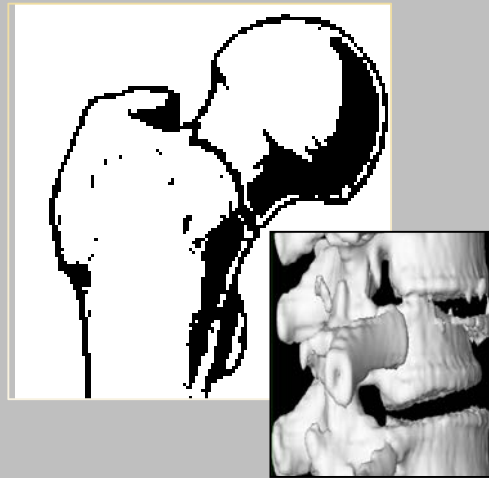


# Clinical and research updates of osteoporosis in geriatric patients

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Associate Professor  
Division of Geriatric & Palliative Medicine  
Department of Internal Medicine



McGovern  
Medical School

# Learning objectives

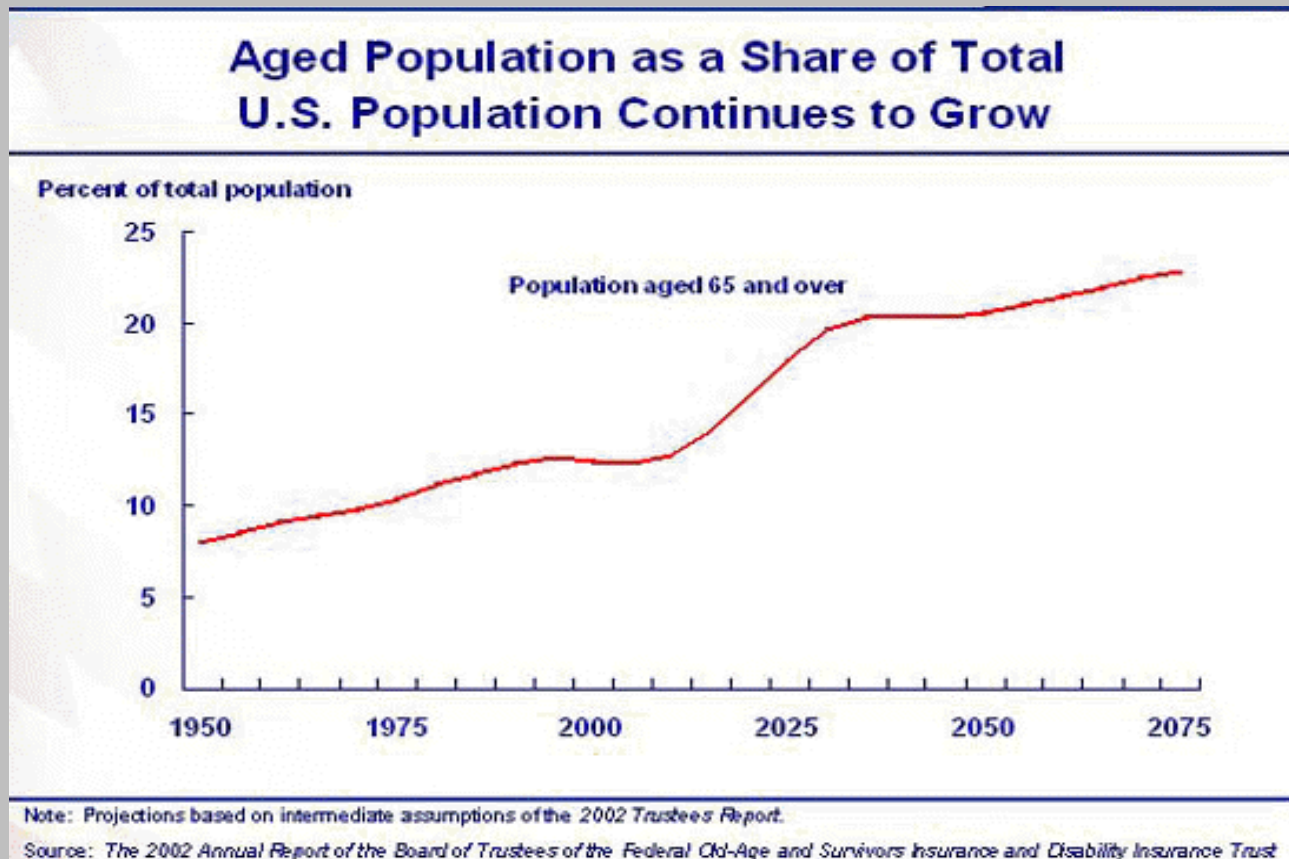
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- Attendees will recognize osteoporosis as an important public health problem in geriatric population
- Attendees will be able to screen & diagnose and treat osteoporosis
- Describe clinical progress in osteoporosis care for geriatric patients in relation to the recent scientific advancements

# Disclosure

- None

# Geriatric population in the USA



- ~10,000 baby boomers turn 65 everyday with  $\geq 65$  yrs
  - 34 million in 1998 to ~ 70 million in 2030

# Osteoporosis: Health problem of old age & a public health concern

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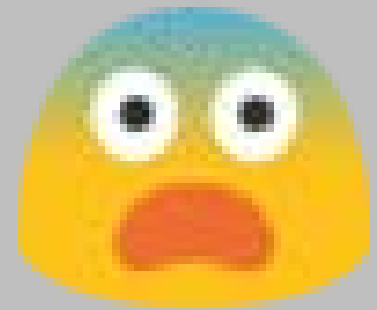
- 54 million Americans have osteoporosis or low bone mass
- ~1 in 2 women & 1 in 4 men  $\geq 50$  yrs will suffer a fragility fracture<sup>NOF</sup>
- Over 2 million fragility fractures a year
  - >combined incidence of MI, strokes & breast cancer
    - ❖ *27% vertebral fractures*
    - ❖ *19% wrist fractures*
    - ❖ *14% hip fractures*



# Osteoporotic fractures: low impact trauma/fragility fracture

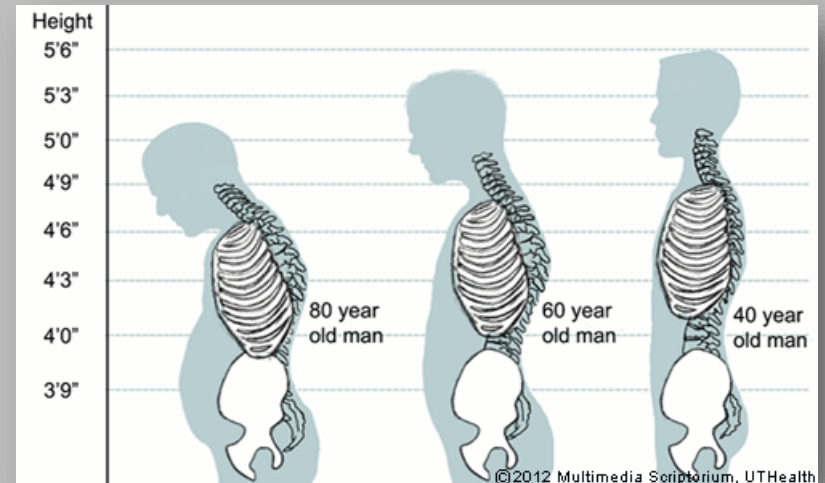
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- Fractures without much force or any high impact trauma:
  - Turning in bed
  - Bent forward to do gardening
  - Lifted a trash can in the kitchen
  - Fall from wheel chair
  - Fall when transferring from bed to chair
  - Fall from standing height

