

XXI CONGRESSO NAZIONALE GISMO

LE NUOVE FRONTIERE DELLE MALATTIE
METABOLICHE DELL'OSSO

Presidente GISMO

Ranuccio Nuti

Presidente Congresso

Fabio Vescini

UDINE

14 | 15 NOVEMBRE 2025



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15/nov/2025

13.00

Farmaci per l'osteoporosi nelle malattie reumatiche
Angelo Fassio



Angelo Fassio

Rheumatology Unit- Verona. Italy

angelo.fassio@aovr.veneto.it

- Boehringer Ingelheim



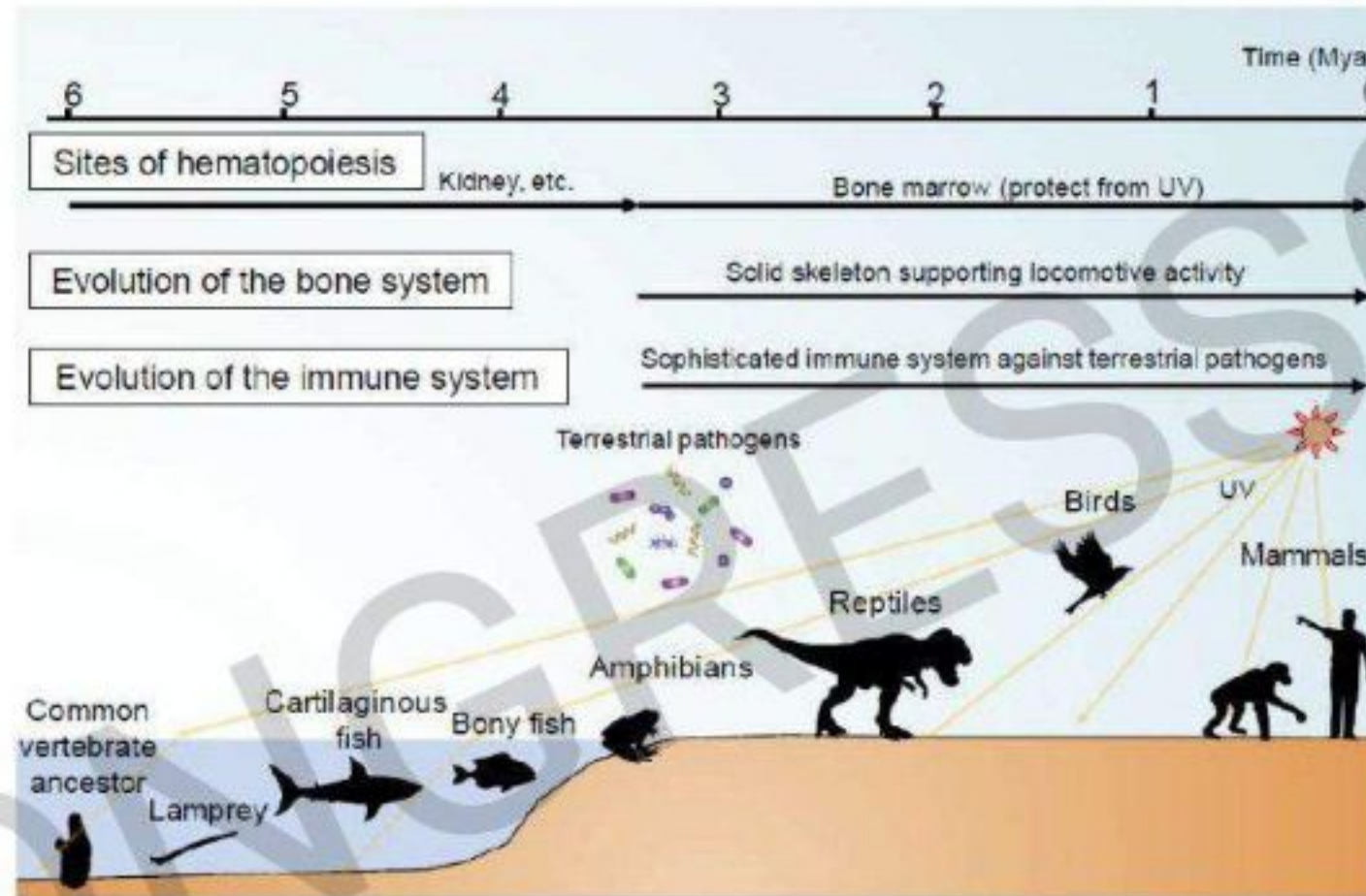
CONGRESSO

The osteoimmune system

Proc. Jpn. Acad., Ser. B 96 (2020)

Osteoimmunology — Bidirectional dialogue and inevitable union
of the fields of bone and immunity —

By Hiroshi TAKAYANAGI^{*1,†}



Inflammation

Bone

The **bone** and **immune systems** developed synchronously

Effects of targeted therapies on bone in rheumatic and musculoskeletal diseases

Boglárka Soós¹, Ágnes Szentpétery^{1,2}, Hennie G. Raterman³, Willem F. Lems⁴, Harjit P. Bhattoa^{5,6} and Zoltán Szekanecz^{1,6}✉

Inflammatory rheumatic and musculoskeletal diseases (RMDs), such as rheumatoid arthritis (RA) and spondyloarthritis (SpA; including ankylosing spondylitis (AS) and psoriatic arthritis (PsA)), as well as other arthritides, have been associated with both **generalized** osteoporosis and fragility fractures, as well as with **localized** inflammatory bone resorption (erosions) and/or pathological bone formation^{1–7}.

1823

L'acqua calda è stata **scoperta** solo nel 1823, da Sara Vellone, al tempo sessantaquattrenne. 1 nov 2021

https://nonciclopedia.org/wiki/Scoperta_dell'acqua_calda

[Scoperta dell'acqua calda - Nonciclopedia](#)

Peer review information

Nature Reviews Rheumatology thanks A. Fassio, S. Manske, C. Zerbini and the other, anonymous, reviewer(s) for their contribution to the peer review of this work.

AR = fattore di rischio maggiore per OP



Country: **US (Caucasian)**

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/cm²)

Select BMD

Clear

Calculate

The negative bone effects of the disease and of chronic corticosteroid treatment in premenopausal women affected by rheumatoid arthritis

