

# HOT TOPICS IN OSTEOPOROSIS

## From theory to practice



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# Case Study: Anna

53-year-old post-menopausal woman



Bari,  
7-10 novembre 2013

Presents for examination for recent fragility fracture.

✓MRI: old vertebral fractures (D11,L1, L2,L3 – history of trauma in 2010 with normal BMD) + recent vertebral fracture (D12).



DXA - L1-L4  
(BMD/T-score/Z-score)

DXA - femoral neck  
(BMD/T-score/Z-score)

0,981/-1

-0,7

0,933/-1,3/-0,4

rule out other causes of secondary osteoporosis  
phocalcic metabolism



# Case Study: Anna

53-year-old post-menopausal woman



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- Family history: father, hip fragility fracture at age 50
- Menarche at age 12, regular menses, menopause at age 45, no HRT; non smokers, no alcohol, adequate calcium intake, no regular exercises
- Past medical history: trauma in 2010 → vertebral fractures. No history of systemic glucocorticoids.
- Physical examination: 60 Kg x 160 cm, BMI: 23,4 Kg/m<sup>2</sup>, accentuation of the dorsal kyphosis, low back pain, no sign of Cushing's disease
- On no medications



# Case Study: Anna

53-year-old post-menopausal woman



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- ✓ ? Laboratory tests to rule out other causes of secondary osteoporosis
- ✓ ? Assessment of phosphocalcic metabolism

FRAX and DXA are not useful to decide about the therapy  
→ fragility vertebral fracture places Anna at high risk category



# GUIDELINES



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✓ *National Osteoporosis Foundation. Clinician's guide to prevention and treatment of osteoporosis. <http://www.nof.org/files/nof/public/content/file/344/upload/159.pdf>. Accessed January 3, 2013.*

✓ *European guidance for the diagnosis and management of osteoporosis in postmenopausal women. Kanis JA et al; Scientific Advisory Board of the European Society for Clinical and Economic Aspects of Osteoporosis and Osteoarthritis (ESCEO) and the Committee of Scientific Advisors of the International Osteoporosis Foundation (IOF). Osteoporos Int. 2013 Jan;24(1):23-57.*



# FOLLOW UP IN GUIDELINES



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- Patients are typically monitoring using:

- ☐ BMD

- ☐ (BMTs)

- ☐ new low trauma fractures

- Biphosphonate “Drug holiday”  
after 3-5 y



Current clinical practice guideline do not  
provide target to determine if treatment  
has been effective

→ **satisfactory reduction in fracture risk**







# Treat-to-target

J Clin Endocrinol Metab. 2013 Mar;98(3):946-53. Treat-to-target for osteoporosis: is now the time?

Lewiecki EM, et al



# BMD AND FRACTURES RISK



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BMD increase is usually seen as an indication of therapeutic success

## Limits:

- ✓ Disagreement on that relationship:
  - in some analyses: reduction in fracture risk with bisphosphonate therapy with no change or a loss in BMD (1, 2)
  - with zoledronic acid (3) and denosumab (4), a strong correlation between BMD increase and fracture risk reduction.
- ✓ LSC
- ✓ Only examinations carried out in the same center are comparable
- ✓ Validated centers are required
- ✓ Structural abnormalities, that may increase BMD, particularly in spine, without imparting an increase in bone strength.

- 1) Bauer DC et al. J Bone Miner Res. 2004;19(8):1250-1258.
- 2) Watts NB, et al. J Bone Miner Res. 2005;20(12):2097-2104.
- 3) Jacques RM, et al. J Bone Miner Res. 2012;27(8):1627-1634.
- 4) Austin M, et al. J Bone Miner Res. 2012;27(3):687-693.



# BMTs



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- with anabolic therapies (1-3 month)
- with antiresorptive therapies (3-6 month)



## Limits:

- ✓ Lack of clarity in optimal choice of BTM
- ✓ Assay variability
- ✓ Reproducibility of the examination
- ✓ Need to consider the LSC of specific biochemical marker  
("precision error" x 2,77)
- ✓ Validate center are required
- ✓ Problematic availability and affordability in some world regions



# HIP T-score AND “DRUG HOLIDAY”



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## Evidence supporting the utility of T-scores at the hip to decide about “drug holiday”

- Continuing alendronate for 10 years instead of stopping after 5 years → reduction in the risk of nonvertebral fractures for women without prevalent vertebral fractures whose femoral neck T-scores were  $-2.5$  or less after 5 years of therapy; not reduced in with femoral neck T-scores  $>-2.0$  after 5 years of therapy (1-2).
- A femoral neck or total hip T-score  $<-2.5$  after 3 annual doses of zoledronic acid was predictive of increased risk of new morphometric and nonvertebral fractures in women subsequently randomized to stop treatment (3),

### Limits:

- ✓No informations about patientes with prevalent vertebral fracture.