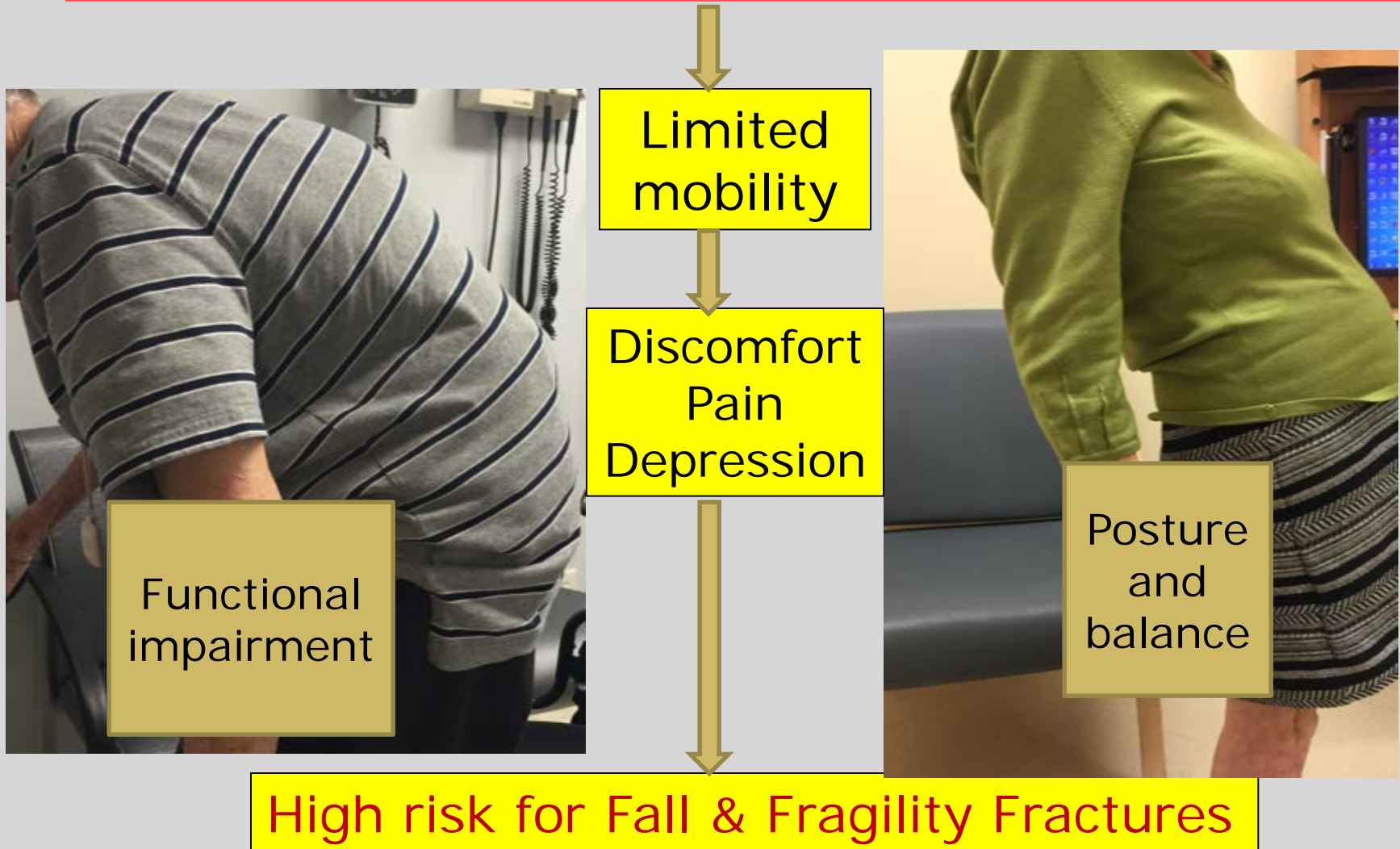


# Osteoporosis & quality of life

- Fractures can decrease quality of life:
  - *Physical:* pain, compressed abdomen, spinal deformity
  - *Functional:* decreased mobility
  - *Psychosocial:* depression
  - *Rate of recurrent vertebral fracture after the initial one: ~5-20%*
- Hip fracture
  - ~50% with hip fractures will never walk w/o assistance
  - ~25% will require long-term care



# Life with osteoporosis





# Health care cost

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- ~ \$22 billion is spent annually for osteoporosis and related fracture in the USA Blume & Curtis, 2010



- ~ \$7 billion is spent annually for breast cancer in the USA State of Health Care Quality, 2007



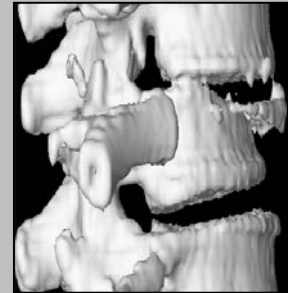
# Concerns for geriatricians

- Concerns of under-recognition and under-treatment
  - ~20% f/u for treatment after fragility fractures Own the Bone
  - Fracture- often first sign of presence of osteoporosis
- ~ 50% osteoporosis related office visits managed by PCPs
  - HTN, ↑ lipid, OA, DM & depression - common in them
- Barriers for PCPs
  - For PCPs/Geriatricians: Competing chronic disease priorities
  - Lack of translational research
    - ❖ Tools available in clinical practice
    - ❖ Chronic diseases as risk of fracture
    - ❖ What is normal for the oldest of the old