A. Fassio, L. Idolazzi, M.A. Jaber, C. Dartizio, O. Viapiana, M. Rossini, D. Gatti

Reumatismo, 2016; 68 (2): 65-71

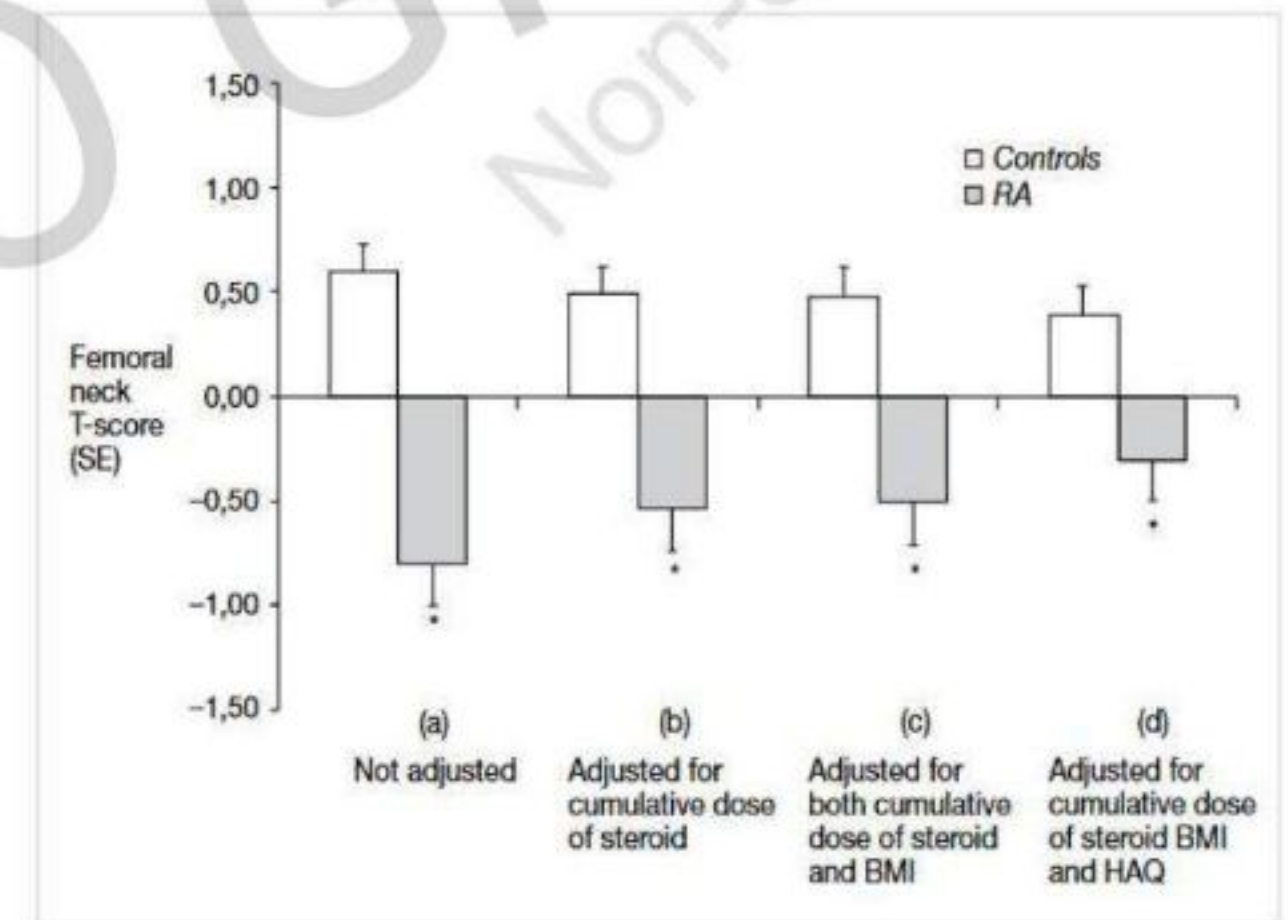
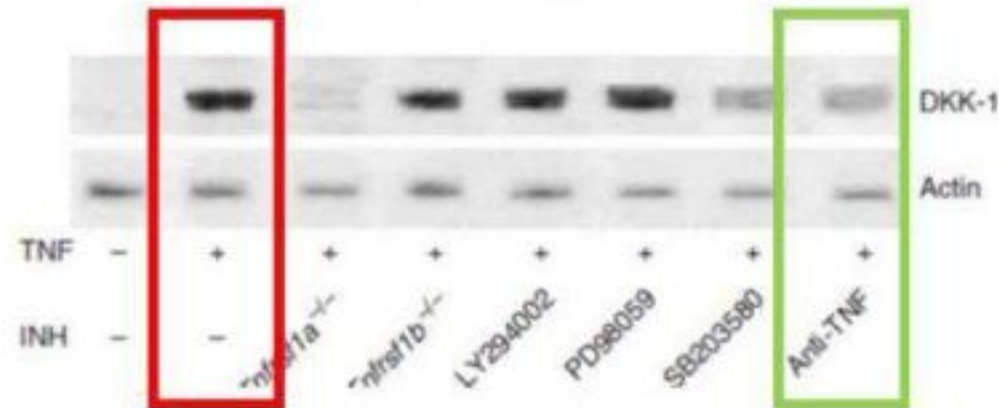


Figure 2 - Mean femoral neck T-score values (±SE) both un-adjusted and adjusted (see figure for adjusting variables) in patients with rheumatoid arthritis and controls. *P<0.05 vs control subjects.

TNF α , Dkk-1 and RANKL in RA

Dickkopf-1 is a master regulator of joint remodeling

Danielle Diarra^{1,2,5}, Marina Stolina^{5,5}, Karin Polzer¹, Jochen Zverina¹, Michael S Ominsky⁵, Denise Dwyer¹, Adelheid Korb², Josef Smolen², Markus Hoffmann², Clemens Scheinecker², Désirée van der Heide¹, Robert Landewe⁴, Dave Lacey³, William G Richards³ & Georg Schett^{1,2}



VOLUME 13 | NUMBER 2 | FEBRUARY 2007 **NATURE MEDICINE**

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Osteoprotegerin and RANKL in the pathogenesis of rheumatoid arthritis-induced osteoporosis

Shengqian Xu · Yu Wang · Jingqiu Lu · Jianhua Xu

Rheumatol Int (2012) 32:3397–3403

Review

The serum level of Dickkopf-1 in patients with rheumatoid arthritis: A systematic review and meta-analysis

Yubo Ma^{a,b,1}, Xu Zhang^{a,b,1}, Mengmeng Wang^{a,b}, Qing Xia^{a,b}, Jialia Yang^{a,b}, Meng Wu^{a,b}, Renfang Han^{a,b}, Mengya Chen^{a,b}, Xingxing Hu^{a,b}, Yaping Yuan^{a,b}, Rui Liu^{a,b}, Guangming Jiang^{a,b}, Guixia Pan^{a,b}, Yanfeng Zou^{a,b}, Shengqian Xu^c, Faming Pan^{a,b,*}

