responsibility accepted for  
involuntary errors or omissions.

The list may be incomplete, and does not reflect consultancy for  
NGOs, Universities, Governmental agencies, and others

# WHOM TO THANK?

Laura Biganzoli  
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Hans Wildiers

And many others

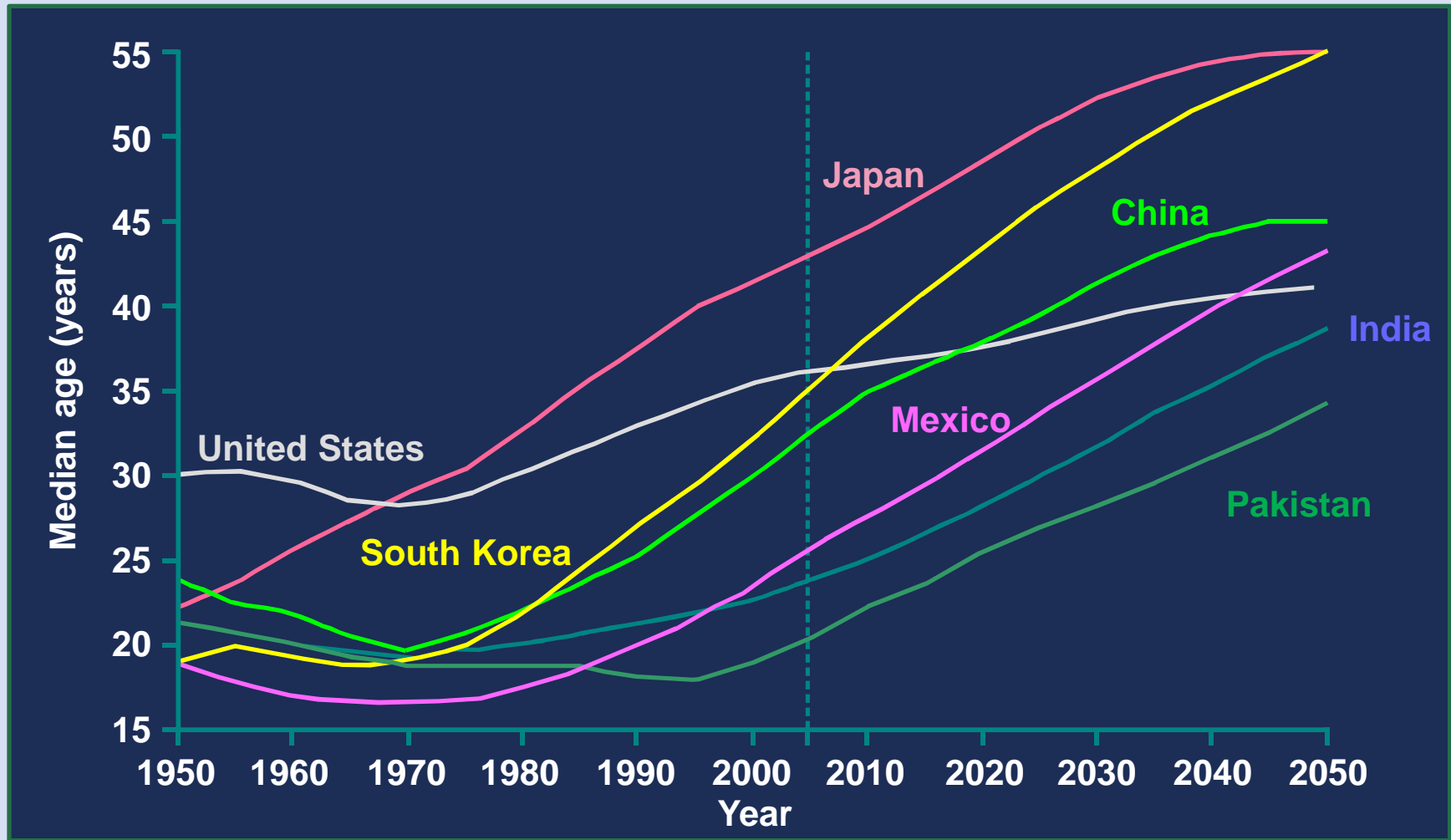


# BREAKFAST MENU

- Why the elderly and why should hormonal therapy be harmless?
- About breast cancer
- About prostate cancer
- A common topic: bone health
- To conclude

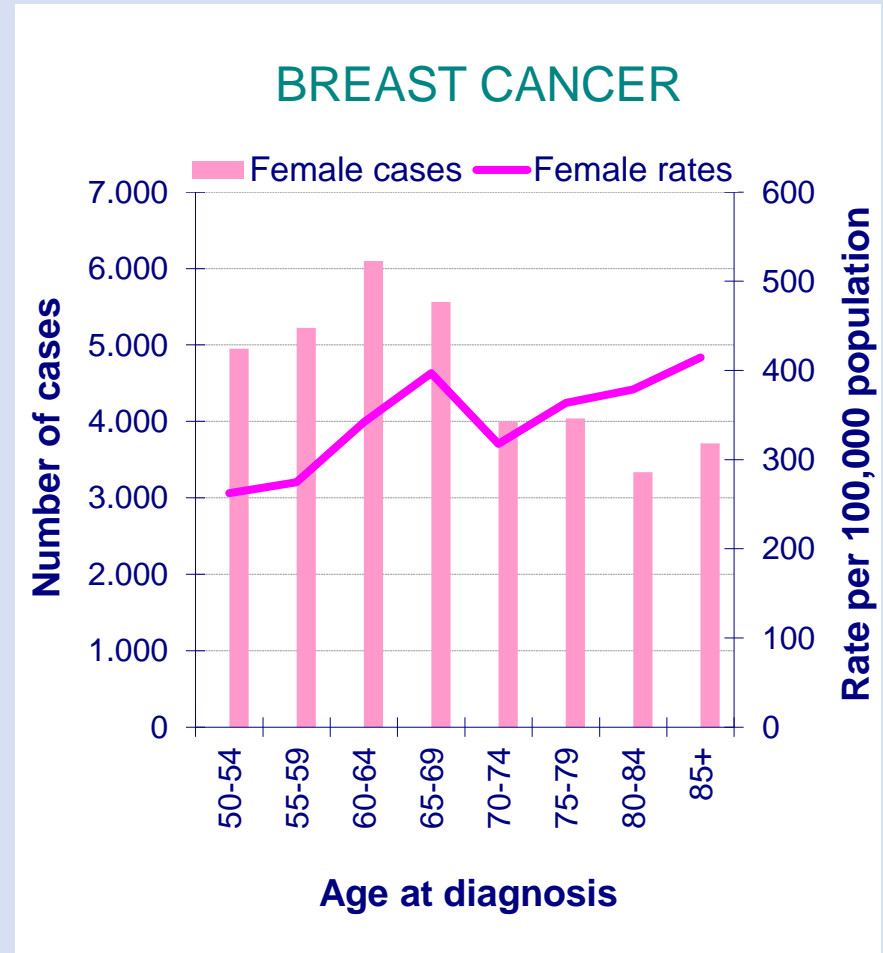


# Median age of global population is increasing...



# ...with increased age cancer incidence also increases

- A peak occurrence rate can be identified in high age groups
- Therefore cancer is a disease that affects a lot of elderly patients
- Evidence suggests that these patients often do not receive standard treatment



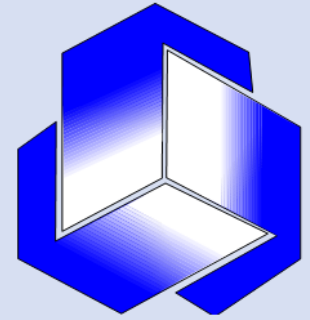
N Hebert-Croteau et al. Cancer 1999;85:1104-1113

CA Townsley et al. J Clin Oncol 2005;23:3112-3124

Image adapted from: CancerResearchUK.org accessed August 2010



Société  
Internationale  
d'Oncologie  
Gériatrique



# We cannot “simply” apply principles of clinical studies validated in younger patients

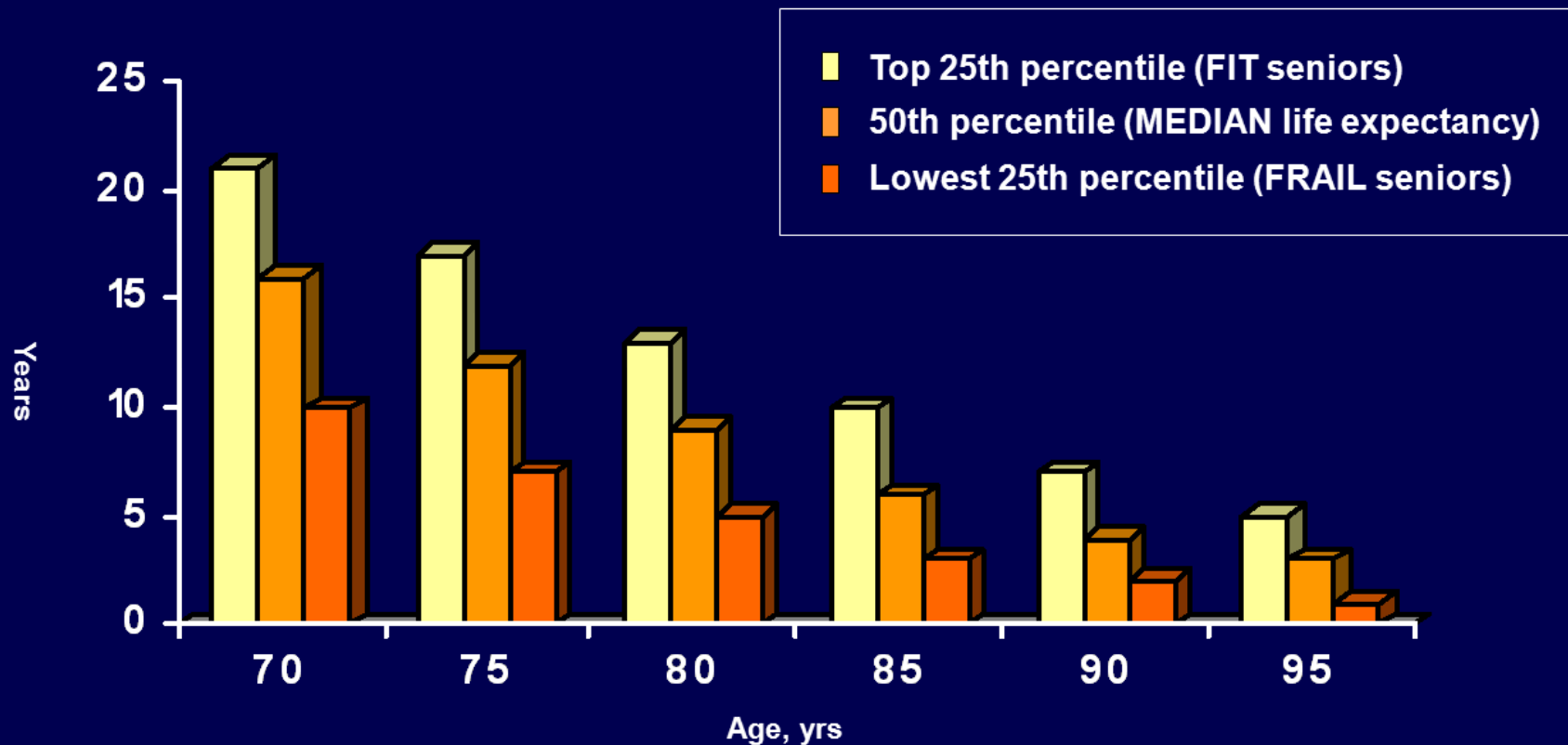
**EORTC workshop on clinical trial methodology in older individuals with  
a diagnosis of solid tumors**

*A.G. Pallis, A. Ring, C. Fortpied, B. Penninckx, M.C. Van Nes, U. Wedding,  
G. von Minckwitz, C.D. Johnson, L. Wyld, A. Timmer, F. Bonnetain, L.  
Repetto, M. Aapro, A. Luciani, H. Wildiers*

**On behalf of the EORTC Elderly Task Force**

Ann Oncol. 2011 Aug;22(8):1922-6

# Life expectancy in senior adults: a large variability reflecting health status variability



Life expectancy for elderly women based on health status



Management of elderly patients with breast cancer: updated recommendations of the International Society of Geriatric Oncology (SIOG) and European Society of Breast Cancer Specialists (EUSOMA)