# Osteoporosis: definition

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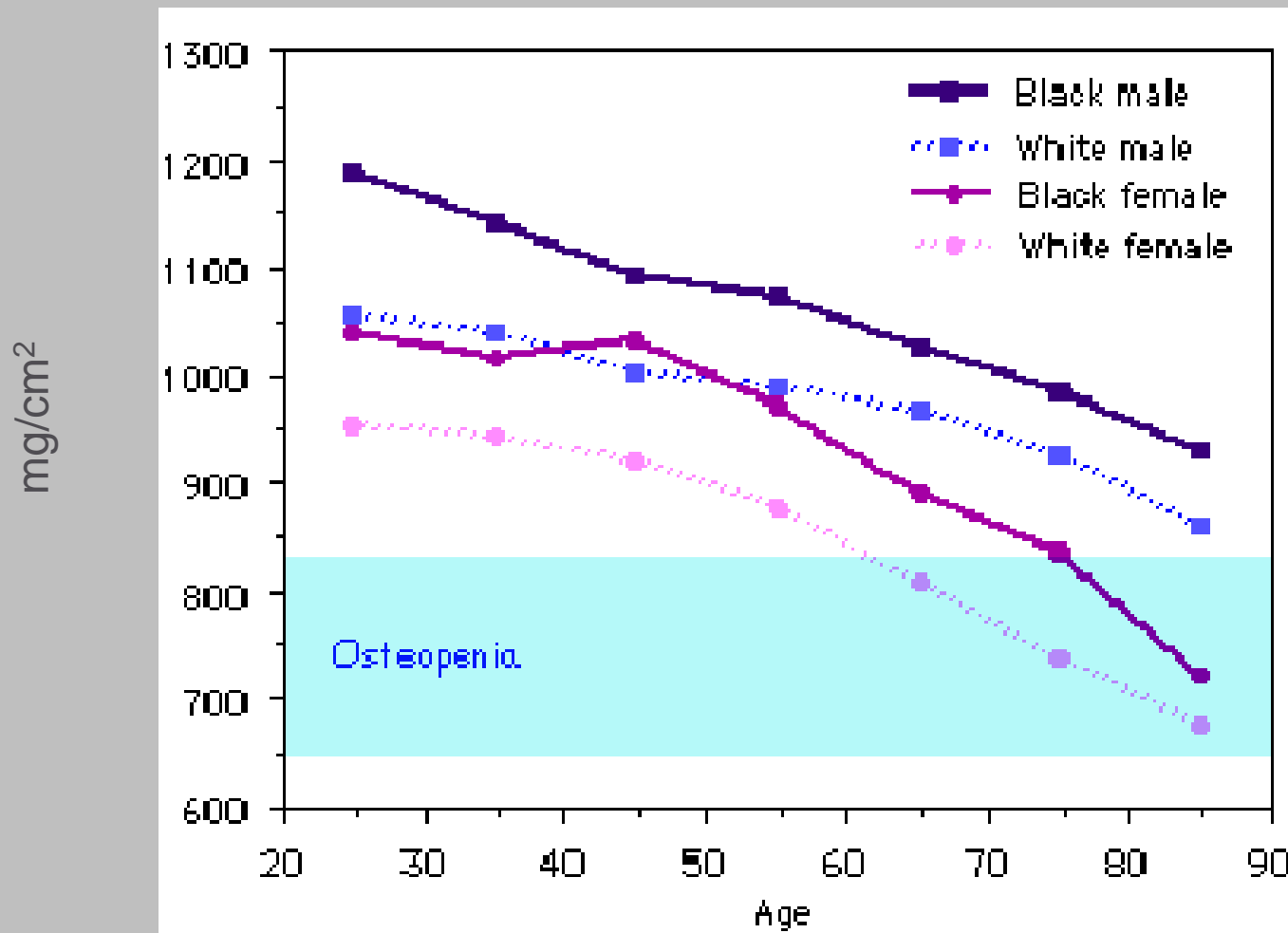
- Compromised bone strength that increases risk of fracture



- Bone Strength is characterized by

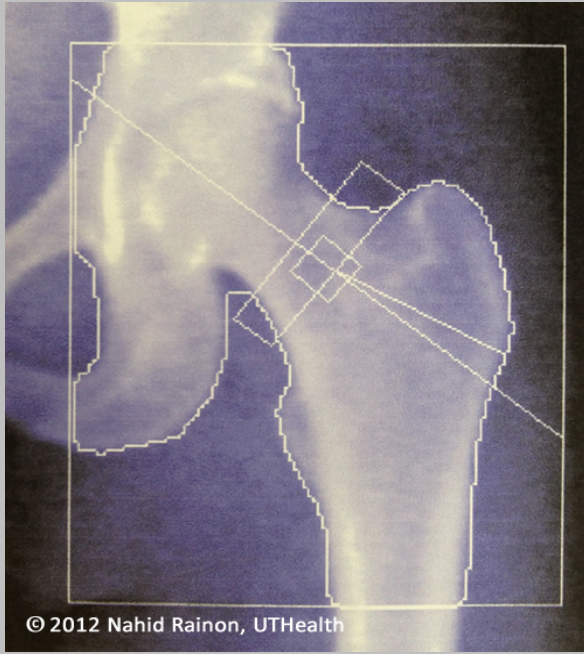
- Bone density &
- Other bone qualities, e .g., micro-architecture influenced by bone remodeling, bone turnover, mineralization and other factors that are more difficult to quantify, such as “damage accumulation”