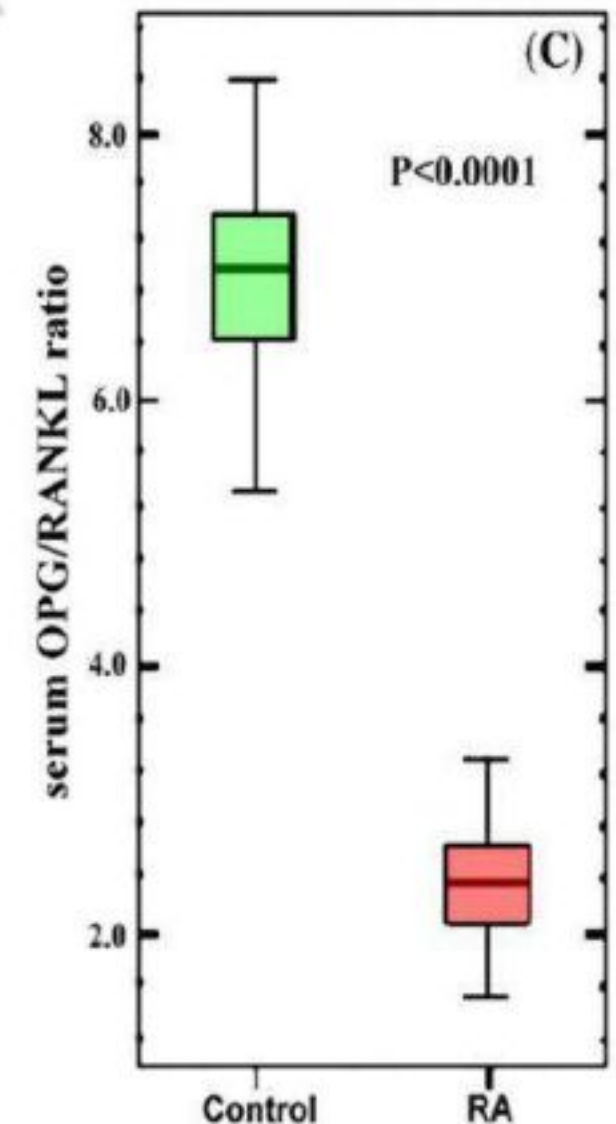
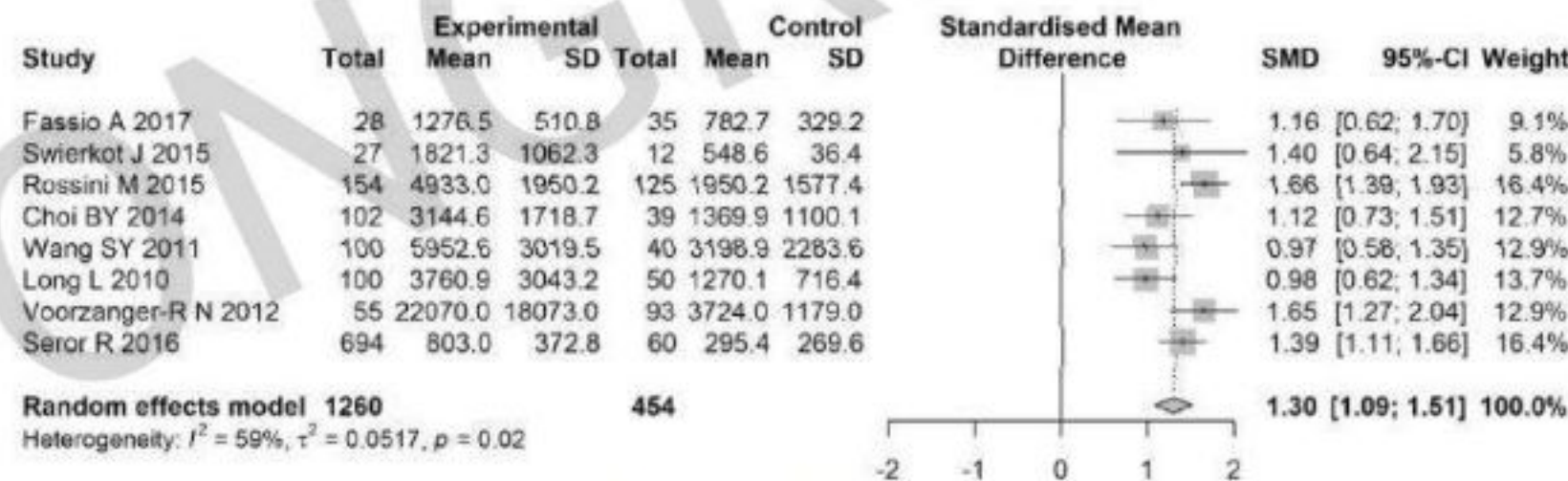


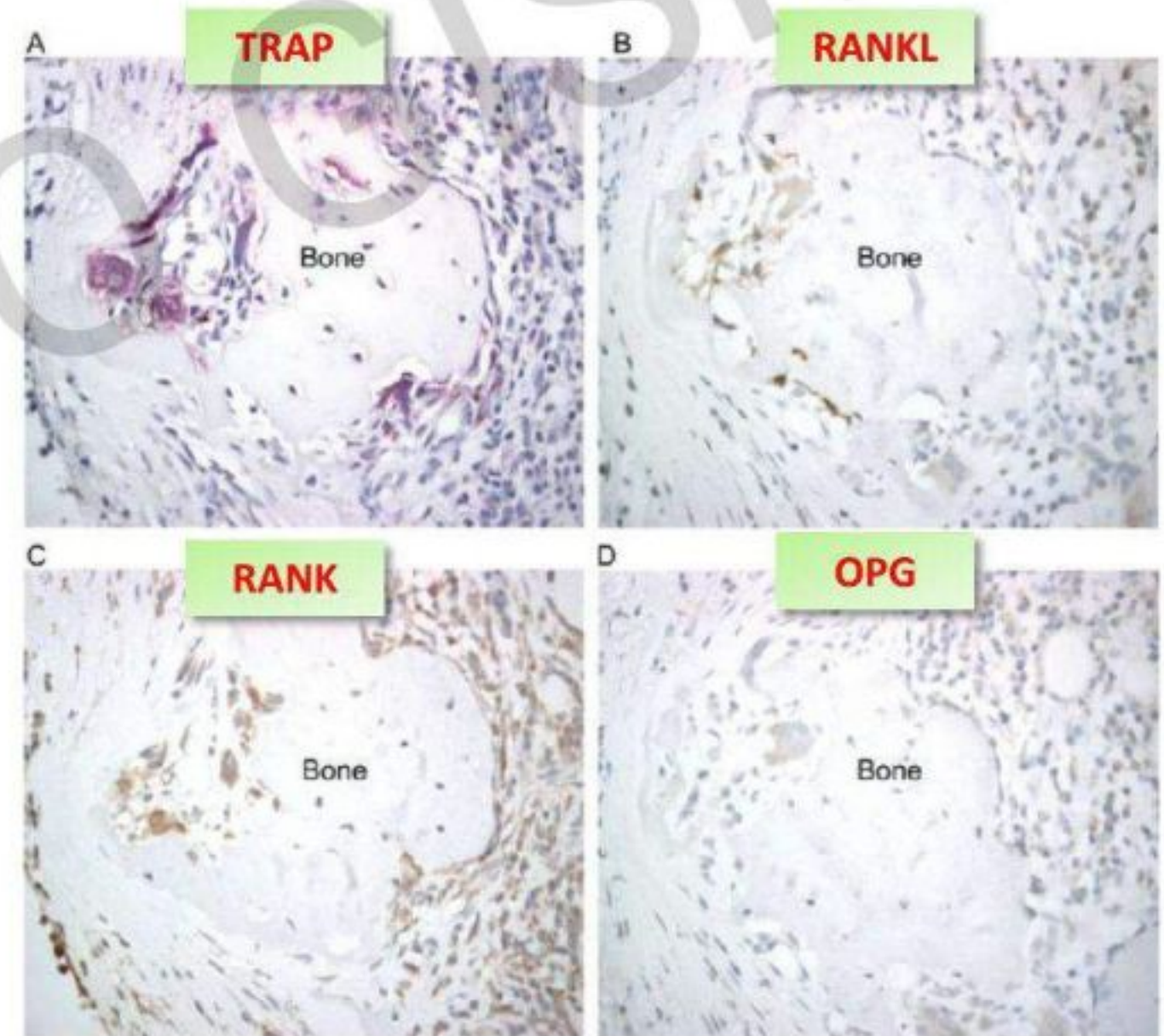
Fig. 2. Forest plots on the difference of serum DKK-1 between RA patients and healthy controls; A) Forest plot including all eligible studies; B) Forest plot after the sensitivity analysis.