## Geriatric assessment

- General health and functional status for older individuals may be captured by collaborative geriatric and oncology management
- Active intervention for CGA-identified reversible deficits in geriatric domains may reduce morbidity and mortality, and improve quality of life
- Serial geriatric assessment may identify incident deterioration, for which intervention may improve outcomes

# Comprehensive Geriatric Assessment (CGA)

- A well-established tool to assess the elderly patient for health status and risk of morbidity, mortality and toxicity<sup>1</sup>
- Data suggest that CGA can improve patient treatment and outcome<sup>2</sup>
- Breast cancer adj. chemotherapy can reduce relative death risk by 14–27%<sup>3</sup>
  - If CGA suggests patients should receive beta blockers, it is possible that survival data will be affected
  - Beta blockers have reduced myocardial infarction relative mortality by 23%<sup>4</sup>
  - Care is needed in balancing CGA assessments equally in arms of clinical studies
- Has limitations and is not always suitable for everyday use

1. Extermann M, et al. J Clin Oncol 2007;25:1824–31; 2. Monteserin R, et al. Fam Pract 2010;27:239–45

3. Early Breast Cancer Trialists Collaborative Group, Lancet 2008;371:29–40; 4. Colucci WS. Am J Cardiol 2004;93:13B–6B

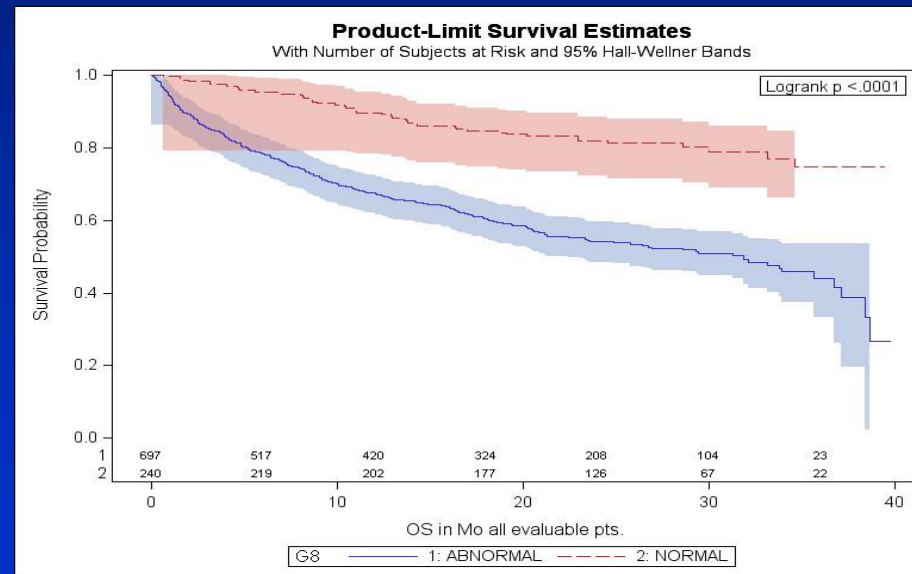
## Results (4)

### G8

(Soubeyran et al. 2008)

- Has food intake declined over the past 3 months due to loss of appetite, digestive problems, chewing or swallowing difficulties?
- Weight loss during the last 3 months
- Mobility
- Neuropsychological problems
- Body Mass Index (weight in kg/height in m<sup>2</sup>)
- Takes more than 3 medications per day
- In comparison with other people of the same age, how does the patient consider his/her health status?
- Age

### OS



# BREAKFAST MENU

- Why the elderly and why should hormonal therapy be harmless?

- **About breast cancer**

- About prostate cancer

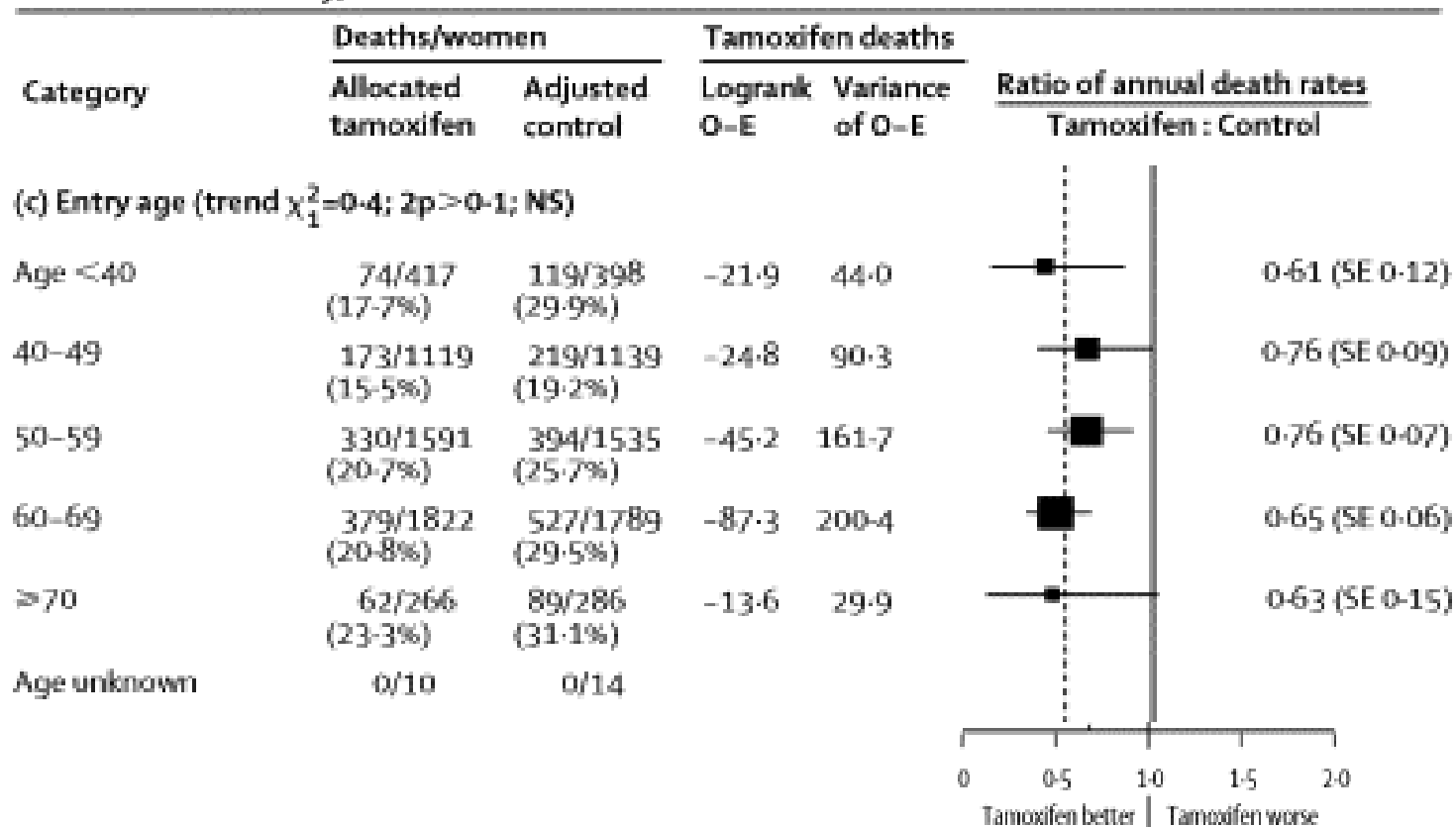
- A common topic: bone health

- To conclude



# The benefit of adjuvant tamoxifen is independent from patient's age

Breast cancer mortality/women



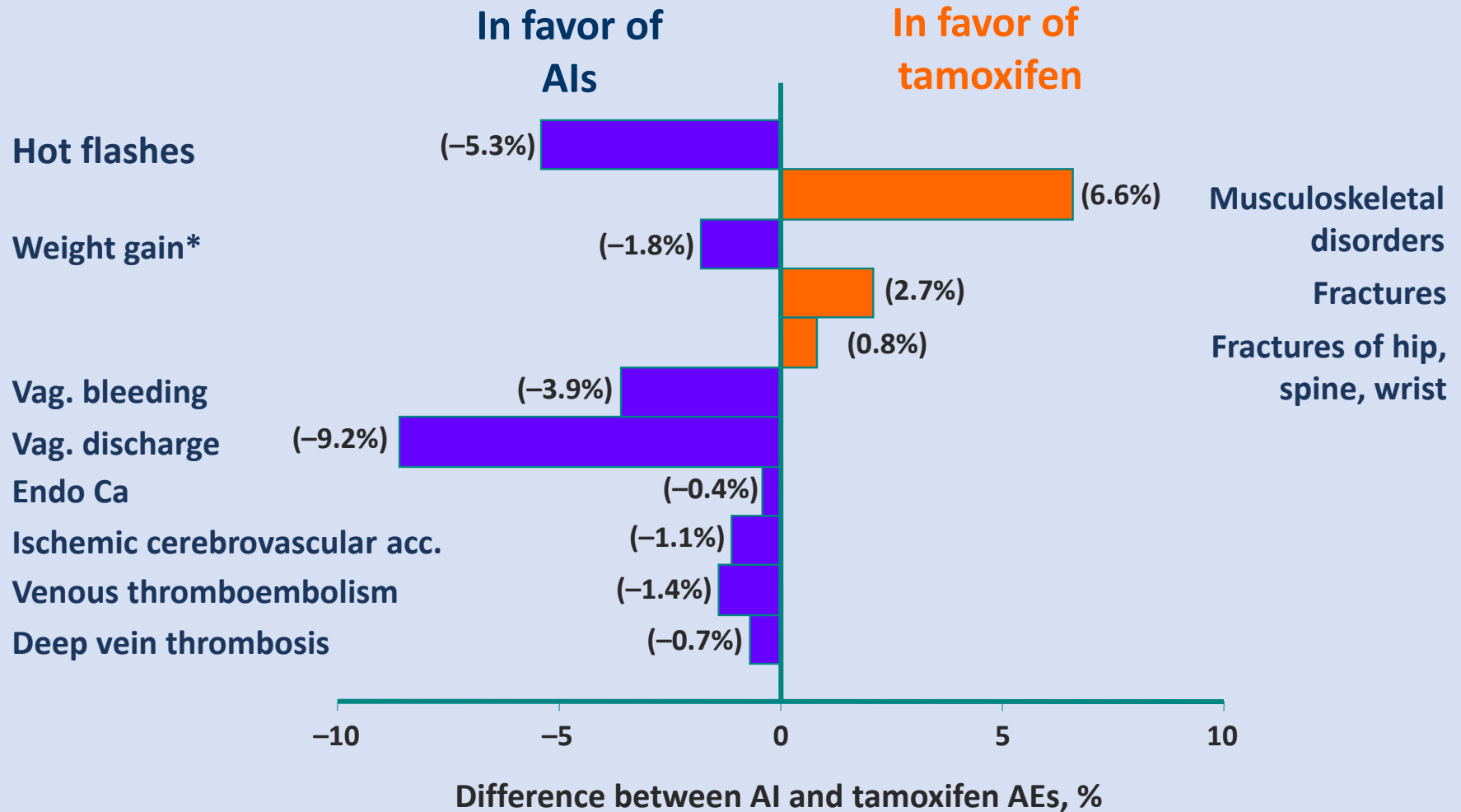
## Meta-Analysis of Breast Cancer Outcomes in Adjuvant Trials of Aromatase Inhibitors Versus Tamoxifen

Mitch Dowsett, Jack Cuzick, Jim Ingle, Alan Coates, John Forbes, Judith Bliss, Marc Buyse, Michael Baum, Aman Buzdar, Marco Colleoni, Charles Coombes, Claire Snowden, Michael Gnant, Raimund Jakesz, Manfred Kaufmann, Francesco Boccardo, Jon Godwin, Christina Davies, and Richard Peto

Strategy	No.	Mean follow-up	Absolute decrease in recurrence	Absolute decrease in BC mortality
<b>Upfront</b>	9.856	5.8 yrs	At 5 yrs	
ATAC			2.9% (SE=0.7%)	1.1% (SE=0.5%)
BIG 1-98			2P<.00001	2P=.1
<b>Sequential</b>	9.015	3.9 yrs	At 3 yrs from treatment divergence	
ARNO			3.1% (SE=0.6%)	0.7% (SE=0.3%)
ABCSG-8			2P<.00001	2P=.02
IES				
ITA				

# Which one to use?

(data not selected for the elderly)



The Trialists' Group. Cancer. 2003;98:1802-1810

M Baum , et al. Cancer. 2003;1802-1810.