# BMD changes with advanced age

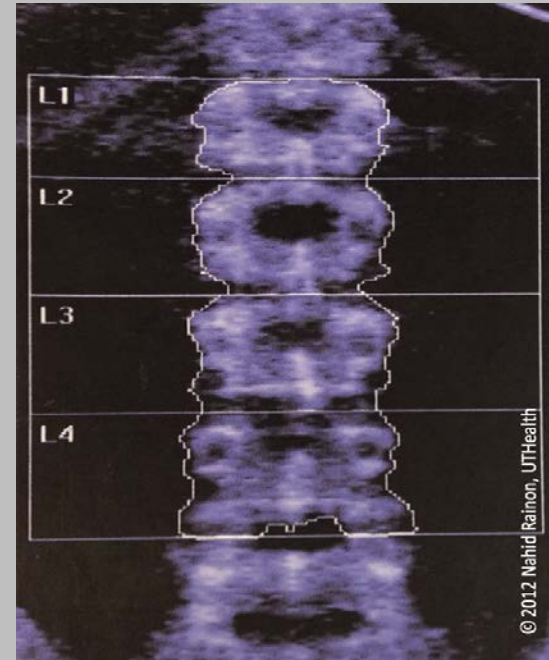


ASBMR 2011

# Clinical diagnosis of osteoporosis



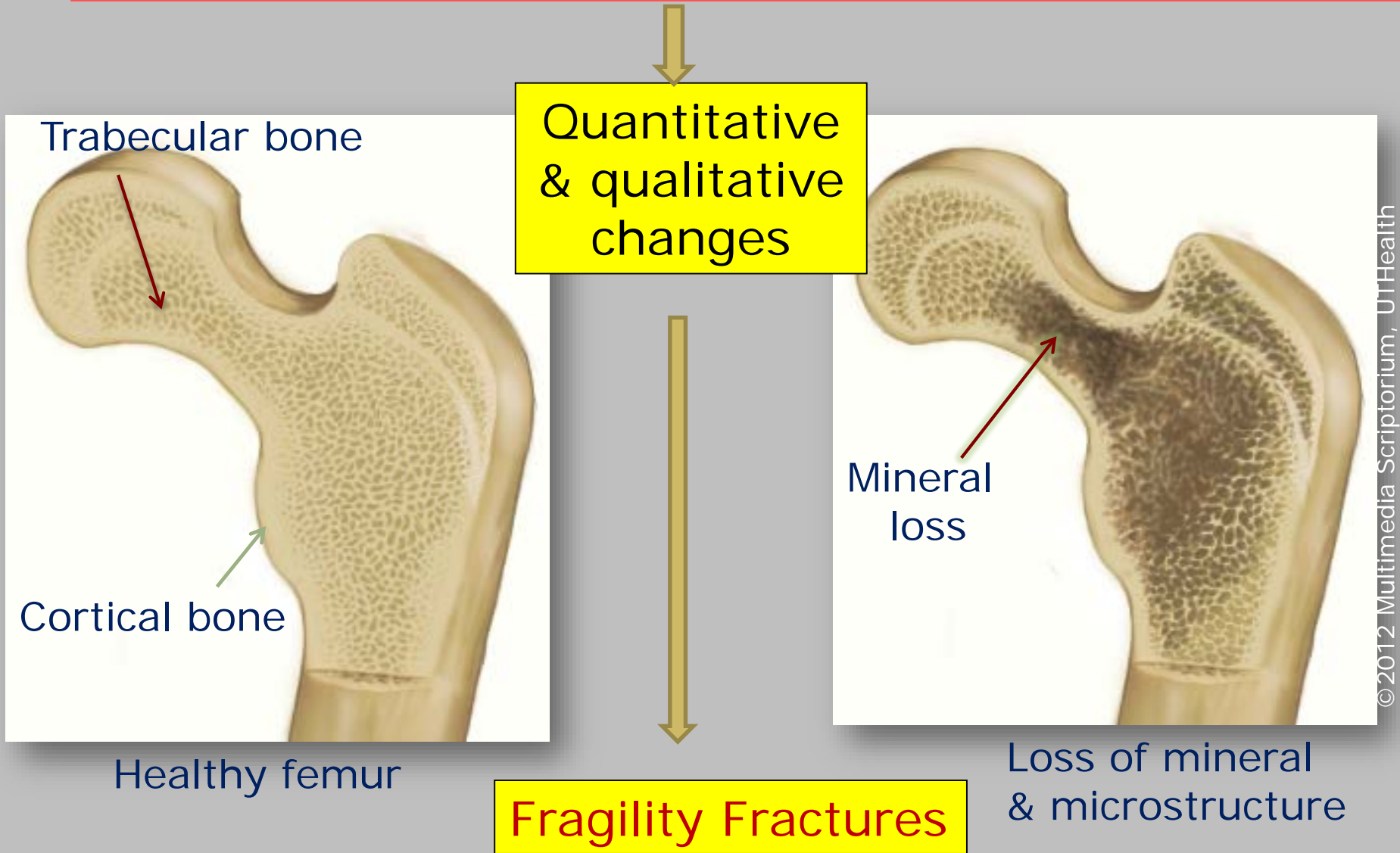
DEXA scan - Left hip



DXA scan - Lumbar spine

- Osteoporosis = A T- score of  $< -2.5$  for BMD
- Osteopenia = A T-score of  $-1$  to  $-2.5$  for BMD
- Usual sites for DXA is lumbar spine and left hip

# Osteoporotic bone





# Who should we screen: USPSTF

**Annals of Internal Medicine**



## SCREENING FOR OSTEOPOROSIS CLINICAL SUMMARY OF U.S. PREVENTIVE SERVICES TASK FORCE RECOMMENDATION

Population	Women aged $\geq 65$ years without previous known fractures or secondary causes of osteoporosis	Women aged $< 65$ years whose 10-year fracture risk is equal to or greater than that of a 65-year-old white woman without additional risk factors	Men without previous known fractures or secondary causes of osteoporosis
Recommendation	Screen		No recommendation
	Grade: B		Grade: I (insufficient evidence)
Risk Assessment	As many as 1 in 2 postmenopausal women and 1 in 5 older men are at risk for an osteoporosis-related fracture. Osteoporosis is common in all racial groups but is most common in white persons. Rates of osteoporosis increase with age. Elderly people are particularly susceptible to fractures. According to the FRAX fracture risk assessment tool, available at <a href="http://www.shef.ac.uk/FRAX/">www.shef.ac.uk/FRAX/</a> , the 10-year fracture risk in a 65-year-old white woman without additional risk factors is 9.3%.		
Screening Tests	Current diagnostic and treatment criteria rely on dual-energy x-ray absorptiometry of the hip and lumbar spine.		
Timing of Screening	Evidence is lacking about optimal intervals for repeated screening.		
Interventions	In addition to adequate calcium and vitamin D intake and weight-bearing exercise, multiple U.S. Food and Drug Administration–approved therapies reduce fracture risk in women with low bone mineral density and no previous fractures, including bisphosphonates, parathyroid hormone, raloxifene, and estrogen. The choice of treatment should take into account the patient's clinical situation and the tradeoff between benefits and harms. Clinicians should provide education about how to minimize drug side effects.		
Suggestions for Practice Regarding the I Statement for Men	<p>Clinicians should consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Potential preventable burden: increasing because of the aging of the U.S. population</li> <li>• Potential harms: likely to be small, mostly opportunity costs</li> <li>• Current practice: routine screening of men is not widespread</li> <li>• Costs: additional scanners are required to screen sizeable populations.</li> </ul> <p>Men most likely to benefit from screening have a 10-year risk for osteoporotic fracture equal to or greater than that of a 65-year-old white woman without risk factors. However, current evidence is insufficient to assess the balance of benefits and harms of screening for osteoporosis in men.</p>		

For a summary of the evidence systematically reviewed in making these recommendations, the full recommendation statement, and supporting documents, go to [www.uspreventiveservicestaskforce.org](http://www.uspreventiveservicestaskforce.org).

# Screening: other organizations

Organization	Recommendations	
	Women	men
NOF	BMD for all $\geq 65$ y & postmenopausal $< 65$ y, based on risk profile	BMD for all $\geq 70$ y & 50-69 y, based on risk profile
WHO	Indirect evidence supports screening for $\geq 65$ yo, but no direct evidence for widespread screening	
ACP		Older men at high risk & candidate for therapy
ACOG	BMD for all $\geq 65$ y & postmenopausal $< 65$ y who have $\geq 1$ risk factor	




# Problem with fracture prevention based on BMD/T-score

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- Fracture in patients with non-osteoporotic T score
- Assumptions that all older patients have high bone-turnover
- Unknown – What was baseline BMD before losing bone due to age
- Fracture before a screening DXA scan
- **WHO WILL HAVE A FRACTURE?**

# WHO Fracture Assessment Tool

www.shef.ac.uk/FRAX





## FRAX™ WHO Fracture Risk Assessment Tool

HOME   CALCULATION TOOL   PAPER CHARTS   FAQ   REFERENCES   Select a Language ▾

### Calculation Tool

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



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

**Questionnaire:**

1. Age (between 40-90 years) or Date of birth	10. Secondary osteoporosis	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
Age: <input type="text"/> Date of birth: <input type="text"/> Y: <input type="text"/> M: <input type="text"/> D: <input type="text"/>	11. Alcohol 3 more units per day	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
2. Sex <input type="radio"/> Male <input type="radio"/> Female	12. Femoral neck BMD	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>
3. Weight (kg) <input type="text"/>		<input type="text"/>
4. Height (cm) <input type="text"/>		<input type="text"/>
5. Previous fracture		<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
6. Parent fractured hip		<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
7. Current smoking		<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
8. Glucocorticoids		<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
9. Rheumatoid arthritis		<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes

**Weight Conversion:**  
pound:

**Height Conversion:**  
inch:

# FRAX risk factors

---

- Age (40-90), gender, height & weight, race/ethnicity
- Previous fracture
- Hip fracture in parents
- Current smoking
- Alcohol
- Glucocorticoids (oral)  $\geq$  3 months @ dose 5mg daily or more –
  - or equivalent doses of other glucocorticoids
- Rheumatoid arthritis
- 2ndary Osteoporosis
  - DM-I, OI in adults,
  - Untreated Hyper or Hypothyroidism,
  - Premature Menopause (<45 yrs),
  - Chronic malnutrition or malabsorption &
  - Chronic liver disease
- Bone mineral density (BMD)

# Who needs treatment? (Men & Women)

- Hx of hip fracture
- Other prior fractures & T-score between -1.0 to -2.5 @ fem. neck, total hip or spine
  - Height loss (vert. frac.)\*
- T-score  $\leq -2.5$  @ fem. neck, total hip or spine
- T-score between -1.0 to -2.5 @ fem. neck, total hip or spine **AND** 2ndary cause  $\uparrow$  risk of fracture
  - Steroid use, total immobilization, men w/androgen deprivation therapy
- T-score between -1.0 to -2.5 @ fem. neck, total hip or spine **AND** 10-yr probability of hip fracture  $\geq 3\%$  or any major osteoporosis-related fracture  $\geq 20\%$  (FRAX)



[www.nof.org/professionals/clinical-guidelines](http://www.nof.org/professionals/clinical-guidelines)

\* Hannan et al., 2012 JBMR

# Treatment Options

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- **Antiresorptives**
- Bisphosphonates
  - **Oral**
    - Alendronate 10 mg qd or 70 mg wkly
    - Risedronate 5 mg qd or 35 mg wkly or 150 mg/mo
      - Ibandronate 150 mg/mo
  - **Intra-venous**
    - Zoledronic acid 5 mg/yr
- Denosumab
  - **60 mcg sc/q 6**
    - Humanized monoclonal antibody
- Calcium (1000-1200 mg) + Vitamin D (800-1000 IU daily)
- **Anabolics**
- Teriparatide
  - **20 mcg sq daily**
    - Recombinant human PTH (not >2 yrs)
    - Contra-indicated in cancer patients)
- Abaloparatide
  - **80 mcg sq daily**
    - human PTHrP analog (not >2 yrs)
    - Not recommended for patients at risk of skeletal malignancies

# Hormones as Treatment Options

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- SERM
  - Raloxifene – not commonly used because it increases risk of DVT & increased hot flashes
- Testosterone
  - If hypogonadism is the cause of osteoporosis
  - Caution if history of prostate cancer
- Estrogen/Progestin
  - Not encouraged due to increased risk of breast cancer, stroke, DVT and coronary diseases

# Adverse events/Tx Failure?: What to offer next

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- For Bisphosphonates:
  - Atypical fracture
  - Jaw necrosis
  - Severe GERD/gastritis or GI bleed
  - Unimproved BMD despite treatment
  - Fracture while being on tx
- Alternate options
  - Switch to other agents
- Intervention
  - Drug holiday
  - Monitor with DXA/1-2 yrs
  - Monitor bone markers/yr

# Calcium and Vitamin D

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## ■ Calcium

- 1000-1200 mg daily
- Consider intake with diet

## ■ Formulation:

- Carbonate (with meal)
- Citrate (fasting state)

## ■ Vitamin D

- Screen at risk patients
- Check 25 hydroxy vitamin D total
- Recommended level 30 ng/dl

## ■ Ergo/Chole-calciferol

- 800-1000 IU daily
- Unless <30 – then 50000 IU q weekly for 8-12 wks



# Monitoring Treatment Success

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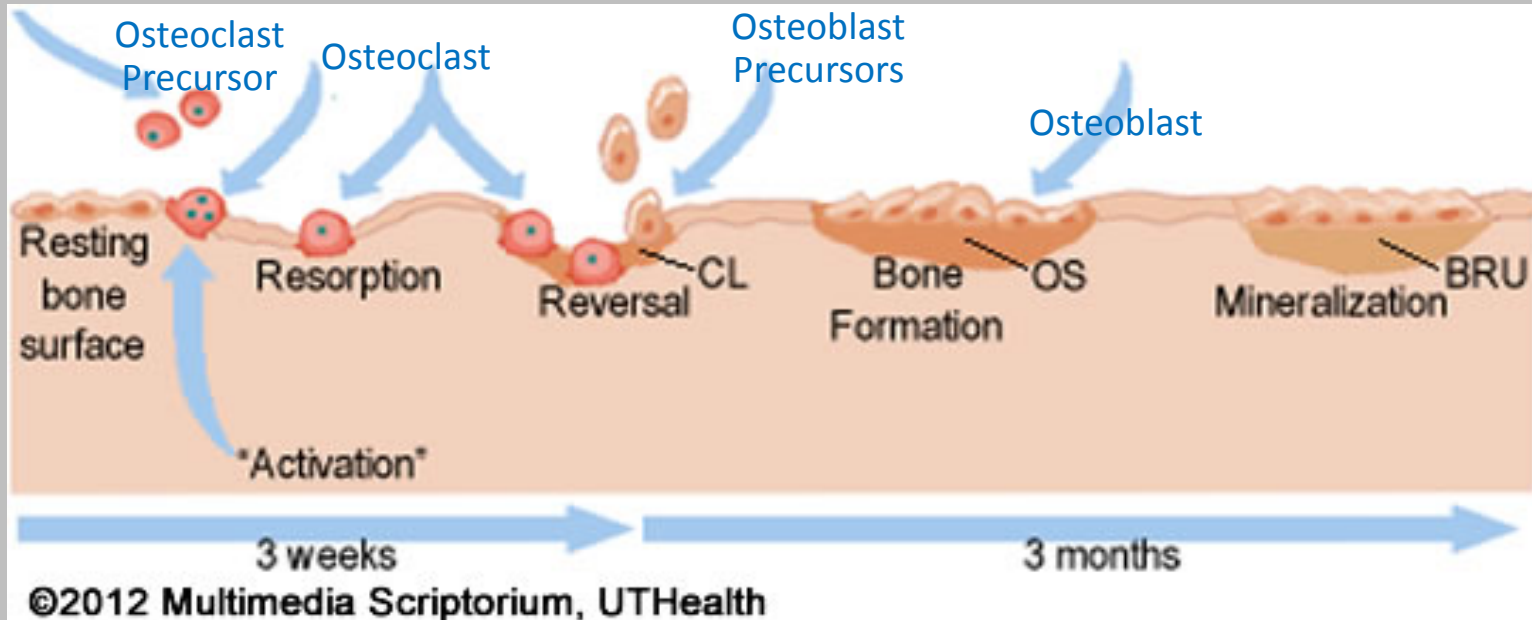
## DXA Acquired BMD

- Stable or improved BMD
- Loss of BMD  $< \%CV$  showing no significant change over mechanical drift from QA report for DXA machine

## Bone Markers

- Suppression of Bone markers
  - Both formation and resorption markers

# Physiology- Normal State



LEGEND: LC = Lining Cells    CL = Cement Line    OS = Osteoid    BRU = Bone Remodeling Unit

