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BONESOURCE ALERT

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December 2020 Issue

NOF UPDATES



BoneSource®, NOF's professional program, promotes excellence in clinical care for all healthcare professionals involved in the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of osteoporosis. Through the BoneSource website, we offer a variety of programs, tools, and resources to meet the unique needs of healthcare professionals who provide bone health care. Join NOF as a professional member to gain full access to BoneSource.

Visit [BoneSource®](https://www.bonesource.org)

NOF Membership

NOF members are at the forefront of patient care and the first to receive breaking news, research updates, practice tools, patient education materials, and notification of public comment opportunities

BONE HEALTH RESOURCES

ECHO SESSIONS



NOF FLS Bone Health TeleECHO

Join us for the FLS Bone Health ECHO (Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes) project sessions that take place the second Thursday of each month, from 3-4pm Eastern. These one-hour Tele ECHO Clinic sessions offer case-based clinical discussions on a wide range of topics of interest. By participating, you'll receive free CME, connect with experts in the field, share case studies, and much more!

Upcoming FLS Bone Health ECHO sessions:

related to important government initiatives. Membership in NOF will help build your practice, keep your team informed, provide CME credits, and allow you access to key osteoporosis experts.

For more information on professional membership, please [click here](#).

Healthy Bones/Healthy Communities

The Healthy Bones/Healthy Communities training program engages a national medical cohort focused on osteoporosis and healthy bones, targeting the educational and support needs of family physicians, internists, and advanced practice providers. The content focuses on calcium and phosphate metabolism; bone biology; physiology, pathophysiology, and related disorders; and osteoporosis epidemiology, diagnosis and management.

Through the program, our goal is to train a minimum of 10 family practice, internal medicine, and/or obstetrics/gynecology providers per community in 8-10 cities across the country.

The program began in 2019 and took place in-person in Houston, TX and Boston, MA.

This year, the program was implemented in a virtual format in Spokane, WA and Columbus, OH.

Using a teach one/train one model, each physician in attendance is responsible for reaching out to 10 colleagues in his/her region to share information about osteoporosis, bringing the educational cohort to a total of 1,000 healthcare providers over the period of the program.

NOF thanks Amgen for its support of the Healthy Bones/Healthy Communities project!

The COVID-19 Vaccine Education and Equity Project

NOF is proud to be one of the more than 60 groups partnering in the COVID-19

Thursday, January 14, 2020, 3:00 - 4:00PM Eastern

Speaker: Cesar Rodriguez, MD
Topic: Abnormal SPEP, MGUS, Multiple Myeloma and Osteoporosis Treatments

Thursday, February 11, 2020, 3:00 - 4:00PM Eastern

Speaker: Andrea Fox, PA-Cr
Topic: TBD

Thursday, March 11, 2021, 3:00 - 4:00PM Eastern

Speaker: Kristyn Hare, PA-C
Topic: Building an FLS and Lessons Learned

[Sign up here to join our email list](#) and receive information on FLS ECHO sessions as they are planned.

Bone Health TeleECHO

Despite the availability of treatments proven to reduce fracture risk and the accumulating evidence that osteoporosis treatment can prolong life, osteoporosis remains underdiagnosed and undertreated. Only about 20 percent of patients with hip fractures receive treatment to reduce the risk of future fractures.

Each week, through the Bone Health TeleECHO, bone health experts and other clinicians from around the world come together to listen to a brief didactic in the latest topics in bone health and discuss complex cases around treating patients with osteoporosis and other bone disorders. The Bone Health TeleECHO aims to improve the care of patients with osteoporosis and reduce the osteoporosis treatment gap.

To register, please [click here](#).

MNI Great Lakes ECHO

The Michigan Neurosurgical Institute (MNI) Great Lakes ECHO branch is one

Vaccine Education and Equity Project, a new effort to promote vaccines, increase vaccination rates and reach vulnerable communities.

The Pfizer-funded project includes a [new website](#) and will convene a discussion among groups that are fighting COVID-19 on the frontlines.

[Learn More about the Project and How to Join](#)

ADVOCACY UPDATE



National Bone Health Policy Institute

NOF's [Bone Health Policy Institute](#) has been moving forward on action steps after the release of our Economic and Human Impact of Osteoporosis report commissioned by NOF and conducted by the actuarial firm, Milliman.

This year, the Coalition to Strengthen Bone Health has almost finished the state-based fracture report with the actuarial firm, Milliman and was successful in getting osteoporosis and FLS included in the Senate Appropriations Committee Report to CMS. 2020 activities included sending a congressional appropriations letter sent to leaders on the Hill, awareness for National Osteoporosis Month, and COVID-19 resources and responses.

NOF also sent comment letters to the Trump and Biden campaigns alerting them to the crisis in osteoporosis. The letters are available on the Policy Institute website here:

of the first ECHO providers in the state of Michigan. The Great Lakes ECHO brings better care to patients across the country using new methods made possible by modern technology.