RA, synovial biopsies

RANKL protein is expressed at the pannus–bone interface at sites of articular bone erosion in rheumatoid arthritis

A. R. Pettit, N. C. Walsh¹, C. Manning¹, S. R. Goldring¹ and E. M. Gravallese¹

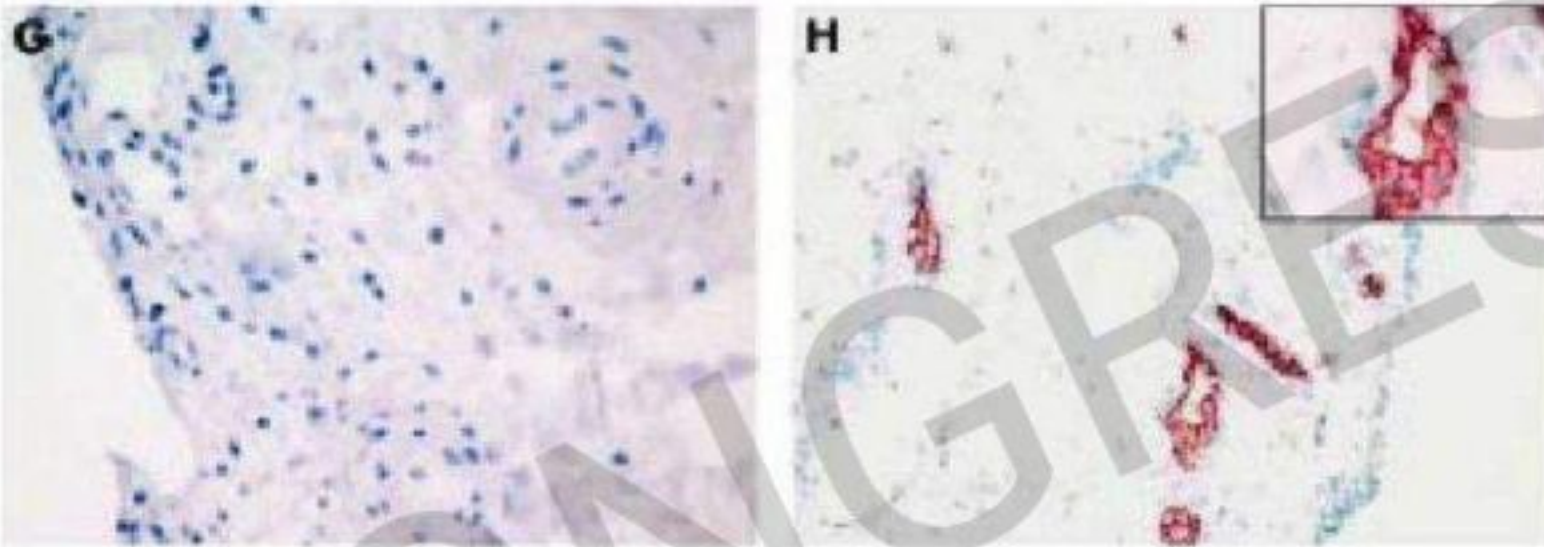
RA synovium



Normal synovium

↓ RANKL

↑ OPG



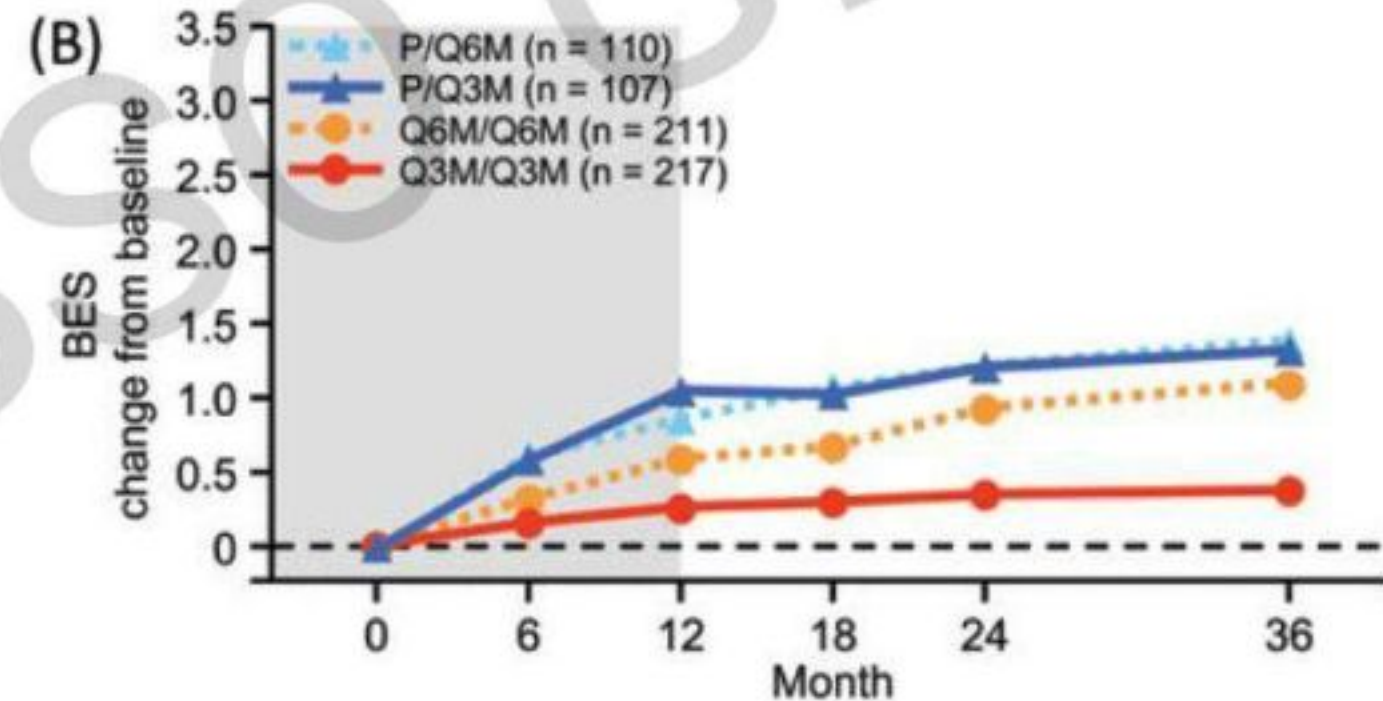
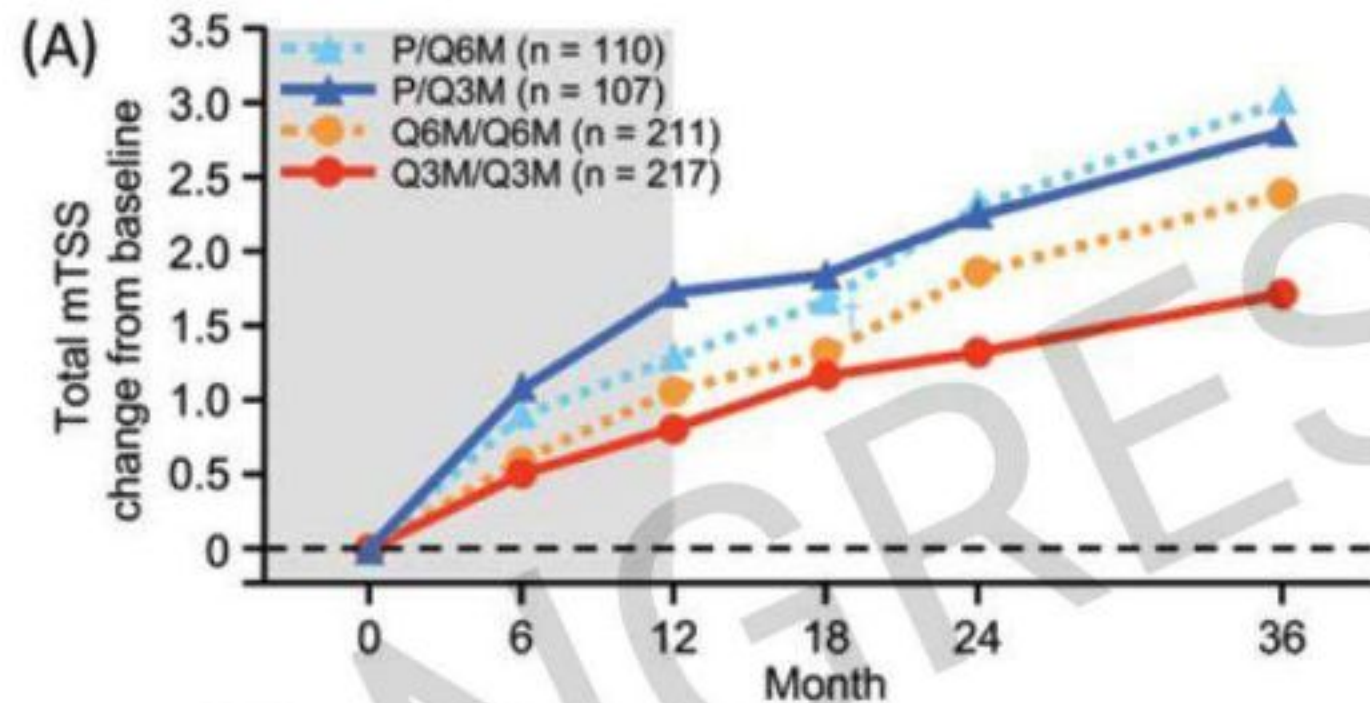
Ann Rheum Dis 2003;62:303–307