## Normal Bone Remodeling Sequence

Resorption = Formation    No change in bone mass

# Pathogenesis: Unbalanced Remodeling

Resorption > Formation



Net bone loss

Inadequate calcium or vitamin D

Menopause

Aging

Medications or diseases

Osteoporosis

Normal Bone Structure



©2012 Multimedia Scriptorium, UTHealth



©2012 Multimedia Scriptorium, UTHealth

Osteoporotic Bone Structure

# Bone Markers

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## Formation

- Serum bone specific alkaline phosphatase (BAP) (5.6-29 mcg/L)
- Serum pro-collagen type 1 amino-terminal propeptide (P1NP) (20-108 mcg/ml)
- Osteocalcin (8-32 ng/ml)

## Resorption

- Serum C-terminal cross-linking telopeptide of type I collages (CTX)
- Urine N-terminal cross-linking telopeptide of type I collagen (NTX)
  - **2<sup>nd</sup> void sample in the AM** (4-64 nmol BCE/mmol creatinine)

# Case 1

85 year old CF, BMI 21, lost about 4" since age 30s, no hx of cancer/known previous fx/other 2ndary risk of osteop, no known FHx of osteop or hip fx in parents, former smoker, social drinker, exercises regularly, hx of tx for osteoporosis w/ bisphosphonates for 14 yrs w/o much improvement in BMD. DXA acquired femur neck T scores since 1997 were:

T score Fem Neck	Year
-2.1	1997
-2.2	2006
-2.1	2008
-2.0	2010
Change from baseline was +2.0%	
DXA was done using the same machine at the same place	

U-NTX 18, P1NP 11, Vit D, Calc, PTH, Mg & Phos WNR.

➤ **What would you do at this point?**

# Do we know it all

---

- **WHO WILL HAVE A FRACTURE?**
- **WHICH MEDICATION SHOULD BE USED?**
- Limited options to treat
- First line agents- antiresorptive – new discussions on anabolic to be first line
- How and when to switch medications
- No clinical guidelines for starting treatment based on BTM status
- Concern - Lost to f/u & low rates of f/u

# Gaps in current clinical practice: Opportunities to improve care

---

- aBMD offers information regarding the quantity of mineral in bone
  - Structure, material composition, turnover
  - 50% postmenopausal women with fragility fracture have “normal DXA BMD”
- High fracture risk in patients with chronic diseases, e.g., DMII, who have high BMD
  - How to think about older patients with osteoporosis and chronic diseases
    - ❖ Screening, Diagnosis, Treatment, Prevention

# Chronic diseases

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- HTN, DMII – common chronic diseases
  - Differences in metabolic changes
    - HTN – most likely similar to age-related changes but enhanced process
      - ❖ Low BMD
    - CAD – common risk factors
      - ❖ Low BMD
    - DMII – opposite of what is known as changes associated with normal aging
      - ❖ Normal or high BMD
  - Lack of preventive guidelines
  - Lack of clinical data to guide treatment methods



# Medications – risks/benefits

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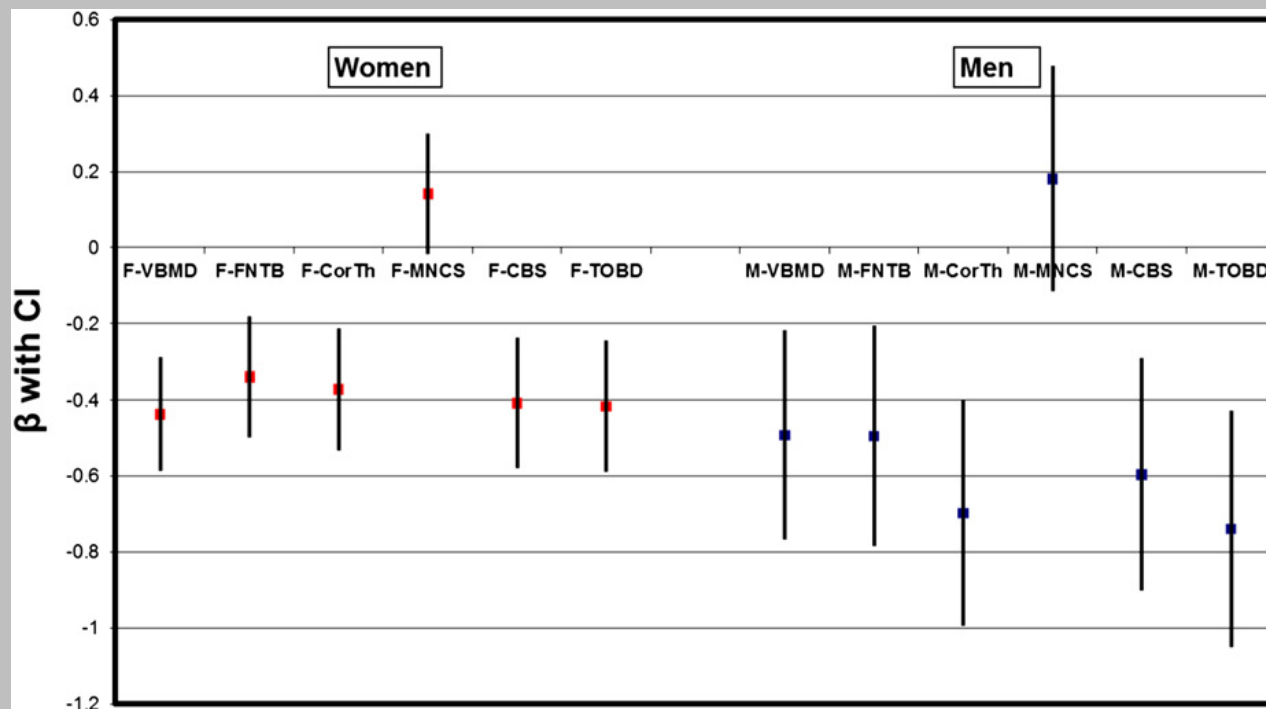
- Risk of bone loss –
  - Antidepressants, e.g., SSRI – inconclusive
  - Anti-seizure – inconclusive
  - Anti-diabetics, e.g., Thiazolidinedione
    - Inconclusive guidelines – Gap in clinical research
- Beneficial –
  - Anti-hypertensives, e.g., ACEi/ARBs – early stages of translational research
  - Anti-cholesterol, e.g., statins
    - Lack of clinical data for treatment guidelines

# Research

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- Structural aspect
  - QCT/Finite element analysis
  - Ultrasound/acoustic bone measures
  - Trabecular Bone Score (TBS), using DXA scans
- Organic matrix, material composition
  - Raman spectroscopy (iRS)
- Serum or urine measurements of bone metabolism
  - Bone turnover
  - Clinical parameters for geriatric population
  - Cost
  - Knowledge

# Fracture Risk Assessment in Older Adults Using a Combination of Selected Quantitative Computed Tomography Bone Measures: A Subanalysis of the Age, Gene/Environment Susceptibility-Reykjavik Study



Rianon et al., 2013  
 - Associations between DXA BMD & other QCT acquired measures including BMD was not significantly different from each other to add any beneficial outcomes in fracture risk assessment in the older adults