\*Proportion with  $\geq 10\%$  gain in body weight from baseline to year 2.

# Safety profile

Tamoxifen	Aromatase inhibitors
Endometrial cancer Thromboembolic events	Musculoskeletal events Decreased bone mineral densitometry and bone fractures Cardiovascular events

Thromboembolism?

Osteoporosis?



Ischemic heart disease?

Arthralgia ?

Comorbidities







# Toxicity of Adjuvant Endocrine Therapy in Postmenopausal Breast Cancer Patients: A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis

Eitan Amir, Bostjan Seruga, Saroj Niraula, Lindsay Carlsson, Alberto Ocaña

7 trials; 30.023 patients

Table 2. Absolute differences and number needed to harm associated with one adverse event of each type

Trial (reference)	 Cardiovascular disease		= Cerebrovascular disease		 Venous thrombosis		 Bone fractures		 Endometrial Carcinoma	
	Absolute difference, %	NNH	Absolute difference, %	NNH	Absolute difference, %	NNH	Absolute difference, %	NNH	Absolute difference, %	NNH
ATAC (5)	0.8	129	-0.8	-115	-1.8	-59	4.6	22	-0.6	-163
BIG01-98 (3)	0.9	107	0	∞	-1.8	-56	2.8	36	-0.5	-204
IES (13)	1.3	79	0	∞	-1.2	-84	2.1	48	-0.2	-479
ABCSG8/ARNO (4)	<0.1†	1643†	NS	NS	-0.6	-179	1.1	91	-0.3	-268
ITA (2)	1.3	72	NS	NS	-2.3	-40	NS	NS	-2.2	-46
N-SAS BC03 (14)	-0.3	-354	NS	NS	0.3	347	-1.2	-85	-0.3	-349
TEAM (15)	0.7	139	0.4	311	-1.1	-91	1.6	63	-0.2	-485
Pooled	0.8	132	-0.1	-974	-1.3	-79	2.2	46	-0.4	-258

## Limitations:

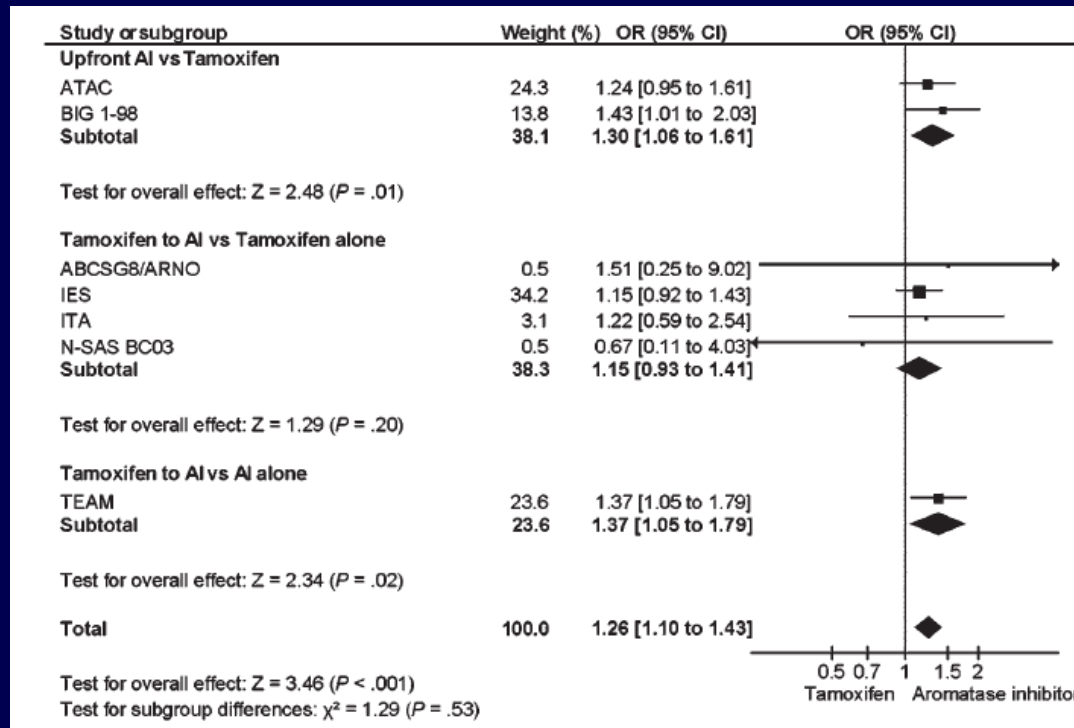
- Literature rather than individual patient data meta-analysis
- Reports of trials with different durations of follow-up
- Information on the potentially confounding baseline host factors (eg, obesity, hypertension, diabetes, and family history of events of interest) or the use of concurrent medications was not reported

# Cardiovascular Considerations in Elderly Patients

- Cardiovascular associated co-morbidities are common
- Tamoxifen is known to have a favorable effect on cholesterol but is associated with an increase in thromboembolic events
- Thromboembolic events are not associated with AI treatment
  - Most trials have not linked hypercholesterolemia with the use of AIs and a sub-study of the TEAM trial actually reported a decrease in cholesterol levels associated with exemestane treatment

D Crivellari et al. Crit Rev Oncol Hematol 2010;73(1):92-8; Early Breast Cancer Trialists' Collaborative Group. Lancet 2005;365:1687-1717; B Thurlimann et al. N Engl J Med 2005;353:2747-2757; C Markopoulos et al. Ann Oncol 2009;209:49-55; PE Goss et al. J Natl Cancer Inst 2005;97:1262-1271

# Cardiovascular events



Longer duration of AI use is associated with statistically significant increase in the odds of developing cardiovascular disease compared with TAM alone or shorter duration of AI use (OR 1.26; 95% CI 1.10-1.43,  $P < .001$ )

4.2% of patients in the AI group and 3.4% of patients in the TAM group suffered a cardiovascular event (difference in absolute risk=0.8%)

## Specific subpopulations might be at higher risk

- ATAC: in women with preexisting heart disease (7.5% of the total trial population) the incidence of cardiovascular events was 17% with anastrozole and 10% with tamoxifen <sup>1</sup>
- MA.17: In multivariable analyses, a treatment interaction was found with cardiovascular disease and a detrimental effect was observed with letrozole administration (  $P < .001$ ) among patients who had cardiovascular disease at baseline <sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Food and Drug Administration. Anastrozole: Full Prescribing Information. [http://www.accessdata.fda.gov/drugsatfda\\_docs/label/2009/020541s024s025lbl.pdf](http://www.accessdata.fda.gov/drugsatfda_docs/label/2009/020541s024s025lbl.pdf). Accessed 18 November 2010

<sup>2</sup> Chapman et al. J Natl Cancer Inst 2008

# Tamoxifen vs aromatase inhibitors in elderly patients: safety

- Comorbidities present in older women might increase the risk of some AI's related side-effects
- Tamoxifen's side effects are correlated with age:
  - There is little uterine cancer risk or excess risk of fatal pulmonary embolus from administration of tamoxifen before age 45 years or at ages 45–54 years<sup>1</sup>
  - By contrast, for older women with an intact uterus the excess risk of death from endometrial cancer or pulmonary embolus could well be about 1%<sup>2</sup>

# Aromatase Inhibitors and Tamoxifen: Potential Risks and Benefits

- ↓ Contralateral BC
- ↓ Osteoporosis risk
- ↓ Myalgia
- ↓ Hyperlipidemia

**Tamoxifen**

Neurocognition  
Sexual function  
Cardiovascular disease

- ↓ Contralateral BC
- ↓ Deep vein thrombosis
- ↓ Endometrial cancer
- ↓ Hot flashes

**Aromatase  
Inhibitor**

- ↑ Hot flashes
- ↑ Thromboembolism
- ↑ Endometrial cancer
- ↑ Genitourinary adverse effects

- ↑ Arthralgia/myalgia
- ↑ Osteoporosis risk

# Cognitive functioning and HT

- Older age is often associated with cognitive decline and endocrine therapy may adversely affect cognitive functioning
- Tamoxifen has been shown to negatively impact cognitive functioning
- A sub-study of the TEAM trial and another of the BIG 1-98 trial show that letrozole or exemestane do not significantly impact cognitive functioning when compared to Tamoxifen or healthy control subjects
  - Tamoxifen users, on the other hand, performed significantly worse on verbal memory and executive functioning when compared to healthy controls.

A Paganini-Hill et al. Breast Cancer Res Treat. 2000;64:165–76

Schilder C et al. J Clin Oncol 2010; 28(8):1294-1300

Phillips KA, et al. Breast. 2010;19(5):388-95.

# Tolerability profile of HT

- **Tamoxifen has a well defined adverse event profile**

- Treatment is associated with increased gynecological events such as endometrial carcinoma and vaginal bleeding, thromboembolic events are also frequently reported
- Tamoxifen has been shown to have a positive effect on bone and lipid profile

- **Als have a different AE profile when compared to tamoxifen**

- AI treatment is not associated with endometrial carcinoma or thromboembolic events
- However, Als are reported to cause more musculoskeletal AEs and are reported to cause more osteoporosis and a higher risk of fractures.

Early Breast Cancer Trialists' Collaborative Group. Lancet 2005;365:1687-1717; Ingle JN. Breast. 2013 Aug;22 Suppl 2:S180-3; RR Love et al. N Engl J Med 1992;326:852-856; RR Love et al. J Natl Cancer Inst 1994;86:1534-1539; RC Coombes et al. Lancet 2007;369:559-570; JF Forbes et al. Lancet Oncol 2008;9:45-53; Glück S, von Minckwitz G, Untch M. Breast. 2013 Apr;22(2):142-9. H Mouridsen et al. N Engl J Med 2009;20;361:766-776



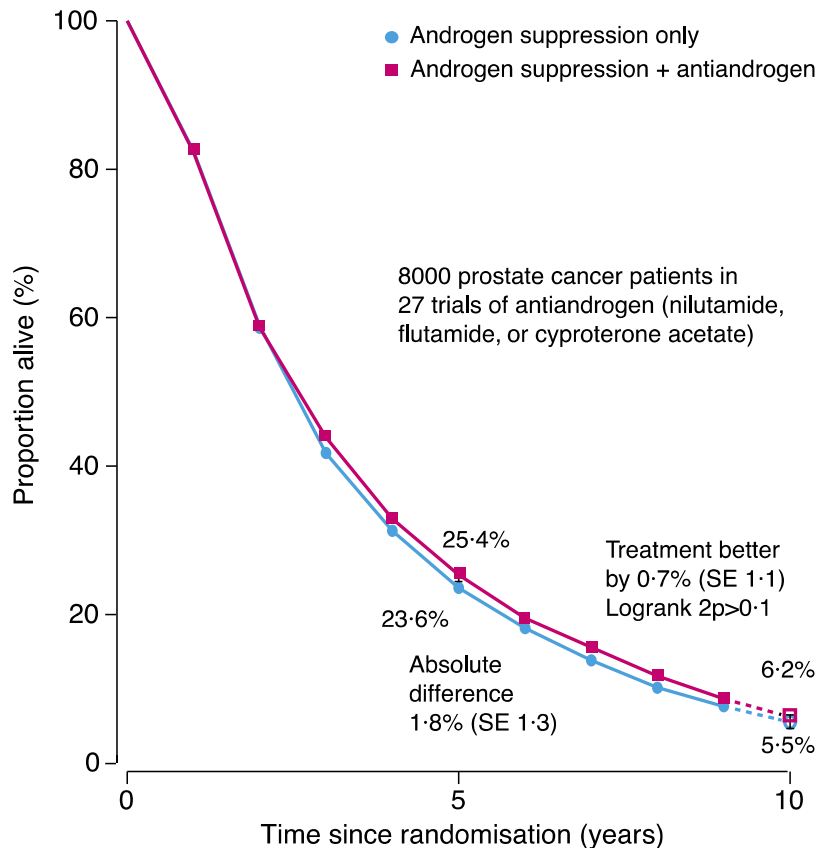
# BREAKFAST MENU

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- **About prostate cancer**
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# Management of advanced prostate cancer: Specific considerations for senior adults

- First-line ADT **monotherapy** is the standard of care



OS: Overall survival QoL: Quality of life.