- 1) Schwartz AV, et al. J Bone Miner Res. 2010;25(5):976-982.
- 2) Black DM, et al. JAMA. 2006;296(24):2927-2938.
- 3) Cosman F et al. J Bone Miner Res. 2011;26(Suppl 1):S79.





# To optimize the follow up it's necessary...



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- ❖ Having in mind the limitations of the assessment tools available
- ❖ Make appropriate corrections if is necessary
- ❖ Instruct the patient to get the most reliable data
- ❖ Continuous up to date



# Case Study: Francesca

54-year-old post-menopausal woman



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First examination for osteoporosis (6/2012)

Past medical history: breast cancer at age 52

Histologically: Infiltrating ductal breast cancer pT2 pN1a,G3; ER-, PgR-, HER 2-, K67 90%  
-- surgery (quadrantectomy with axillary dissection) CEF chemotherapy (cyclophosphamide/  
epirubicin/fluorouracil). Bone scintigraphy 2010-2012: negative.



No AIs/Tamoxifen

:"

	DXA spine L1-L4 (BMD/T-score/Z-score)	DXA femoral neck (BMD/T-score/Z-score)
10/2010	0,778/-2,7/-1,9	-----
1/2012	0,782/-2,7/-1,7	-----

- ✓ No recent assessment of parathyroid hormone metabolism
- ✓ No laboratory test to rule out other causes of secondary hyperparathyroidism





# Case Study: Francesca

## 54-year-old post-menopausal woman



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- Family history: none significant
- menarche at age 9, regular menses, menopause at age 47, no HRT; stop smoking at age 26; no alcohol; adequate calcium intake; physically active.
- Physical examination: 66 Kg x 163 cm, BMI: 24,9 Kg/m<sup>2</sup>  
mild accentuation of dorsal kyphosis, no back pain, no signs/symptoms of neuropathy
- No comorbidity. No history of long-term systemic corticosteroids use
- On therapy: calcium/vitD3 600+400/daily; Alendronate 70 mg/w (from 1/13)



# Case Study: Francesca

54-year-old post-menopausal woman



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## Bloodwork :

- ✓ for assessment of phosphocalcic metabolism → normal calcium, phosphate and PTH level; vitamin 25-OH-D deficiency: 16 ng/ml; normal values of OC, ALP, cross links.
- ✓ to rule out other causes of secondary osteoporosis → normal levels of TSH, celiac disease antibody panel, QPE, complete blood count, creatinine

Lateral thoraco-lumbar spine X-ray is ordered to rule out vertebral fractures (mild dorsal kyphosis) : negative





# Case Study: Francesca

54-year-old post-menopausal woman



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□

Cancer without known skeletal metastases and not requiring therapy to lower sex steroid



Risk assessment and therapy should be applied as in non-cancer patients

□

Rizzoli R, et al; for the International Osteoporosis Foundation Committee of Scientific Advisors Working Group on Cancer-Induced Bone Disease. Osteoporos Int. 2013 Oct 22.



# Case Study: Francesca

54-year-old post-menopausal woman



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Please answer the questions below to calculate the ten year probability of fracture with BMD.



Country: **Italy** Name/ID:  [About the risk factors](#)

### Questionnaire:

1. Age (between 40 and 90 years) or Date of Birth  
Age:  Date of Birth: Y:  M:  D:

2. Sex ☐ Male ☒ Female

3. Weight (kg)

4. Height (cm)

5. Previous Fracture ☒ No ☐ Yes

6. Parent Fractured Hip ☒ No ☐ Yes

7. Current Smoking ☒ No ☐ Yes

8. Glucocorticoids ☒ No ☐ Yes

9. Rheumatoid arthritis ☒ No ☐ Yes

10. Secondary osteoporosis ☒ No ☐ Yes

11. Alcohol 3 or more units/day ☒ No ☐ Yes

12. Femoral neck BMD (g/cm<sup>2</sup>)

**BMI: 24.8**

**The ten year probability of fracture (%)**

**without BMD**

Major osteoporotic	<b>3.1</b>
Hip Fracture	<b>0.3</b>

### Weight Conversion

Pounds kg

### Height Conversion

Inches cm

**00137443**

Individuals with fracture risk  
assessed since 1st June 201



Traduzione italiana approvata  
SIMG (Società Italiana di Med

[Print tool and information](#)

## Risk factors

# Case Study: Francesca

54-year-old post-menopausal woman



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- ✓ Frax index → low risk → no therapy
- ✓ Guidelines → therapy (after appropriate evaluation)
- ✓ Nota 79 doesn't repay that therapy





# Questions...



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- Why to treat?
- How long to treat?