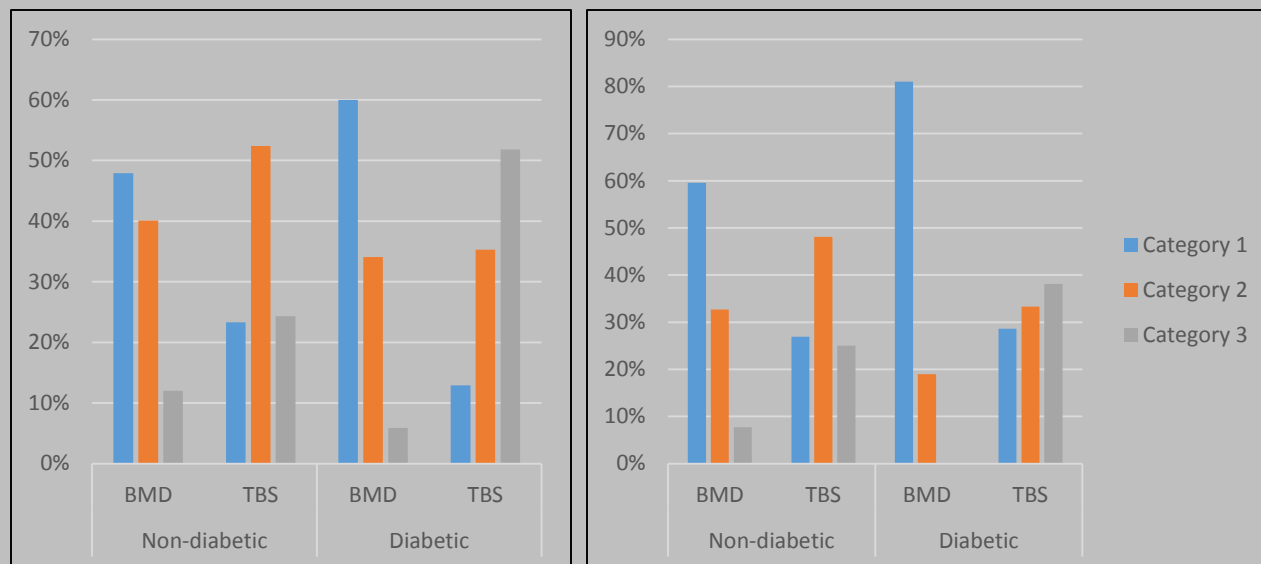
*Journal of Clinical Densitometry: Assessment of Skeletal Health*, vol. ■, no. ■, 1–7, 2013  
 © Copyright 2013 by The International Society for Clinical Densitometry

# Trabecular Bone Score

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- The trabecular bone score (TBS), a texture parameter that measures the grey-scale variation within DXA images & significantly correlates with the 3-dimensional (3D) bone microarchitecture parameters Silva et al., *JBMR*, 2014
- TBS derived from DXA images - useful tool in predicting future fracture risk

# Distributions of TBS and DXA categories in older women & men



Xue et al., 2017

## TBS:

Category 1 = normal

Category 2 = partially degraded microarchitecture

Category 3 = degraded microarchitecture

## BMD:

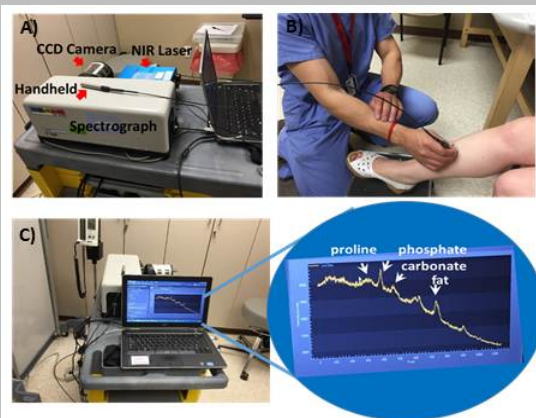
Category 1 = normal (t-score  $\geq -1.0$ )

Category 2 = low bone mass (t-score between  $-2.5$  &  $-1.0$ )

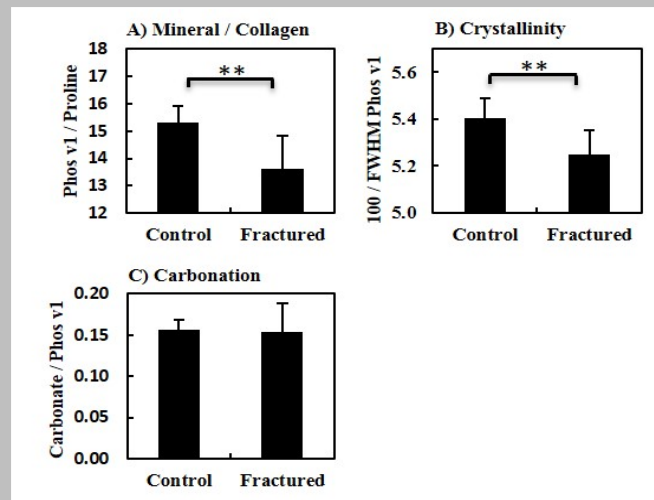
Category 3 = osteoporosis (t-score  $\leq -2.5$ )

# *in-vivo* Raman spectroscopy (iRS)

- Transcutaneous iRS, a vibrational spectroscopy technique
- Assesses bone mineral & matrix collagen; provides specific molecular information on compositional properties through which quality can be determined
- Compositional quality indicators correlate with bone metabolic markers & complementary to DXA <sup>Bi et al., 2017</sup>

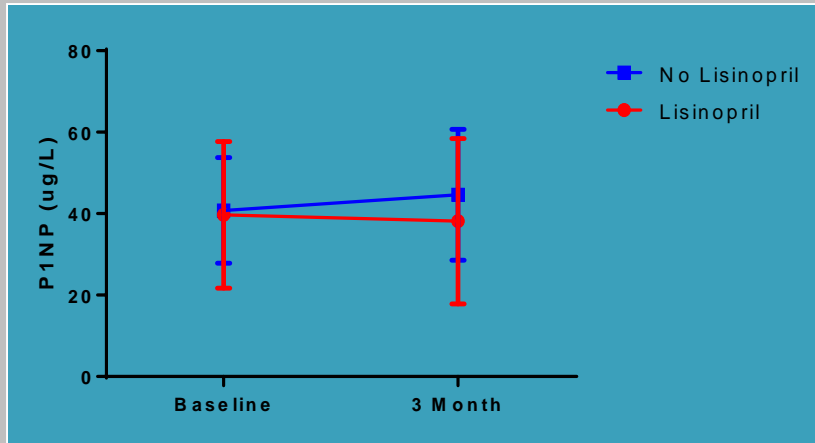


The portable iRS system



Bi et al., 2017 -  
Raman spectral markers for bone quality:  
Comparison between fracture & non-fracture groups ( $p < 0.01$ )