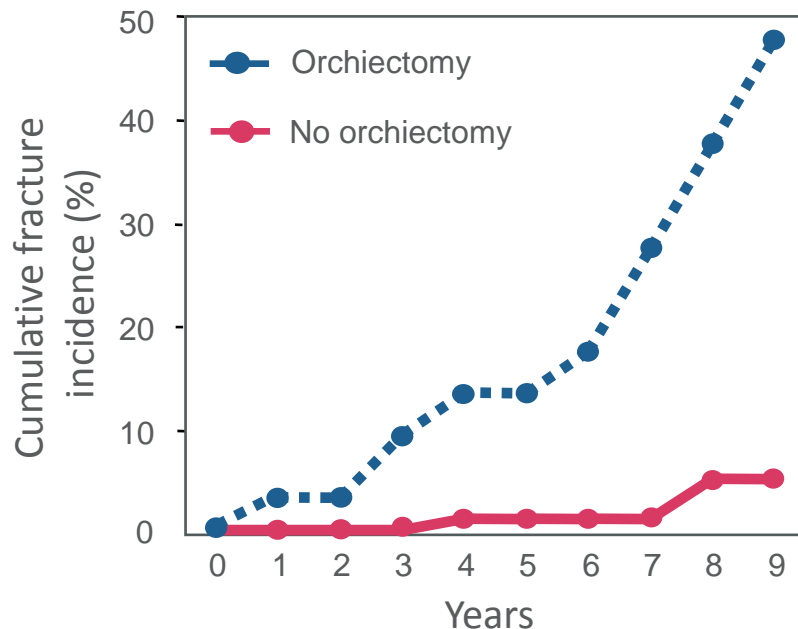
Maximum androgen blockade results in a small advantage in OS, which is not clinically relevant

Maximum androgen blockade has significant effects on QoL

# Androgen deprivation therapy: Side effects

- Bone loss with increased risk of fracture<sup>1,2</sup>

- Baseline bone density
- Prevent risk of osteoporosis



- Increased risk of diabetes<sup>3</sup>
- Increased risk of fatal cardiac events<sup>4-6</sup>

Caution in patients with:

- History of stroke
- Chronic heart failure
- Myocardial infarction

**LESS is BETTER ...**

1. Daniell et al. *J Urol* 1997;157:439–444. 2. Shahinian VB et al. *N Engl J Med* 2005;352:154–164. 3. Keating NL et al. *JCO* 2006;27:4448–4456.  
4. D’Amico et al. *JCO* 2007;25:2420–2425. 5. Hayes et al. *BJU Int* 2010;106:979–85.  
6. Nguyen et al. *Int J Radiat Oncol Biol Phys* 2011 [Epub ahead of print]

# Side effects of ADT

Visible		Non-visible	
Most common	What you see	What you don't see	What you feel
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Loss of libido</li> <li>• Erectile dysfunction</li> <li>• Hot flushes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Weight gain</li> <li>• Gynaecomastia</li> <li>• Loss of muscle mass, strength</li> <li>• Decreased size – penis and testes</li> <li>• Hair changes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Loss of BMD</li> <li>• Anaemia</li> <li>• Hypertension, diabetes, changes in lipid profile</li> <li>• (Metabolic syndrome)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fatigue</li> <li>• Lack of energy</li> <li>• Lack of initiative</li> <li>• Depression</li> <li>• Emotional distress</li> <li>• Alterations in cognitive function</li> </ul>

Gacci et al. Int J Endocrinol. 2014; 2014:470-592 Quality of Life and Sexual Health in the Aging of PCa Survivors. Walsh JS, Eastell R. Osteoporosis in men

Nat Rev Endocrinol. 2013 Nov;9(11):637-45

Higano CS, Urology 2003;61:32-8 (Suppl 2A)

# BREAKFAST MENU

- Why the elderly and why should hormonal therapy be harmless?
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# Osteoporosis in Elderly Patients

- Bone density decreases with age
- AI treatment and ADT are associated with an increased risk of osteoporosis. Tamoxifen is somewhat “protective”
- Treatment induced bone loss can be managed with additional medication such as vitamin D and calcium supplements and bisphosphonates/denosumab
- AI induced decrease in bone density reverses after treatment termination

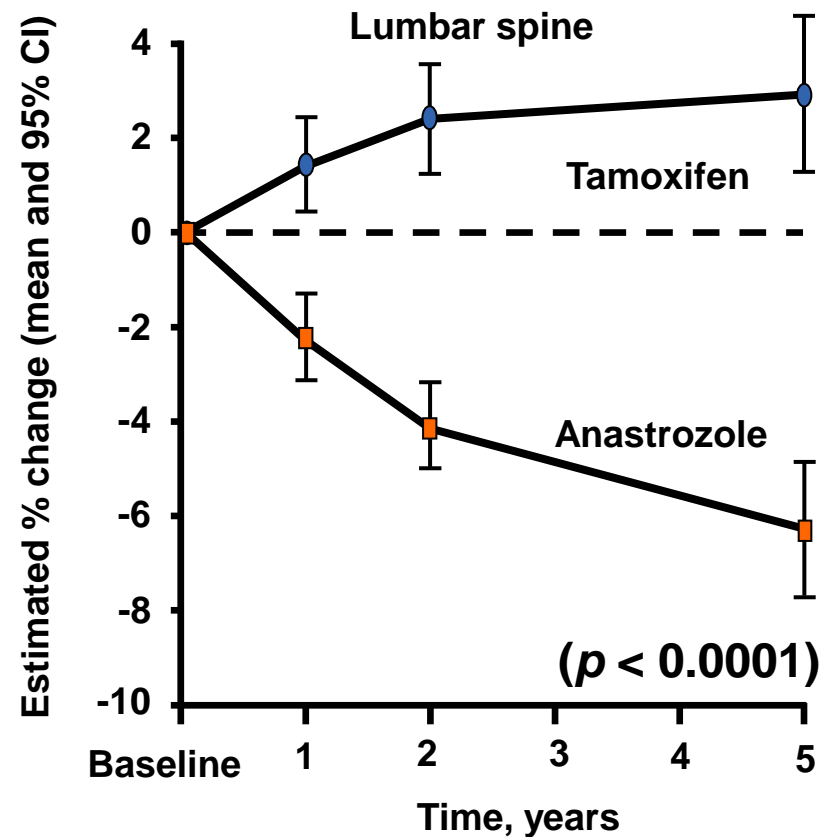
D Crivellari et al. Crit Rev Oncol Hematol 2010;73(1):92-8

P Hadji et al. Ann Oncol 2008;19:1407-1416

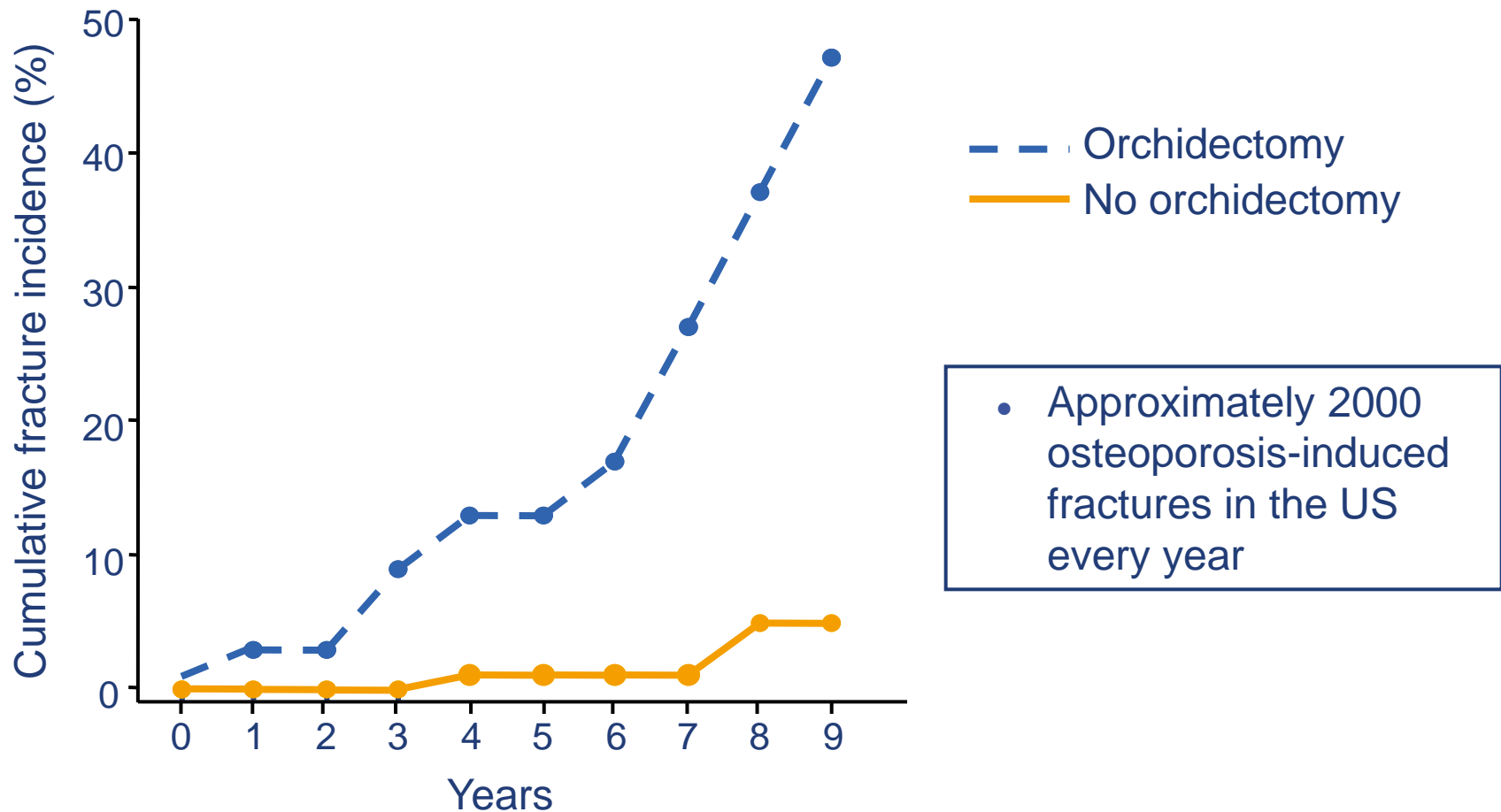
RE Coleman et al. Breast Cancer Res Treat. 2010

# AI therapy is associated with rapid bone loss

Data from a substudy of ATAC ( similar data with all AIs )