Rheumatology 2006;45:1068–1076

Effects of Denosumab in Japanese Patients With Rheumatoid Arthritis Treated With Conventional Antirheumatic Drugs: 36-month Extension of a Phase III Study

Yoshiya Tanaka¹, Tsutomu Takeuchi², Satoshi Soen³, Hisashi Yamanaka⁴, Toshiyuki Yoneda⁵, Sakae Tanaka⁶, Takaya Nitta⁷, Naoki Okubo⁷, Harry K. Genant⁸, and Désirée van der Heijde⁹

MTX ± GCs



DMAb maintained inhibition of progression of joint destruction up to 36 months

The Efficacy of Denosumab in Patients With Rheumatoid Arthritis: A Systematic Review and Pooled Analysis of Randomized or Matched Data

Qiongwen Hu¹, Xue Zhong², Hua Tian¹ and Pu Liao^{1*}



The effect of denosumab on the mean change of modified sharp erosion score (B)

Denosumab vs placebo/blank

Study or Subgroup	Mean	SD	Total	Mean	SD	Total	Weight	Mean Difference	IV, Random, 95% CI
Cohen et al 2008	0.91	2.59	138	1.87	5.05	71	4.5%	-0.96 [-2.21, 0.29]	
Takeuchi et al 2016	0.57	2.32	252	1.53	3.73	88	10.2%	-0.96 [-1.79, -0.13]	
Hasegawa et al 2017	0.16	0.47	40	0.64	1.34	40	36.3%	-0.48 [-0.92, -0.04]	
Takeuchi et al 2019	0.86	3.15	436	1.49	3.8	218	20.6%	-0.63 [-1.21, -0.05]	
So et al 2021	0.82	4.05	55	1.71	4.48	55	2.8%	-0.89 [-2.49, 0.71]	
Subtotal (95% CI)			921			472	74.4%	-0.63 [-0.94, -0.32]	

Heterogeneity: $\tau^2 = 0.00$; $\chi^2 = 1.42$, $df = 4$ ($P = 0.84$); $I^2 = 0\%$
Test for overall effect: $Z = 4.02$ ($P < 0.0001$)

Denosumab vs bisphosphonates

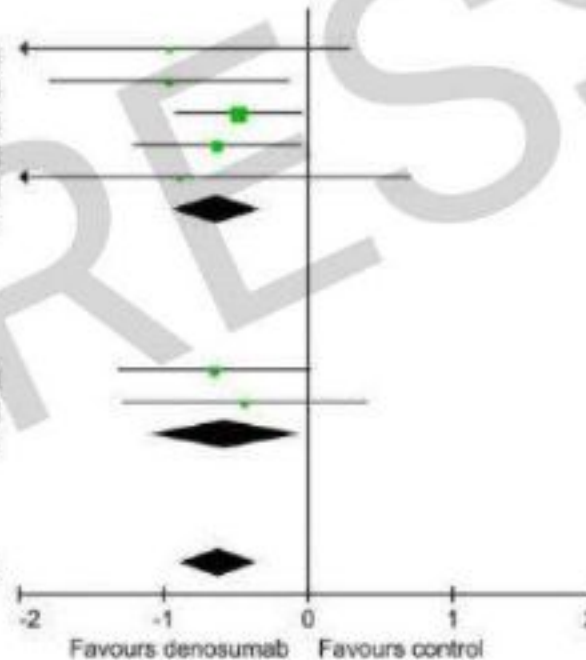
Study or Subgroup	Mean	SD	Total	Mean	SD	Total	Weight	Mean Difference	IV, Random, 95% CI
Ebina et al 2018	0.27	0.88	30	0.92	1.64	30	15.9%	-0.65 [-1.32, 0.02]	
Mori et al 2021	1.12	2.31	56	1.56	2.15	50	9.8%	-0.44 [-1.29, 0.41]	
Subtotal (95% CI)			86			80	25.6%	-0.57 [-1.09, -0.05]	

Heterogeneity: $\tau^2 = 0.00$; $\chi^2 = 0.15$, $df = 1$ ($P = 0.70$); $I^2 = 0\%$
Test for overall effect: $Z = 2.13$ ($P = 0.03$)

Total (95% CI) 1007 552 100.0% -0.62 [-0.88, -0.35]

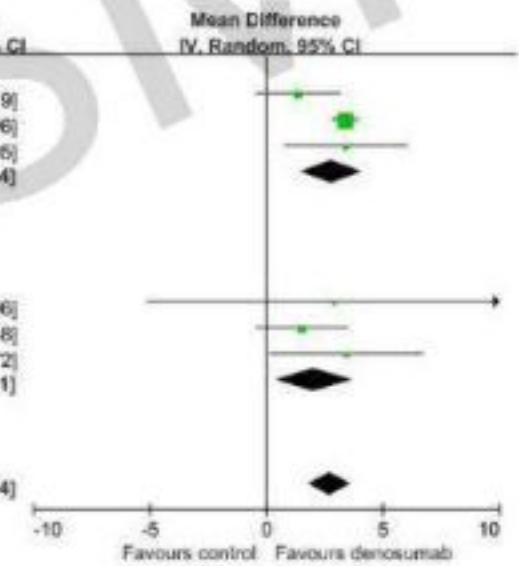
Heterogeneity: $\tau^2 = 0.00$; $\chi^2 = 1.61$, $df = 6$ ($P = 0.95$); $I^2 = 0\%$
Test for overall effect: $Z = 4.55$ ($P < 0.00001$)

Test for subgroup differences: $\chi^2 = 0.04$, $df = 1$ ($P = 0.84$); $I^2 = 0\%$