To register, email: MNIGreatLakesEcho@gmail.com

Own the Bone® Orthopaedic Bone Health ECHO®

The Own the Bone® Orthopaedic Bone Health ECHO® aims to grow and share bone health knowledge and skills among orthopaedic providers in order to reduce the incidence of fragility fractures and positively impact bone health treatment.

Each month, a panel of experts will host participants on a videoconferencing platform (Zoom) to discuss current topics related to bone health and to initiate a dialogue around patient cases presented by participants. These "teleECHO® clinics" are multidisciplinary and interactive, so participants are encouraged to learn and also share their knowledge and experiences. To register, please [click here](#).

Rare Bone Disease TeleECHO

The Osteogenesis Imperfecta (OI) Foundation and the Rare Bone Disease Alliance are excited to announce the Rare Bone Disease Tele ECHO Series.

Now in its second year, the goal of this educational program is to build capacity to safely and effectively diagnose and treat rare bone diseases and disorders.

The Rare Bone Disease TeleECHO takes place the first Thursday of every month at 3:00 PM Eastern.

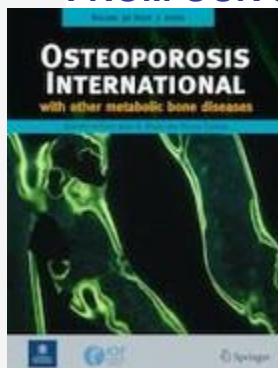
[Register here.](#)

Osteogenesis Imperfecta (OI) TeleECHO

[Letter to President Donald J. Trump](#)
[Letter to the Honorable Joseph Biden](#)

NOF is grateful to the individual donors and corporations who provide support for the National Bone Health Policy Institute, including Amgen Inc. and UCB, Inc.

FROM OUR JOURNALS



[Partical Disease: a Unique Case of Hypercalcemia](#)

J. Zhang & D.E. Sellmeyer

Summary

Hypercalcemia as a result of ectopic 1, 25-dihydroxyvitamin D (1,25-(OH)₂ D) production has been well-described in sarcoidosis and other granulomatous diseases. The 1-alpha-hydroxylase enzyme in activated macrophages is not subject to physiologic regulations, resulting in hypercalcemia with inappropriately normal or elevated 1,25-(OH)₂ D. Particle disease is the local inflammatory response provoked by an overwhelming production of wear debris from a failed joint prosthesis. Enhanced focal bone resorption in particle disease has been described due to local production of inflammatory cytokines. However, this process previously has not been reported to cause hypercalcemia.

The OI Foundation is excited to announce the OI TeleECHO Clinic Series. The educational program aims to build capacity to safely and effectively treat osteogenesis imperfecta.

The series takes place the second Wednesday of every month at 3:00 PM Eastern.

[Register here.](#)

BONE EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES



[Reach MD Boning Up on Osteoporosis Podcasts](#)

The Boning Up on Osteoporosis podcast series explores the latest strategies to improve the way we approach osteoporosis, in addition to outlining how we can help those at-risk reverse the effects and maintain strong, healthy bones.

Podcasts in the series include:

[The Prevalence of Osteoporosis in the Hispanic Community](#)

[Understanding Osteoporosis-Related Bone Fractures](#)

[Part One of Two Episodes: How the Top Osteoporosis Research is Advancing Care](#)

[Part Two of Two Episodes: Key](#)

We describe a patient with hypercalcemia, low parathyroid hormone levels, and elevated 1,25-(OH)₂D whose failed prosthetic joint generated a large amount of inflammatory debris, forming a soft tissue mass with lymphadenopathy. Biopsy of the mass demonstrated activated macrophages and foreign body granuloma, resulting in unregulated production of 1,25-(OH)₂D and hypercalcemia.

[Is there a role for menopausal hormone therapy in the management of postmenopausal osteoporosis?](#)

S. Rozenberg, N. Al-Dahgri, M. Aubertin-Leheudre, M.L. Brandi, A. Cano, M. Collins, C. Cooper, A.R. Genazzani, T. Hillard, J.A. Kanis, J.M. Kaufman, I. Lambrinouadaki, A. Laslop, E. McCloskey, S. Palacios, D. Prieto-Alhambra, J.Y. Reginster, R. Rizzoli, G. Rosano, F. Tremollieres, & N.C. Harvey

Summary

We provide an evidence base and guidance for the use of menopausal hormone therapy (MHT) for the maintenance of skeletal health and prevention of future fractures in recently menopausal women. Despite controversy over associated side effects, which has limited its use in recent decades, the potential role for MHT soon after menopause in the management of postmenopausal osteoporosis is increasingly recognized.

We present a narrative review of the benefits versus risks of using MHT in the management of postmenopausal osteoporosis.

Overall, the benefit-risk profile supports MHT treatment in women who have recently (< 10 years) become menopausal, who have menopausal symptoms and who are less than 60 years old, with a low baseline risk for adverse events. MHT

[Prevention & Treatment Strategies for Osteoporosis](#)

[Osteoporosis Update: Keys to Improving Diagnosis & Preventing Fractures](#)

[Shattering Myths about Osteoporosis](#)

International Paget's Awareness Day - January 11, 2021

With the theme, "The Treatment Story: Past, Present and Future," International Paget's Awareness Day 2021 will focus on the important topic of treatment, its history, and the research changing how Paget's disease may be managed in the future.