# Mean (95% CI) changes in bone turnover after ACEi exposure for 3-months



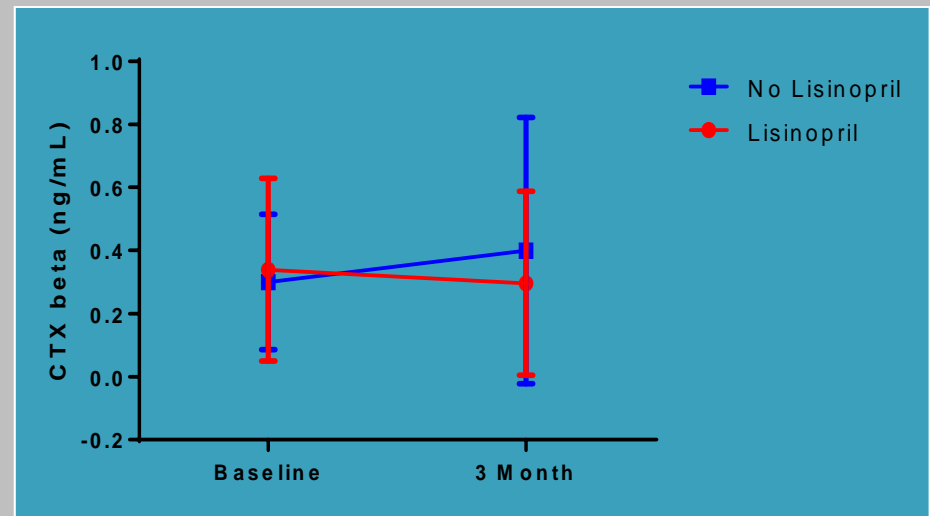
- ❖ Age  $57 \pm 7$  years
- ❖ BMI  $27 \pm 5$  kg/m<sup>2</sup>
- ❖ 25-hydroxyvitamin D was  $66 \pm 17$  nmol/L
- ❖ PTH  $30 \pm 13$  pg/ml.

After Lisinopril treatment:

- ❖  $11 \pm 27\%$  ↓ in CTX
- ❖  $5\% \pm 15\%$  ↓ in P1NP.

No Lisinopril group

- ❖  $41\% \pm 73\%$  ↑ in CTX
- ❖  $10\% \pm 22\%$  ↑ in P1NP



# Clinical setting vs. Research setting: Screening, diagnosing & monitoring

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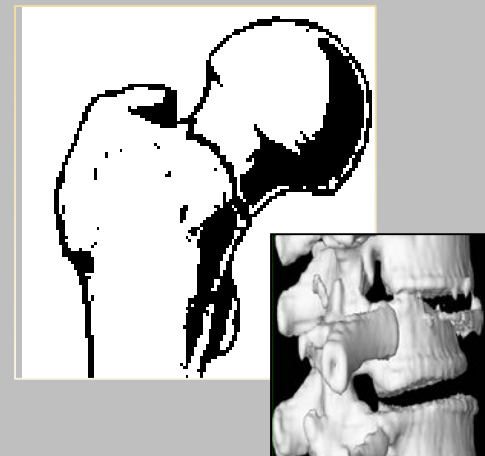
- QCT – not readily available
- Acoustic measures – not a gold standard and no standard re-imburement policy
- iRS – great potential for clinical use
  - Needs further research
  - We are continuing research
- Bone metabolic work up
  - Some clinical use in practice
  - Needs further research
  - We are continuing our research



# Clinical setting vs. Research setting: Treatment & Prevention

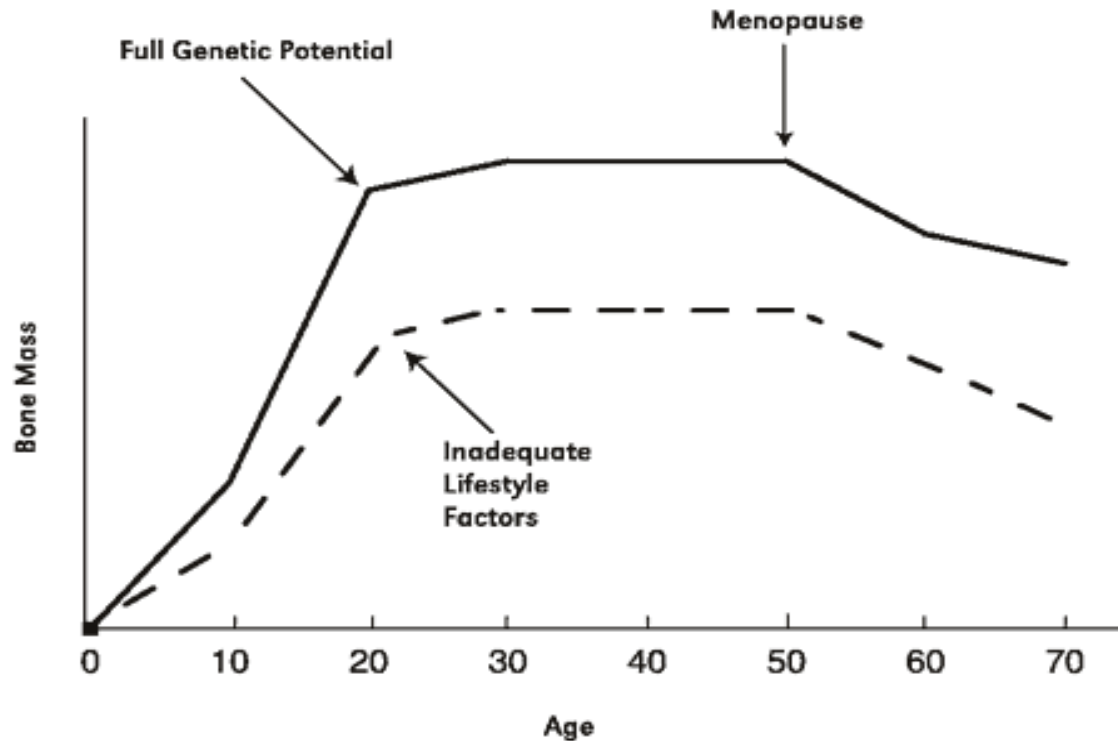
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- New medications in pipeline
- Continue research on non-bone medications to prevent bone loss in older adults suffering from both osteoporosis and chronic diseases, e.g., HTN, DMII, CAD



# Prevention: Aim at early age

Figure 6-2. Bone Mass Versus Age With Optimal and Suboptimal Bone Acquisition



Source: Based on Heaney et al. 2000.

# Prevention

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- Weight bearing exercise
  - Stimulates bone formation
  - 2.5 to 4 hours/wk of moderate to severe intensity physical activity
- Calcium and Vitamin D
  - Regular supplemental required dose
- Non-skeletal Environmental/Behavioral
  - Fall prevention
    - Improve balance & gait-PT/OT
  - Smoking cessation
  - Avoid risk level alcohol use
  - Avoid back flexion >45 degrees in patients with risk of or hx of vertebral fracture
- FLS (Fracture Liaison Services)
  - Network within the clinic, or group of providers

# Take Home Message

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- Osteoporosis is a progressive & chronic metabolic bone disease that decreases bone density with deterioration of bone structure.
- Clinical Diagnosis = T- score of  $< -2.5$  for BMD
- Prevention & treatment with a comprehensive and individualized approach.
- Goal oriented treatment plan – follow chronic disease management guidelines

# Thank You!

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# Questions?