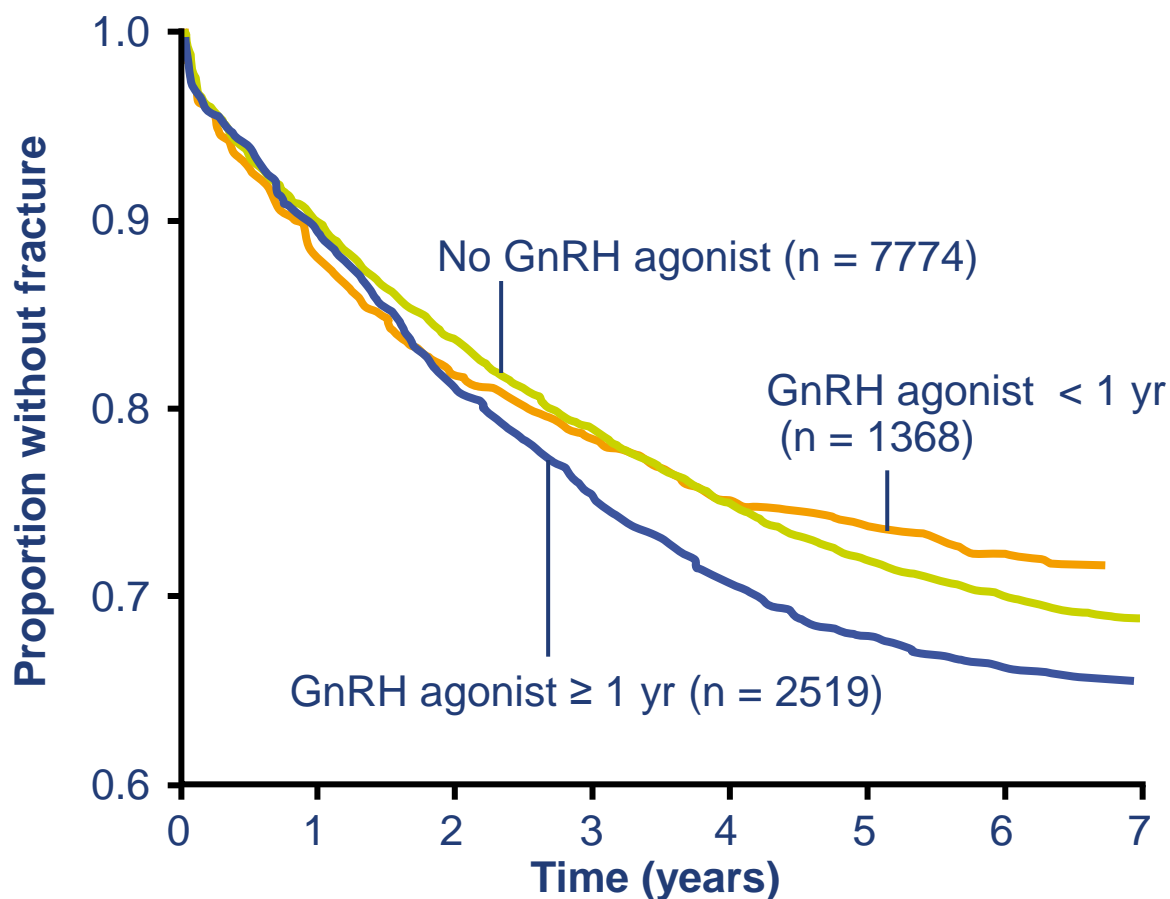


# Iatrogenic effects of androgen deprivation on the skeleton in prostate cancer patients

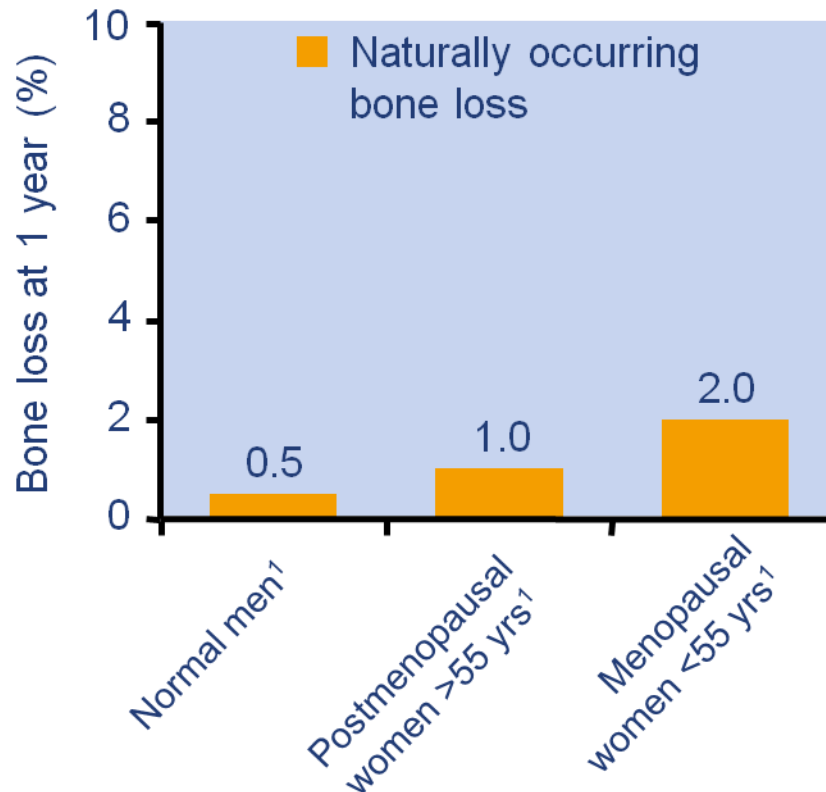




# GnRH agonists and time to first fracture

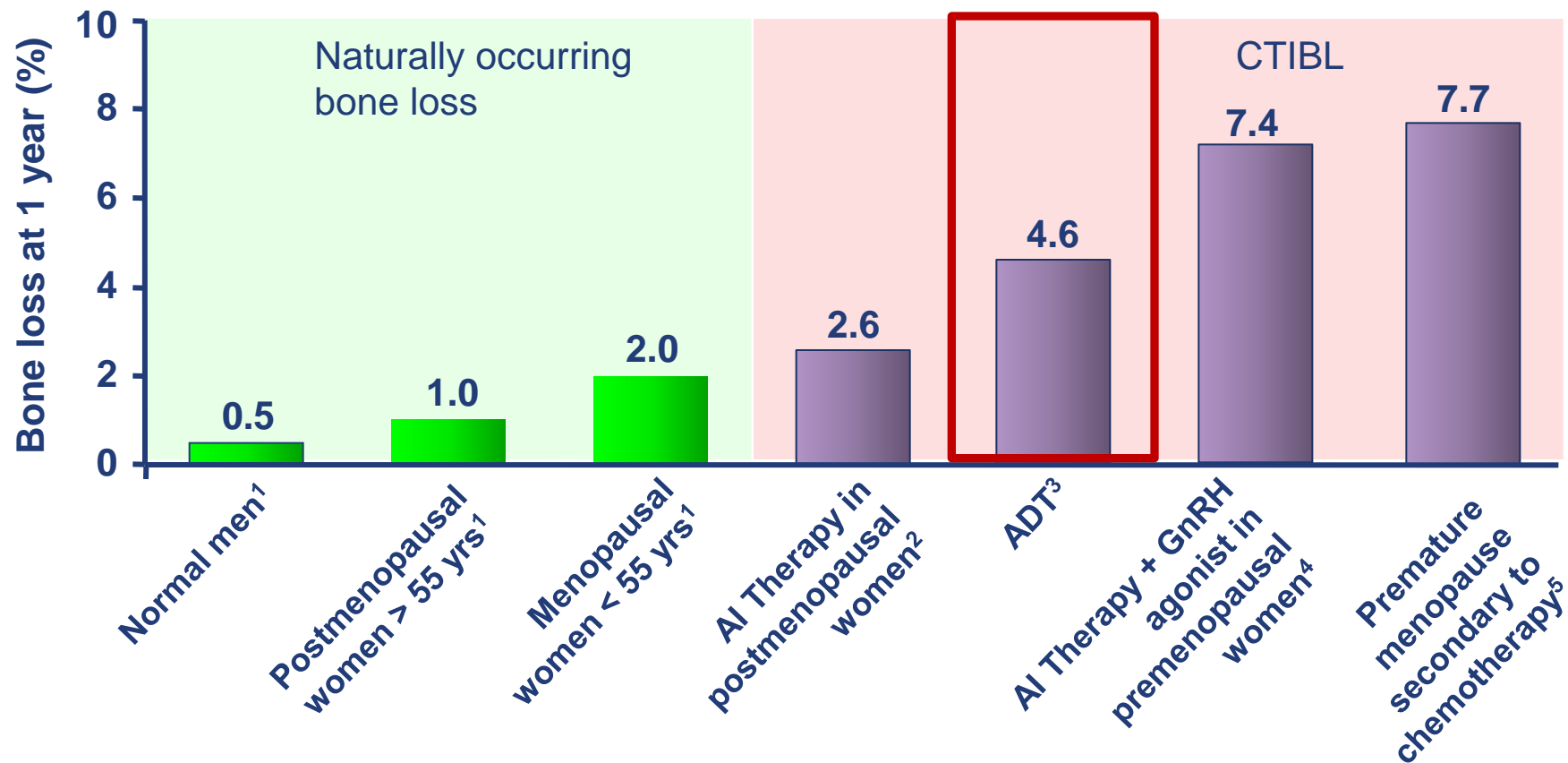


# CTIBL is more rapid than naturally occurring bone loss



1. Higano CS. *Nat Clin Pract Urol*. 2008; 5:24-34;
2. Eastell R, et al. *J Bone Miner Res* 2006; 21:1215-23;
3. Maillfert JF, et al. *J Urol* 1999; 161:1219-22;
4. Gnant MF, et al. *Lancet Oncol* 2008; 9:840-9;
5. Shapiro CL, et al. *J Clin Oncol* 2001; 19:3306-11.

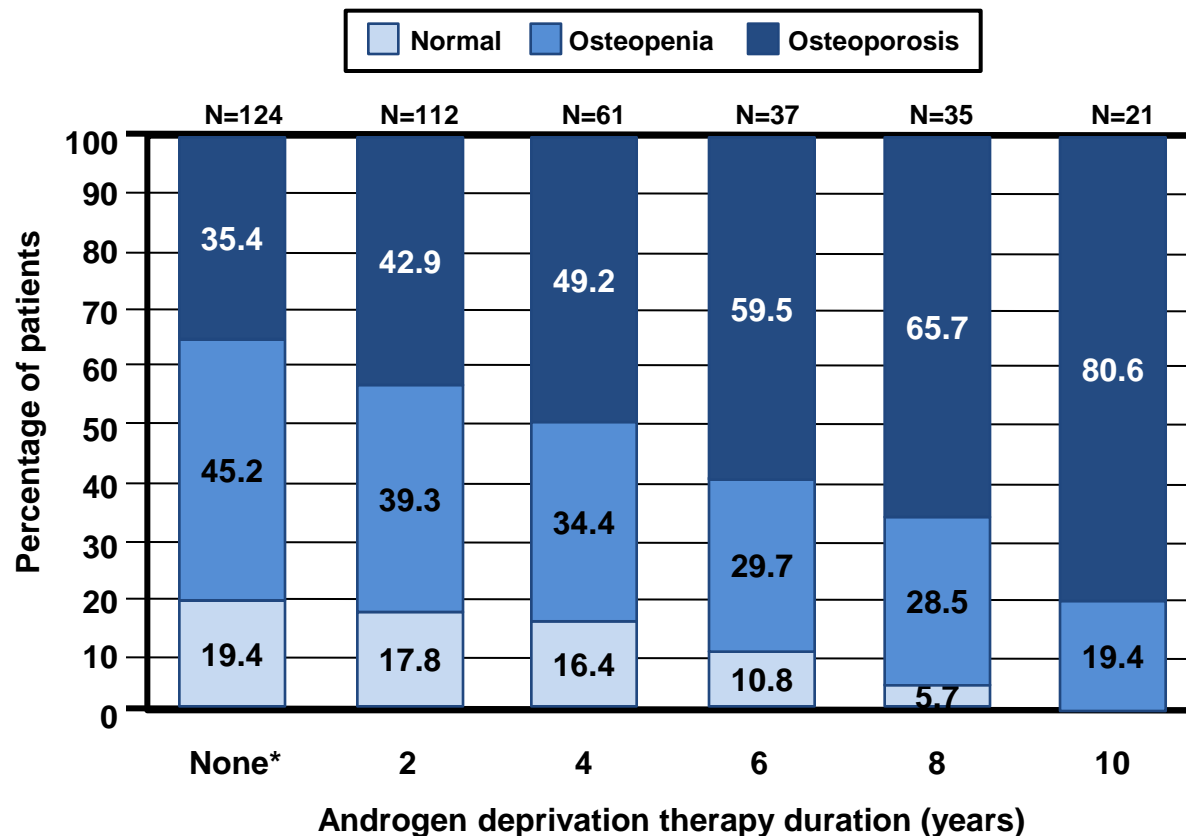
# Bone loss induced by ADT for prostate cancer is rapid and clinically significant



1. Higano CS. *Nat Clin Pract Urol* 2008;5:24-4; 2. Eastell R, et al. *J Bone Miner Res* 2006;21:1215-23;  
3. Maillefert JF, et al. *J Urol* 1999;161:1219-22; 4. Grant MF, et al. *Lancet Oncol* 2008;9:840-9;  
5. Shapiro CL, et al. *J Clin Oncol* 2001;19:3306-11