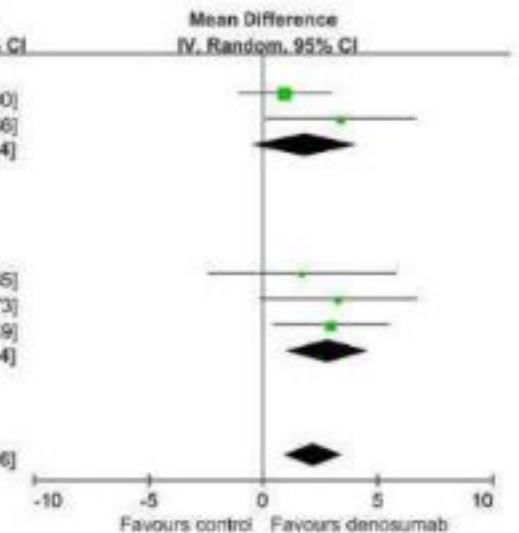
The effect of denosumab on the percentage change of total hip BMD (A)

Study or Subgroup	Mean	SD	Total	Mean	SD	Total	Weight	Mean Difference	IV, Random, 95% CI
Denosumab vs placebo									
Cohen et al 2008	1.85	6.22	143	0.3	6.77	75	17.7%	1.35 [-0.48, 3.19]	
Takeuchi et al 2016	2.53	2.37	246	-0.65	2.38	87	48.3%	3.38 [2.80, 3.96]	
So et al 2021	2.3	8.31	55	-1.1	5.64	55	10.0%	3.40 [0.75, 6.05]	
Subtotal (95% CI)			444			217	76.0%	2.82 [1.49, 4.14]	
Heterogeneity: $\tau^2 = 0.75$; $\chi^2 = 4.27$, $df = 2$ ($P = 0.12$); $I^2 = 53\%$ Test for overall effect: $Z = 4.17$ ($P < 0.0001$)									
Denosumab vs bisphosphonates									
Nakamura et al 2017	18.5	13.8	26	13.6	15.8	26	1.3%	2.90 [-5.18, 10.96]	
Ebina et al 2018	2.9	0.8	30	1.4	5.48	30	15.9%	1.50 [-0.46, 3.48]	
Mori et al 2021	4.03	9.25	56	0.61	8.1	50	6.9%	3.42 [0.12, 6.72]	
Subtotal (95% CI)			112			106	24.0%	2.05 [0.38, 3.71]	
Heterogeneity: $\tau^2 = 0.00$; $\chi^2 = 1.00$, $df = 2$ ($P = 0.61$); $I^2 = 0\%$ Test for overall effect: $Z = 2.41$ ($P = 0.02$)									
Total (95% CI)			556			323	100.0%	2.72 [1.80, 3.64]	
Heterogeneity: $\tau^2 = 0.37$; $\chi^2 = 6.96$, $df = 5$ ($P = 0.22$); $I^2 = 28\%$ Test for overall effect: $Z = 5.79$ ($P < 0.00001$) Test for subgroup differences: $\chi^2 = 0.50$, $df = 1$ ($P = 0.48$); $I^2 = 0\%$									



The effect of denosumab on percentage change of femoral neck BMD (B)

Study or Subgroup	Mean	SD	Total	Mean	SD	Total	Weight	Mean Difference	IV, Random, 95% CI
Denosumab vs placebo									
Cohen et al 2008	1.45	7.17	143	0.5	7.43	75	37.6%	0.95 [-1.10, 3.00]	
So et al 2021	2.8	5.37	55	-0.6	11.12	55	14.8%	3.40 [0.14, 6.66]	
Subtotal (95% CI)			198			130	52.4%	1.83 [-0.47, 4.14]	
Heterogeneity: $\tau^2 = 1.07$; $\chi^2 = 1.55$, $df = 1$ ($P = 0.21$); $I^2 = 36\%$ Test for overall effect: $Z = 1.56$ ($P = 0.12$)									
Denosumab vs bisphosphonates									
Kinoshita et al 2017	4.2	11.1	49	2.5	9.8	49	9.2%	1.70 [-2.45, 5.85]	
Ebina et al 2018	4.5	8.22	30	1.2	4.93	30	13.4%	3.30 [-0.13, 6.73]	
Mori et al 2021	3.75	7.5	56	0.78	5.69	50	24.9%	2.97 [0.45, 5.49]	
Subtotal (95% CI)			135			129	47.6%	2.82 [0.98, 4.64]	
Heterogeneity: $\tau^2 = 0.00$; $\chi^2 = 0.37$, $df = 2$ ($P = 0.83$); $I^2 = 0\%$ Test for overall effect: $Z = 3.83$ ($P = 0.002$)									
Total (95% CI)			333			259	100.0%	2.20 [0.94, 3.46]	
Heterogeneity: $\tau^2 = 0.00$; $\chi^2 = 2.76$, $df = 4$ ($P = 0.60$); $I^2 = 0\%$ Test for overall effect: $Z = 3.43$ ($P = 0.0006$) Test for subgroup differences: $\chi^2 = 0.43$, $df = 1$ ($P = 0.51$); $I^2 = 0\%$									

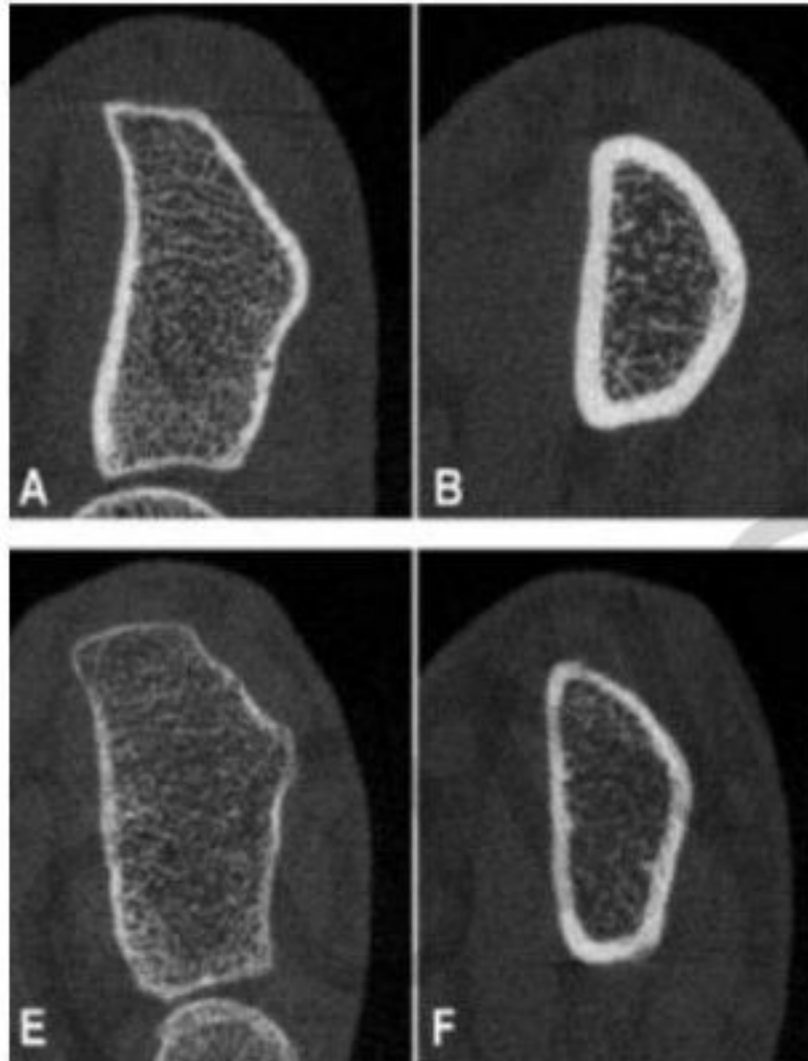


BMD and microstructure impairment in RA

RA = corticale più sottile e più (micro)porosa

Alterations of Bone Density, Microstructure, and Strength of the Distal Radius in Male Patients With Rheumatoid Arthritis: A Case-Control Study With HR-pQCT