[Find out how you can help make Paget's Awareness Day 2021 a success by raising awareness and educating others.](#)

24th Annual Symposium of the American Society of Spine Radiology

The 24th Annual Symposium of the American Society of Spine Radiology (ASSR) will be held virtually from February 19-21, 2021. The core mission of the ASSR is to continue expanding scientific and clinical diagnostic and interventional knowledge in acute and chronic spinal disease in adults and children.

Several collaborative sessions with other societies are planned for the 2021 symposium. For the first time, the National Osteoporosis Foundation and the AASR will co-brand a session called **The Osteoporosis Treatment Gap** to educate participants about this terrible disease.

[Register Now.](#)

The United States Bone and Joint Initiative (USBJI) and Bone and Joint Canada Young Investigator Initiative Grant Mentoring and Career Development Program

should be considered as an option for the maintenance of skeletal health in women, specifically as an additional benefit in the context of treatment of menopausal symptoms, when commenced at the menopause, or shortly thereafter, in the context of a personalized benefit-risk evaluation.

[Frequency of normal bone measurement in postmenopausal women with fracture: a registry-based cohort study](#)

N. Binkley, S.N. Morin, P. Martineau, L.M. Lix, D.Hans, & W.D. Leslie

Summary

This registry-based cohort study assessed the percentage of women with prior or incident fracture who had normal bone defined as normal bone mineral density T-score and normal trabecular bone score (TBS). Inclusion of TBS reduced the percentage with normal bone. Normal bone measurement is rare in women with fracture.

Spring Program -- April 23-25, 2021 in Rosemont, IL (Chicago) DEADLINE FOR APPLICATION SUBMISSIONS: January 15, 2021

The USBJI and Bone and Joint Canada are dedicated to increasing research of musculoskeletal diseases. In response, the Young Investigator Initiative is a grant mentoring program providing early-career investigators an opportunity to work with experienced researchers to assist them in securing funding and other survival skills required for pursuing an academic career.

To date, 276 participants (60%) have successfully obtained \$522 million in grants for 1,785 new musculoskeletal research studies. Participants consider this program instrumental to their success. They rate highly the one-on-one mentoring with experienced researchers, the opportunity for interdisciplinary and peer-to-peer exchange, and collaborations established during workshops.

[Click Here to Learn More and Apply](#)

Educational Resources

Professional Learning Center

NOF is committed to supporting healthcare professionals and your continuing education needs.

NOF provides a variety of continuing medical education programs for professionals. The [Professional Learning Center](#) offers a single place for you to participate in bone health education programs as well as track your participation to meet your licensure and professional requirements.

Visit the [Professional Learning Center](#) to learn more and participate in sessions.

FLS Coding Guide

NOF's Fracture Liaison Service (FLS) Coding Guide provides details on currently available quality and value-based codes to help offset costs for FLS implementation in various settings. This is a general guide offering a broad overview to help get you started. Please refer to your individual institution for more details.

Proper coding is vitally important as reimbursement for services can vary on the state and/or specialty as the type of provider who bills for and performs the service. In order to ensure that you are being fully reimbursed and remain in compliance with payer requirements, we recommend that you discuss the codes that are the best fit for your FLS with your FLS billing specialist.

This coding guide was made available in part thanks to a grant from Amgen.

[Download the 2020 FLS Coding Guide](#)

Vertebral Compression Fracture Bundle 2019-2020

Thanks to an educational grant from Medtronic, NOF's Professional Learning Center offers the Vertebral Compression Fracture Bundle 2019-2021. [This bundle](#) includes informative activities to help identify, understand and manage vertebral fractures.

Healthy Bones for Life Guides

The purpose of this [osteoporosis clinician training guide](#) is to provide clinicians and health educators with an outline to guide conversations with patients about their skeletal health and provide information about treatment and fracture prevention. Along with the clinician's guide, there is a [patient training guide](#) to help patients talk with the members of their healthcare team about keeping their skeletons strong and improving their bone health.

[Download the Patient Guide](#)

[Download the Clinician Guide](#)

SUPPORT NOF

For more than 35 years, the National Osteoporosis Foundation (NOF) has been committed to preventing osteoporosis and promoting awareness about bone health. We greatly appreciate the healthcare professionals who work tirelessly to help prevent debilitating and deadly fractures, the caregivers who support patients with osteoporosis, and especially our generous donors who support our mission. You make our work possible and we would really appreciate it if you would consider making a [year end gift to support NOF](#).

We depend on the generosity of individuals across the country to educate the public and health professionals on ways to prevent, diagnose and treat osteoporosis. Generosity comes in many forms, and it is often the best way for you to support the important causes that matter most to you. When you give to National Osteoporosis Foundation, you help us make a difference. If you would like to find out more about how you can help NOF with its fundraising efforts, please contact our CEO, Claire Gill, at claire.gill@nof.org.