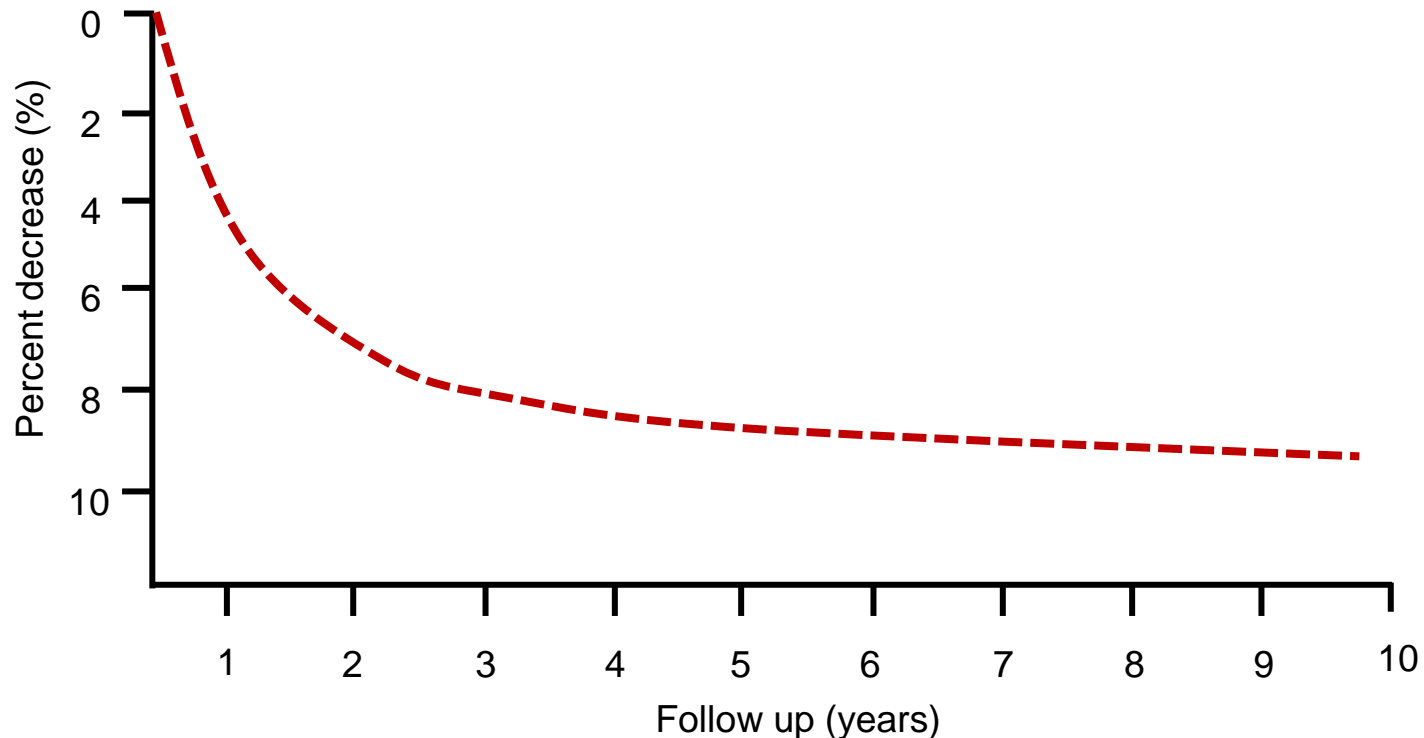
# Prevalence of Osteoporosis During Long-Term Androgen Deprivation Therapy in Patients with Prostate Cancer

Juan Morote, Jacques Planas Morin, Anna Orsola, Jose M. Abascal, Carles Salvador, Enrique Trilla, Carles X. Raventos, Lluís Cecchini, Gloria Encabo, and Jaume Reventos



# Characteristics of bone mass loss in prostate cancer patients on ADT

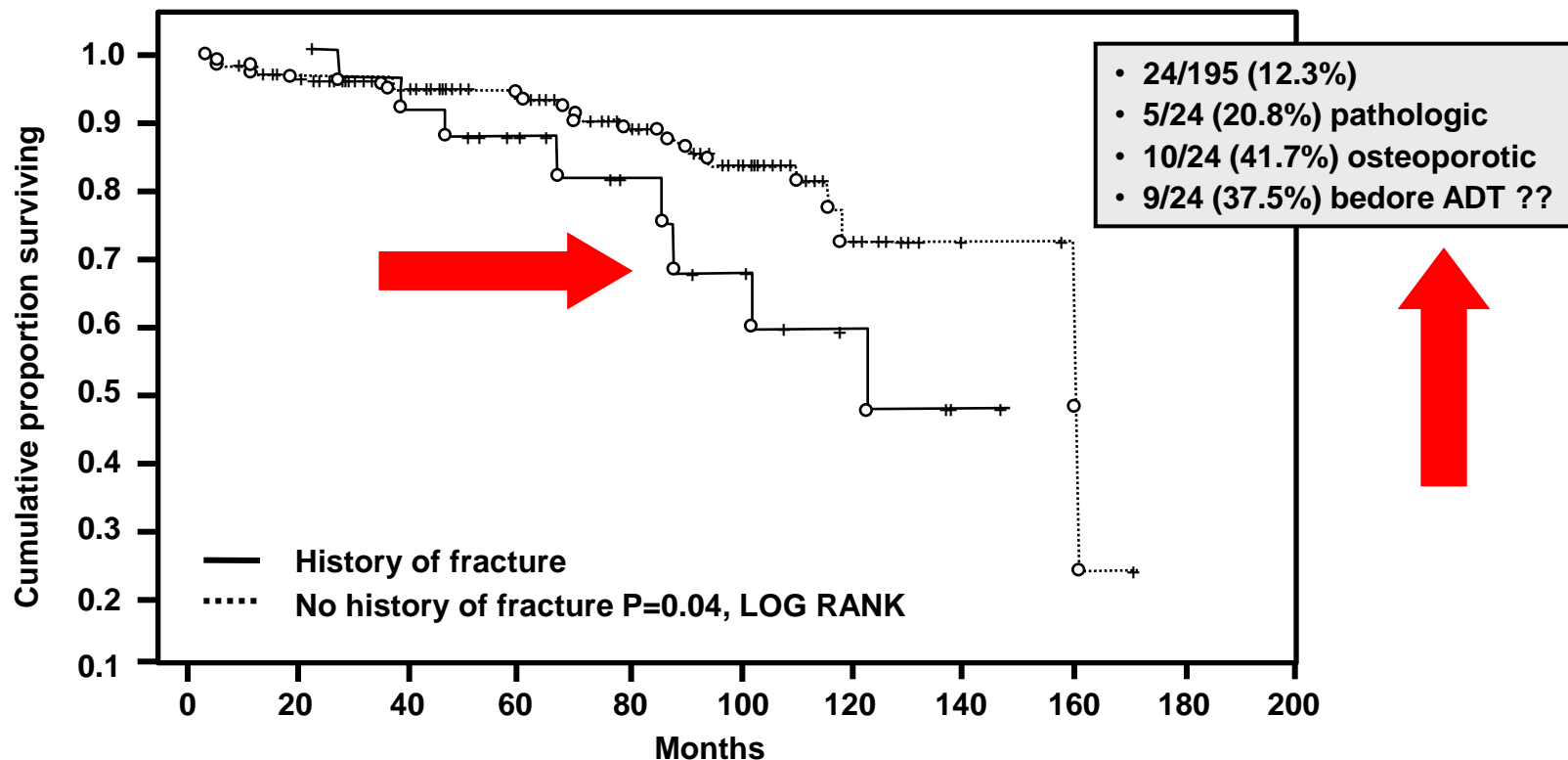
- Intense during the first year
- Slows after the second year
- Continuous over 10 years



# SKELETAL FRACTURES NEGATIVELY CORRELATE WITH OVERALL SURVIVAL IN MEN WITH PROSTATE CANCER.

MICHAEL G. OEFELEIN, VINCENT RICCHIUTI, WILLIAM CONRAD AND MARTIN I. RESNICK\*

*From the Department of Urology, University Hospitals of Cleveland, Case Western Reserve School of Medicine, Cleveland, Ohio*



Multivariate Forward Stepwise Regression Analysis		
Variable	p Value	Relative Death Risk (95% CI)
Skeletal metastasis	0.002	9.5 (8.5–10.5)
Skeletal fracture history	0.007	7.4 (6.1–8.7)
Nadir PSA	0.09	2.8 (0.8–4.8)

# Fractures and post-fracture mortality in prostate cancer patients receiving ADT

- Analysis from SEER database, N = 72,400 pts with PCa diagnosed 1996–2003

	Orchidectomy	LHRH-agonist during first 6 mo after diagnosis	No ADT during FU
N (%)	2.2%	47.2%	50.6%
Fracture risk (HR, 95% CI)	1.7 (1.5–1.9)	1.3 (1.3–1.4)	1
Fractures resulting in hospitalisation (HR, 95%CI)	1.9 (1.6–2.3)	1.4 (1.3–1.5)	1

- Fractures resulting in hospitalisation were associated with increased mortality (HR: 1.2, 95% CI: 1.2–1.3)

PCa pts receiving ADT are at increased risk of fractures; fractures resulting in hospitalisation are associated with a 20% increase in risk of mortality

# Consequences of CTIBL

- Reduced overall strength of the bone and loss of BMD leads to bone fragility and increased susceptibility to fractures
- Common sites
  - Femoral neck
  - Radius
  - Vertebral spine
  - Lumbar spine
- Fractures are associated with increased mortality
- Because natural restoration of bone is limited, prevention, early diagnosis and treatment of CTIBL are essential to improve patient outcome and quality of life



# Pharmacological prevention of bone mass loss during ADT

Reference	Design	Duration	No pts	Endpoints	Results
Smith, et al <i>J Urol</i> 2003	Zoledronate (IV 4 mg Q3M ) vs placebo	One year	106	% change BMD lumbar spine	+5.6 zoledronate vs -2.2 placebo
Michelson, et al <i>J Clin Oncol</i> 2007	Zoledronate (IV 4 mg on day one) vs placebo	One year	40	% change BMD lumbar spine	+4.0% zoledronate vs -3.1 placebo
Greenspan, et al <i>Ann Int Med</i> 2007	Alendronate oral (70 mg Q1W) vs placebo	One year	112	% change BMD lumbar spine	+3.7 alendronate vs -1.4 placebo
Smith, et al <i>N Eng J Med</i> 2009	Denosumab (SC 60 mg Q6M) vs placebo	Three years	1468	% change BMD lumbar spine and vertebral fractures*	+5.5 denosumab vs -1 placebo (24m) 1.5% denosumab vs 3.9% denosumab (36m)

\*FDA Good Guidance Practice guidelines for preclinical and clinical evaluation of agents used in the prevention or treatment of postmenopausal osteoporosis 1997

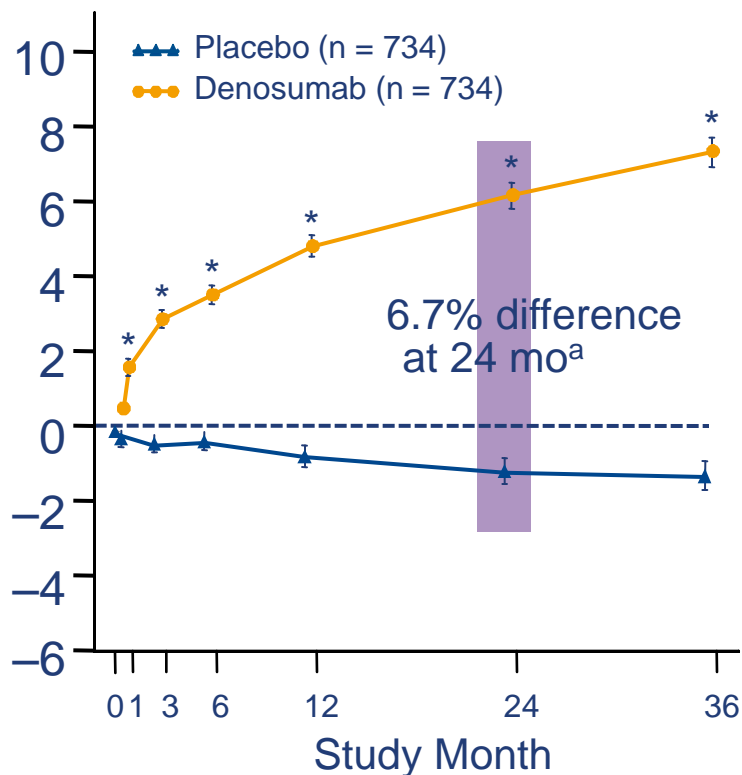
\*EMA guideline on the evaluation of new medicinal products in the treatment of primary osteoporosis 2005.