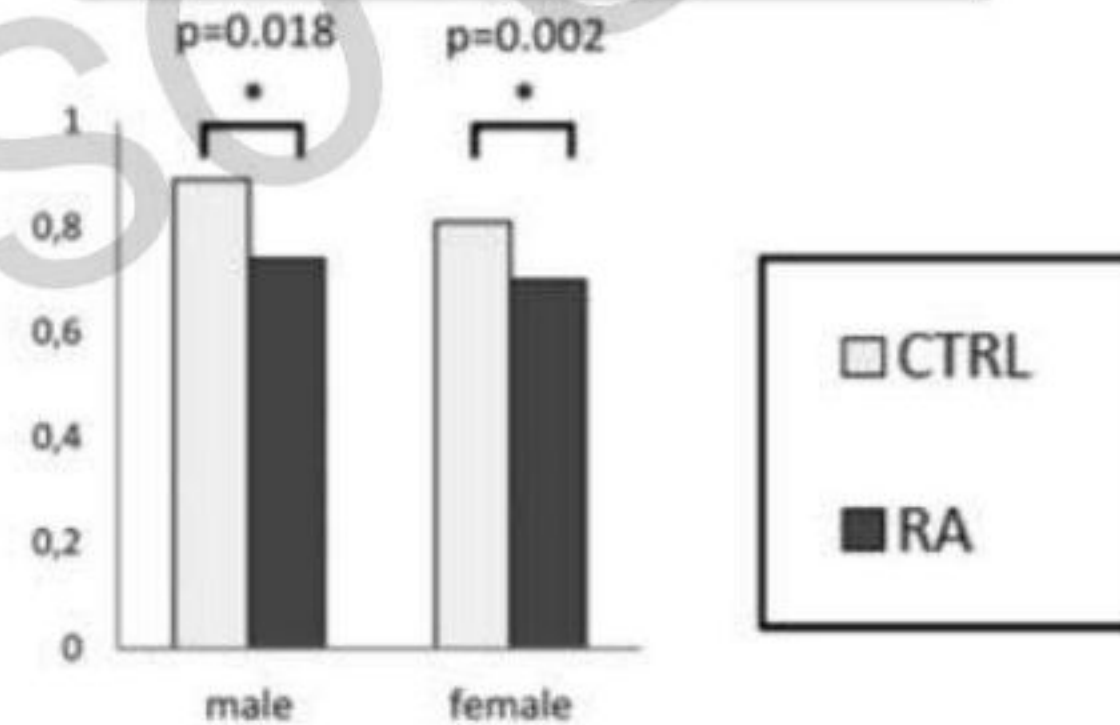
Tracy Y Zhu,¹ James F Griffith,² Ling Qin,³ Vivian W Hung,³ Tsz-Ning Fong,³ Sze-Ki Au,⁴ Martin Li,¹



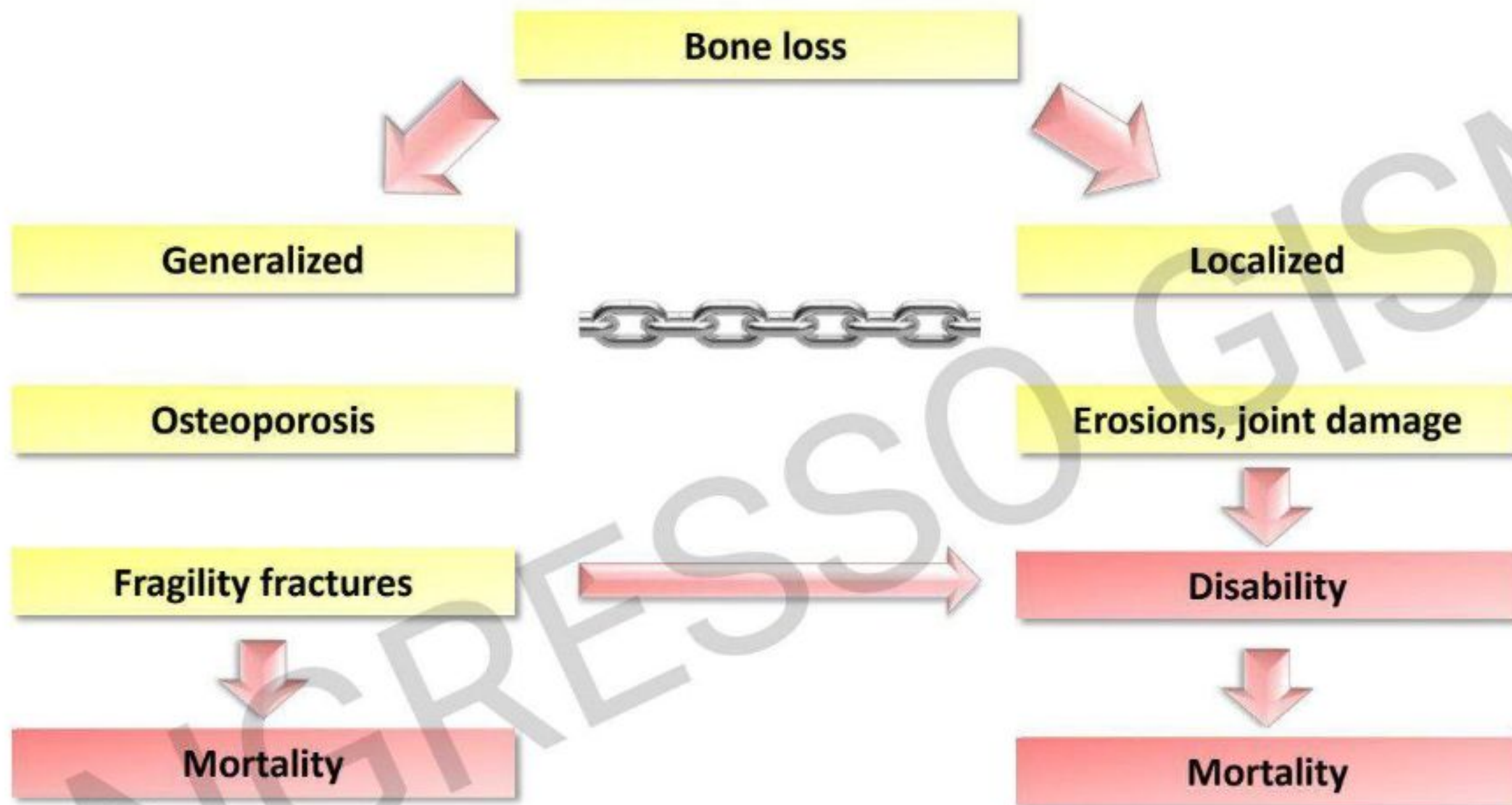
Sano

AR

Spessore corticale (mm)



Artrite reumatoide



Denosumab, cortical bone and bone erosions in rheumatoid arthritis

Non-responders to the DMARDs in terms of progression of bone erosions could be indeed the consequences of a concomitant osteoporosis.