# Case Study: Francesca

52-year-old postmenopausal woman



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- Family history: none significant
- menarche at age 9, regular menses, menopause at age 47, no HRT; stop smoking at age 26; no alcohol; adequate calcium intake; physically active.
- Past medical history: quadrantectomy supero-esterna destra 9/2010 (età: 52 anni)

Histologically: Infiltrating ductal breast cancer pT2 pN1a,G3; **ER-**, PgR-, HER 2-, K67 90% --

If the BC was ER+? We are in 2010...

- Physical examination: 66 Kg x 163 cm, BMI: 24,9 Kg/m<sup>2</sup>, mild accentuation of dorsal kyphosis, no back pain, no signs/symptoms of neuropathy
- No comorbidity
- No history of long-term systemic corticosteroids use
- Vitamin 25-OH-D deficiency
- T-score of spine L1-L4 -2,7 in 2010
- Lateral thoraco-lumbar spine X-ray: negative



# SECONDARY OSTEOPOROSIS

AAACE Postmenopausal osteoporosis guidelines, Endocr Pract 2010;16 (suppl 3)



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**Table 9**  
**Some Causes of Secondary Osteoporosis in Adults<sup>a</sup>**

Endocrine or metabolic causes	Nutritional/ gastrointestinal conditions	Drugs	Disorders of collagen metabolism	Other
Acromegaly	Alcoholism	Antiepileptics <sup>b</sup>	Ehlers-Danlos syndrome	AIDS/HIV
Diabetes mellitus	Anorexia nervosa	■ Aromatase inhibitors	Homocystinuria due to	Ankylosing spondylitis
Type 1	Calcium deficiency	■ Chemotherapy/	cystathionine deficiency	Chronic obstructive
Type 2	Chronic liver disease	immunosuppressants	Marfan syndrome	pulmonary disease
Growth hormone deficiency	Malabsorption syndromes/	Depo-Provera	Osteogenesis imperfecta	Gaucher disease
Hypercortisolism	malnutrition (including	Glucocorticoids		Hemophilia
Hyperparathyroidism	celiac disease, Crohn	■ Gonadotropin-releasing		Hypercalciuria
Hyperthyroidism	disease, and gastric	hormone agonists		Immobilization
Hypogonadism	resection or bypass)	Heparin		Major depression
Hypophosphatasia	Total parenteral nutrition	Lithium		Myeloma and some
Porphyria	Vitamin D deficiency	Proton pump inhibitors		cancers
Pregnancy		Selective serotonin		Organ transplantation
		reuptake inhibitors		Renal insufficiency/
		Thiazolidinediones		failure
		Thyroid hormone (in		Renal tubular acidosis
		supraphysiologic		Rheumatoid arthritis
		doses)		Systemic mastocytosis
		Warfarin		Thalassemia

<sup>a</sup> AIDS = acquired immunodeficiency syndrome; HIV = human immunodeficiency virus.

<sup>b</sup> Phenobarbital, phenytoin, primidone, valproate, and carbamazepine have been associated with low bone mass.



# BREAST CANCER AND FRACTURES



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Women who have been treated medically for breast cancer may be at increased risk for bone loss and fractures :

- ✓ The **annual incidence** of vertebral fractures is **fivefold increase**. **Fivefold higher prevalence** of vertebral fractures in women with breast cancer, but without bone metastases, than in women of the same age <sup>1</sup>.
- ✓ **fracture rates in breast cancer is a 15 % increase**, after adjustment for age, ethnicity, weight and geographic location <sup>2</sup>.



1) Kanis JA, et al (1999) Br J Cancer 79:1179-1181

2) Chen Z, et al (2005) Arch Intern Med 165:552-558





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# BONE AND BREAST CANCER TREATMENT

## Premenopausal women

- - CHT-induced hypogonadism  
BL 8%<sub>s</sub>, 4%<sub>h</sub> 1°<sub>y</sub> (NR), RF+++
  - GnRH agonists  
BL 6%/anno (R), RF-
  - AIs  
RF e BL+++ (NR)
  - Tamoxifene  
BL + (R)

## Postmenopausal women

- - CHT  
////////////////////////////////////
  - AIs  
FR e BL+++ (NR)
  - Tamoxifene  
BL -

BL=BMD loss; RF: risk fractures; R= recovery; NR no recovery

▪ Rizzoli R, et al; for the International Osteoporosis Foundation Committee of Scientific Advisors Working Group on Cancer-Induced Bone Disease. Osteoporos Int. 2013 Oct 22.