Denosumab is the only agent licensed for this indication.

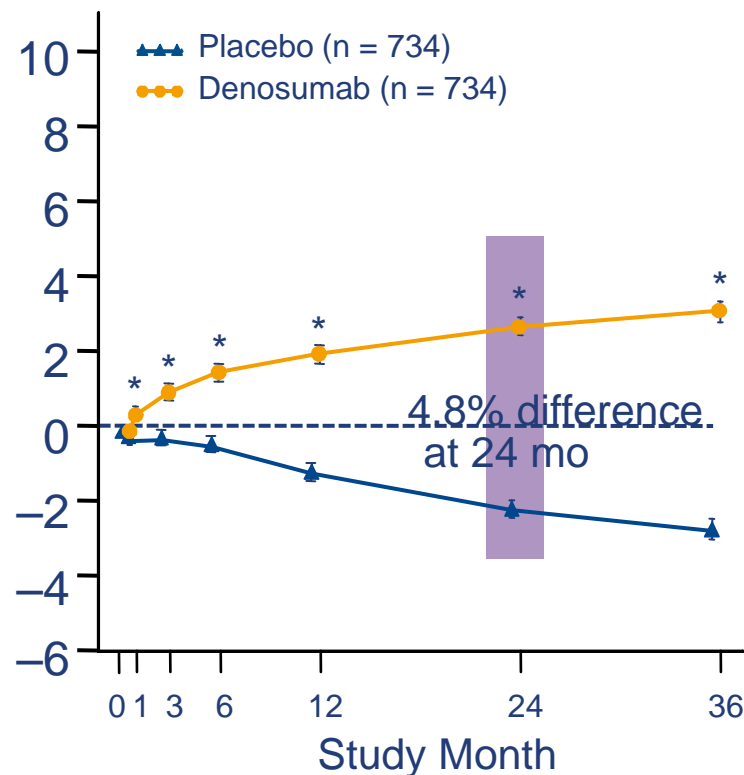
# Denosumab in men receiving ADT for prostate cancer

## Mean percent changes in BMD from baseline

### Lumbar Spine



### Total Hip

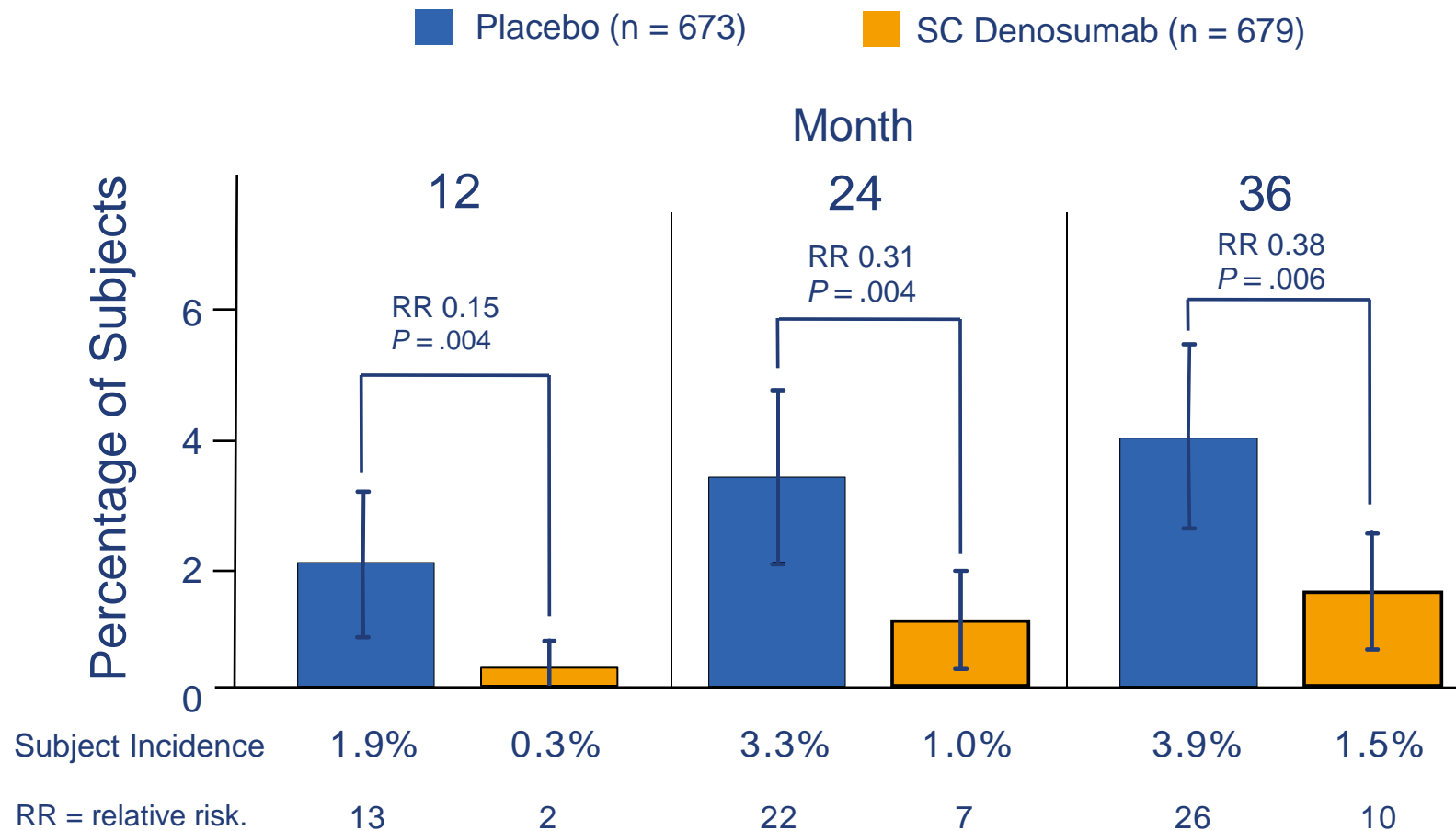


\* $P \leq .001$  at all measured sites

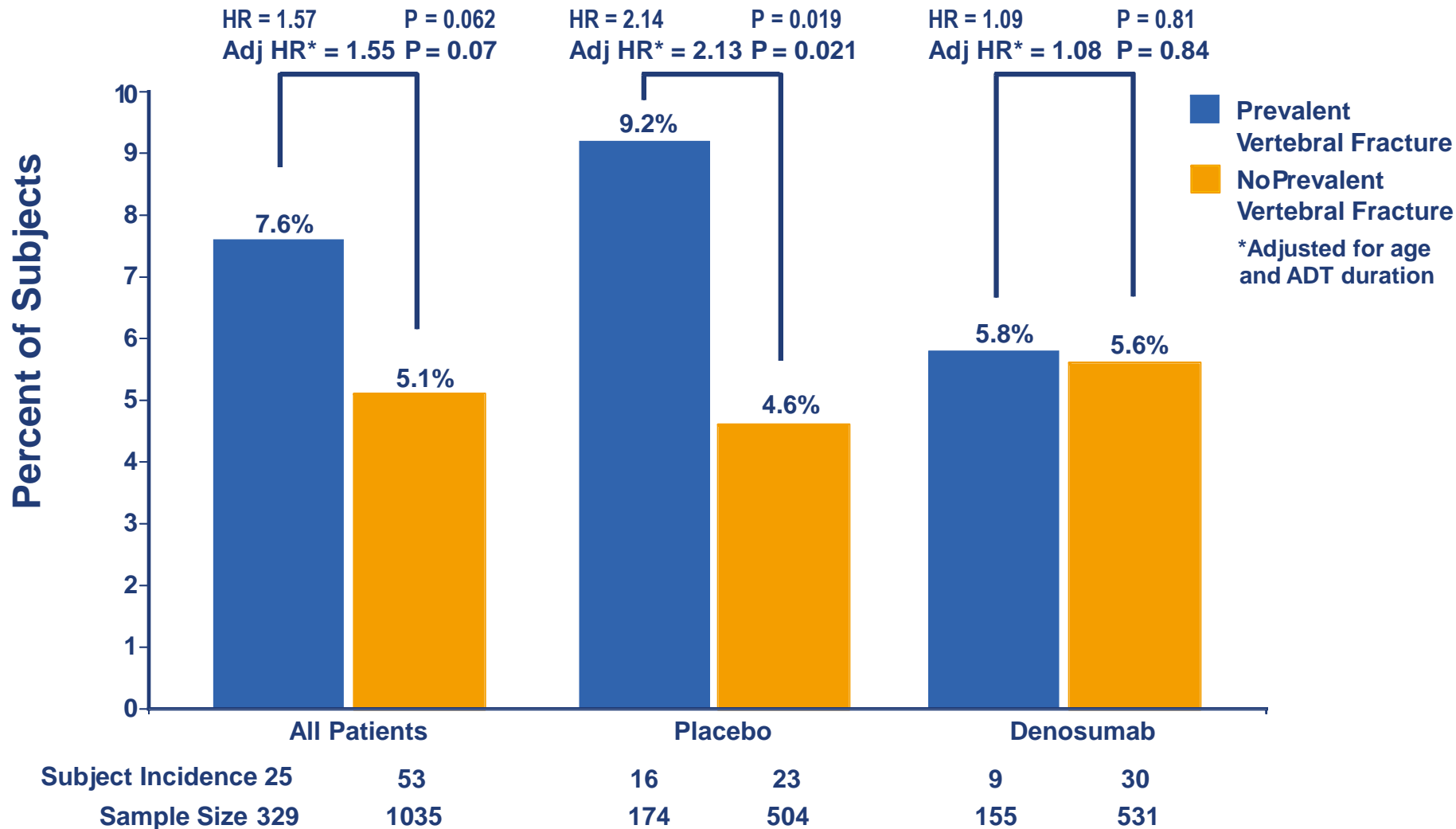
<sup>a</sup>Primary end point

# Denosumab in men receiving ADT for prostate cancer

## Cumulative incidence of new vertebral fracture



# Post-hoc analysis: Higher death rate in patients with vertebral fracture



# Specific considerations for senior adults

## Abiraterone

- Hypokalaemia, hypertension & fluid retention due to mineralocorticoid excess

Use with caution in patients with cardiovascular diseases

- Adrenocortical insufficiency

Caution after interruption of daily steroids and/or concurrent infection or stress

- Hepatotoxicity

Monitor liver function

# Effects Of Bisphosphonate Treatment On Recurrence And Cause-specific Mortality In Women With Early Breast Cancer: A Meta-analysis Of Individual Patient Data From Randomised Trials

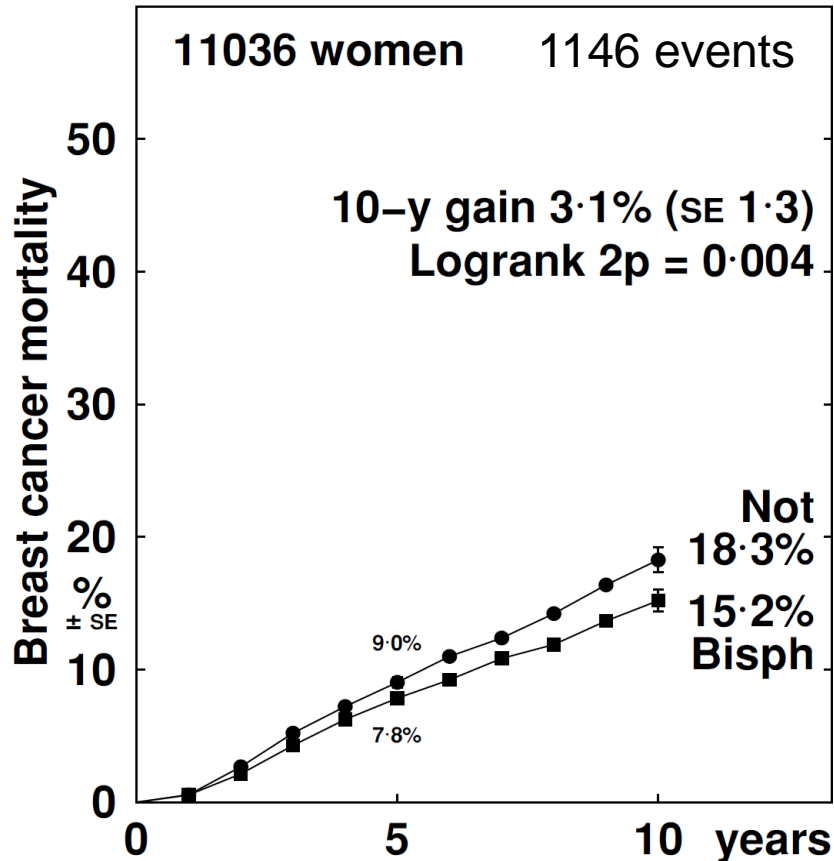
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R Coleman, M Gnant, A Paterson, T Powles, G von Minckwitz,  
K Pritchard, J Bergh, J Bliss, J Gralow, S Anderson, D Cameron,  
V Evans, H Pan, R Bradley, C Davies, R Gray.

**Early Breast Cancer Trialists' Collaborative Group  
(EBCTCG)'s Bisphosphonate Working Group.**

# BPs Decrease Mortality In Post-menopausal Women

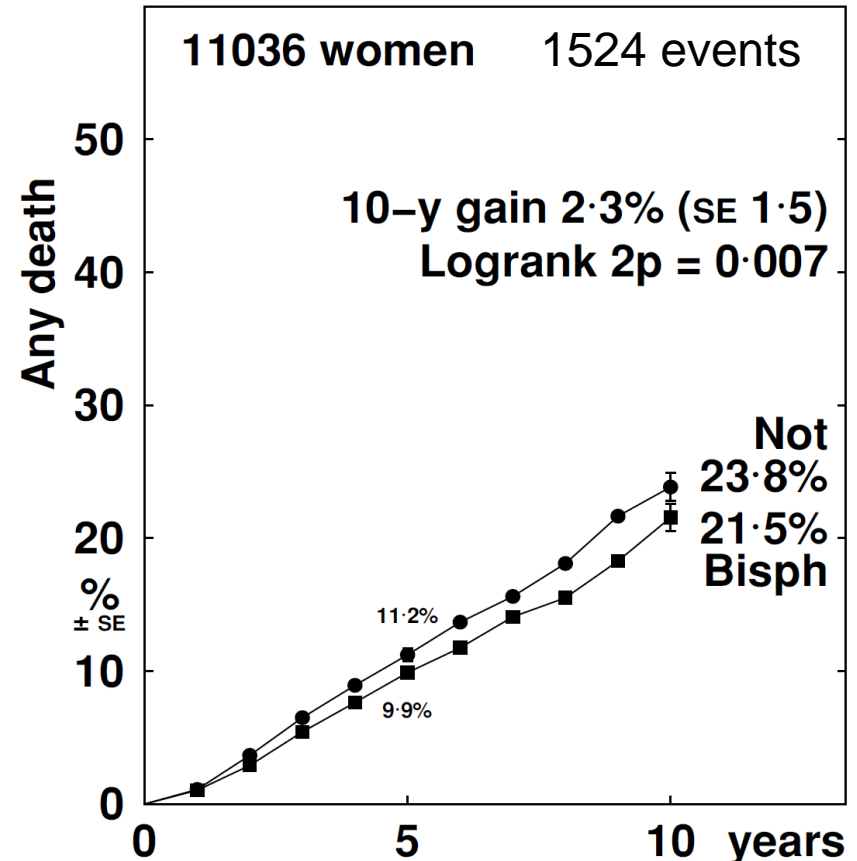
## Breast cancer mortality



Death rates (% / year: total rate – rate in women without recurrence) & logrank analyses

Allocation	Years 0 – 4	Years 5 – 9	Year 10+
Bisph	1.64 SE 0.08	1.60 SE 0.14	1.30 SE 0.49
Not	1.83 SE 0.09	2.04 SE 0.16	2.73 SE 0.73
Rate ratio, from (O-E) / V	0.86 SE 0.07 -26.4 / 173.1	0.78 SE 0.11 -16.3 / 65.0	0.52 SE 0.38 -2.4 / 3.6

## All cause mortality



Death rates (% / year) and logrank analyses

Allocation	Years 0 – 4	Years 5 – 9	Year 10+
Bisph	2.07 (510 / 24627)	2.40 (201 / 8380)	3.71 (20 / 539)
Not	2.32 (534 / 23006)	2.88 (236 / 8189)	4.48 (23 / 513)
Rate ratio, from (O-E) / V	0.87 SE 0.06 -31.3 / 224.4	0.84 SE 0.09 -17.2 / 95.6	0.94 SE 0.34 -0.5 / 8.0

# ESMO clinical practice guideline: Bone health in cancer patients

- Clinicians treating cancer patients need to be aware of:
  - Treatments to reduce skeletal morbidity in metastatic disease
  - Strategies to minimise cancer treatment-induced skeletal damage
- ESMO guidelines “provide a framework for maintaining bone health in patients with cancer”





# Prevention of bone loss in patients with treatments known to increase the risk of fractures

## Baseline fracture risk factor assessment

- e.g. age >65 years, smoking, oral corticosteroid use >6 months, low BMI (<20), family history of hip-fracture, personal history of fragility fracture after age 50

## Bone mineral density (BMD) measurement

## Lifestyle changes

- Take more weight-bearing exercise
- Stop smoking
- Reduce alcohol consumption

## Dietary measures and supplements

- Adequate calcium (1000 mg/day) intake
- Supplementary vitamin D (to total intake of 1000–2000 units/day)

In selected cases – bone directed anti-resorptive therapy to manage low BMD or rapid bone loss

# Diagnosis: Recommended techniques

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## Isotope bone scan

- Sensitive test used to detect presence of skeletal pathology
- Gives little information about nature of damage/metastatic disease

## CT and MRI

- Recommended for obtaining structural information on skeletal damage from metastatic bone disease

## PET

- Provides functional information that may aid in diagnosis

## DXA scan

- Recommended for patients at risk of fracture or cancer treatment-induced bone loss

## *Plain radiographs*

- *An insensitive test for metastasis – lesions need to be >1cm with bone mineral loss of ~50% to be recognized*

# Patient evaluation

## Patient examination

- Assessment of symptoms and activity status is essential

## Skeletal radiography

- Used to assess response to treatment, and fractures
- But structural changes are slow to evolve and the method is insensitive

## Isotopic bone scanning

- Not useful for monitoring treatment response

## Biochemical markers

- e.g. amino (N) and carboxy (C) cross-linked telopeptides of type I collagen (NTC, CTX)
- May provide information on prognosis and response to treatments but are not recommended for routine clinical use

# Regulatory approval for anti-resorptive agents in cancer patients

Indication	Regulatory approval
<b>Prevention of skeletal-related events</b>	
Zoledronic acid 4 mg i.v. every 3–4 weeks Denosumab 120 mg s.c. every 4 weeks Pamidronate 90 mg i.v. every 3–4 weeks Clodronate 1600 mg p.o. daily Ibandronate 50 mg p.o. daily Ibandronate 6 mg i.v. monthly	All solid tumours and multiple myeloma All solid tumours Breast cancer and multiple myeloma Osteolytic lesions* Breast cancer* Breast cancer*
<b>Prevention of breast cancer metastases</b>	
Zoledronic acid 4 mg i.v. 6 monthly Zoledronic acid 4 mg i.v. monthly x 6, then 3–6 monthly Clodronate 1600 mg daily	None None None
<b>Prevention of prostate cancer metastases</b>	
Denosumab 120 mg s.c. monthly	None
<b>Prevention of treatment-induced bone loss</b>	
Denosumab 60 mg s.c. 6 monthly Zoledronic acid 4 mg i.v. 6 monthly Alendronate 70 mg p.o. weekly Risedronate 35 mg p.o. weekly Ibandronate 150 mg p.o. monthly Pamidronate 90 mg i.v. every 3 months	Prostate and breast cancer None None None None None

\*European approval only (not US)

i.v. – intravenous; s.c. subcutaneous; p.o. per oral

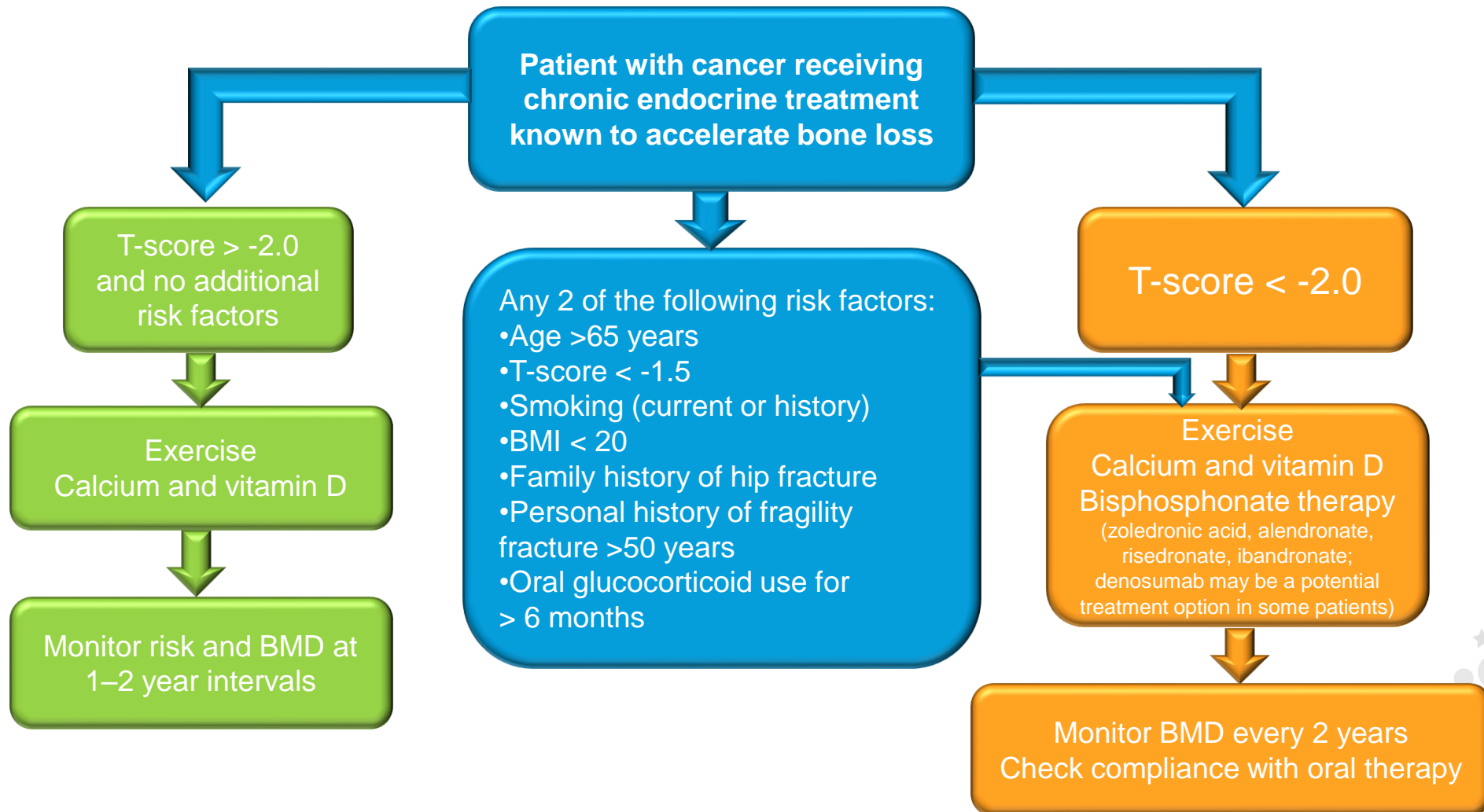
# Treatment recommendations

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## Prevention of treatment- induced bone loss

- **Bisphosphonates** and **denosumab** prevent bone loss associated with ovarian suppression/aromatase inhibitors in **early breast cancer** and androgen deprivation therapy in **prostate cancer**

# ESMO recommended algorithm for managing bone health during cancer treatment



# BREAKFAST MENU

- Why the elderly and why should hormonal therapy be harmless?
- About breast cancer
- About prostate cancer
- A common topic: bone health
- To conclude

# Hormone therapy is not harmless but one can decrease its toxicity

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# 2014

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14th SIOG Meeting, Lisbon - Portugal



**SAVE THE DATE - 23 to 25 October 2014**

**THANK YOU**  
**to all the patients**  
**and their**  
**physicians, nurses and carers**