□

Cancer without known skeletal metastases and not requiring  
therapy to lower sex steroid

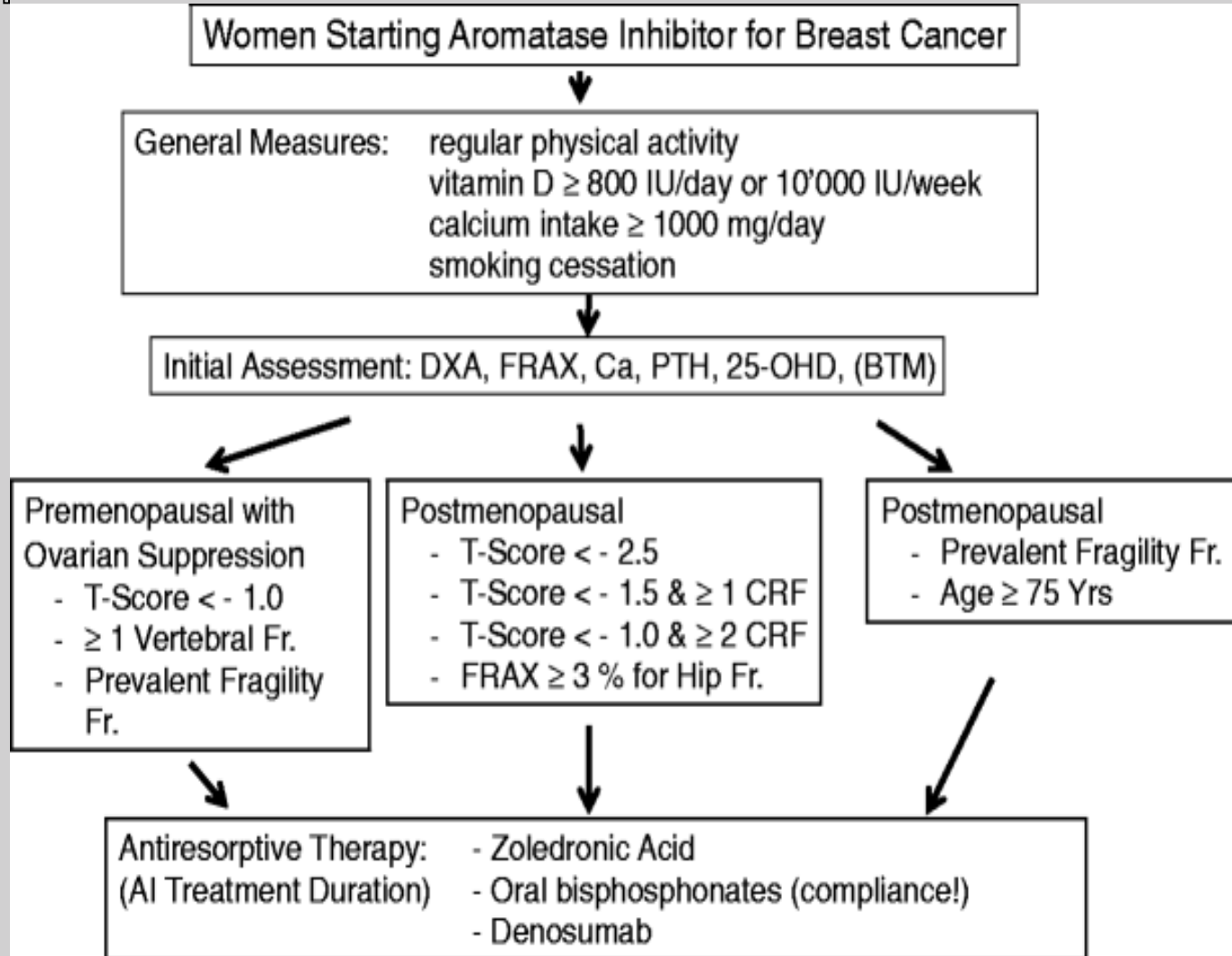


Risk assessment and therapy should be applied as in non-cancer  
patients

□

Rizzoli R, et al; for the International Osteoporosis Foundation Committee  
of Scientific Advisors Working Group on Cancer-Induced Bone Disease.  
Osteoporos Int. 2013 Oct 22.





Rizzoli R, et al; for the International Osteoporosis Foundation Committee of Scientific Advisors Working Group on Cancer-Induced Bone Disease. Osteoporos Int. 2013 Oct 22.



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- No comorbidity

AI → treatment for osteoporosis

- T-score of spine L1-L4 -2,7 in 2010
- Lateral thoraco-lumbar spine X-ray: negative



# ...in treatment of secondary osteoporosis keep in mind



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- ❖ Any secondary osteoporosis have peculiar aspects
- ❖ It could be necessary prevent bone loss to prevent fractures instead of only prevent it in osteoporotic patients
- ❖ Continuous up to date



Thanks for your attention!



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