Relationship of Focal Erosions, Bone Mineral Density, and Parathyroid Hormone in Rheumatoid Arthritis

MAURIZIO ROSSINI, GIANFILIPPO BAGNATO, BRUNO FREIDANI, ANNAMARIA IAGNOCOCO,
GIOVANNI LA MONTAGNA, GIOVANNI MINISOLA, MAURIZIO CAMINITI, MASSIMO VARENNA,
and SILVANO ADAMI

	Bone Erosions		p
	yes	no	
Spine BMD (T score)	-1.67 ± 1.21	-1.60 ± 1.43	ns
Hip BMD (T score)	-1.55 ± 1.04	-1.18 ± 1.05	0.005
PTH (pg/ml)	25.7 ± 13.1	23.2 ± 11.0	0.025



DOI 10.1002/art.40385

Lack of effect of teriparatide on joint erosions in rheumatoid arthritis is an expected result: comment on the article by Solomon et al

To the Editor:

We read with great interest the report by Solomon and colleagues describing their randomized controlled trial of teriparatide therapy in tumor necrosis factor inhibitor-treated patients with rheumatoid arthritis (RA) (1). Their study did not demonstrate any significant effect of teriparatide on bone erosions in these patients. In our opinion, it is not surprising that teriparatide did not produce the expected result. A few considerations can explain the lack of effect.

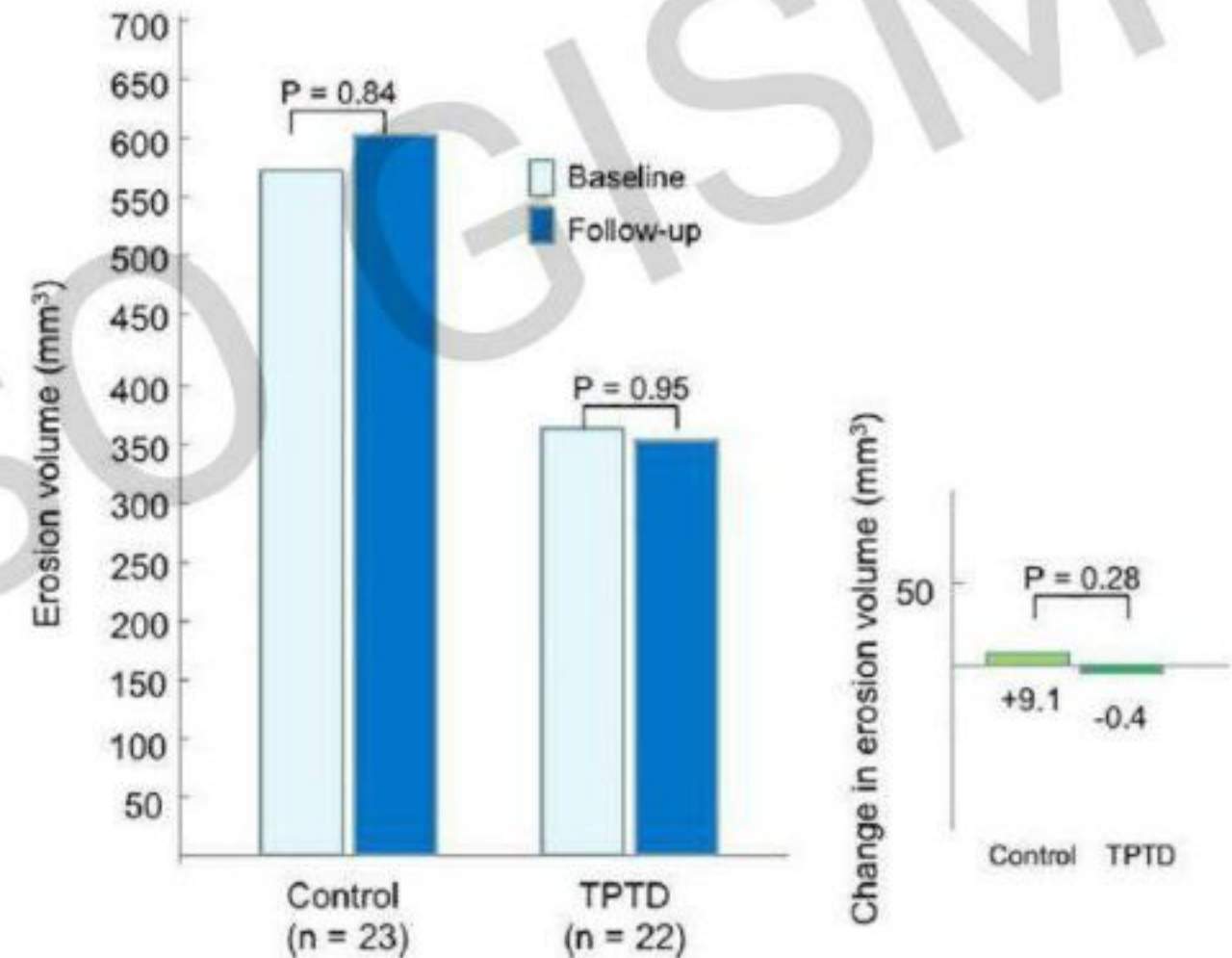
First, bone erosions affect mainly cortical bone (2,3), and it is well known that teriparatide does not exert a positive therapeutic effect on cortical sites in the short term; in particular, during the first 6 months of treatment. Studies, including one with an RA patient group (4), have shown that it had no significant effect on bone mineral density (BMD) at cortical sites such as the femoral neck or third distal radius (5,6). Solomon and colleagues did not observe this lack of effect after 6 months of treatment because changes in BMD were explored only at the 12-month time point. Moreover, when administered as a daily subcutaneous injection, teriparatide has been found to increase cortical porosity in the short term (7-9). Increased cortical porosity, predisposing to bone erosions, has been recently described in RA (10).

It should also be noted that, in patients with RA, serum levels of Dkk-1 (a natural inhibitor of Wnt signaling) are significantly increased, correlating with parathyroid hormone levels, and are associated with increased risk of bone erosions and osteoporosis (11). Teriparatide treatment has been shown to increase serum Dkk-1 levels (12); this could be another possible explanation for the inability of teriparatide to heal erosions.

In contrast, better results in preventing bone erosions have been achieved with denosumab, an anti-RANKL antibody (13-15). Denosumab has been associated with a rapid decrease in cortical porosity (16), prevention of metacarpal bone loss (17), and reduction in serum Dkk-1 levels (18). These latter findings are likely the reasons for its better efficacy than teriparatide in preventing and even healing bone erosions, at least in the short term.

ARTHRITIS & RHEUMATOLOGY
Vol. 70, No. 3, March 2018, pp 475-476
© 2017, American College of Rheumatology

Giovanni Adami, MD 
Maurizio Rossini, MD
Ombretta Viapiana, MD
Angelo Fassio, MD
Luca Idolazzi, MD
Giovanni Orsolini, MD
Davide Gatti, MD
University of Verona
Verona, Italy



Conclusion. Our findings indicate that teriparatide treatment for 1 year does not significantly reduce erosion volume in the hands or wrists of patients with established RA with disease activity controlled by TNFi treatment.

Differing Effects of PTH 1–34, PTH 1–84, and Zoledronic Acid on Bone Microarchitecture and Estimated Strength in Postmenopausal Women With Osteoporosis: An 18-Month Open-Labelled Observational Study Using HR-pQCT

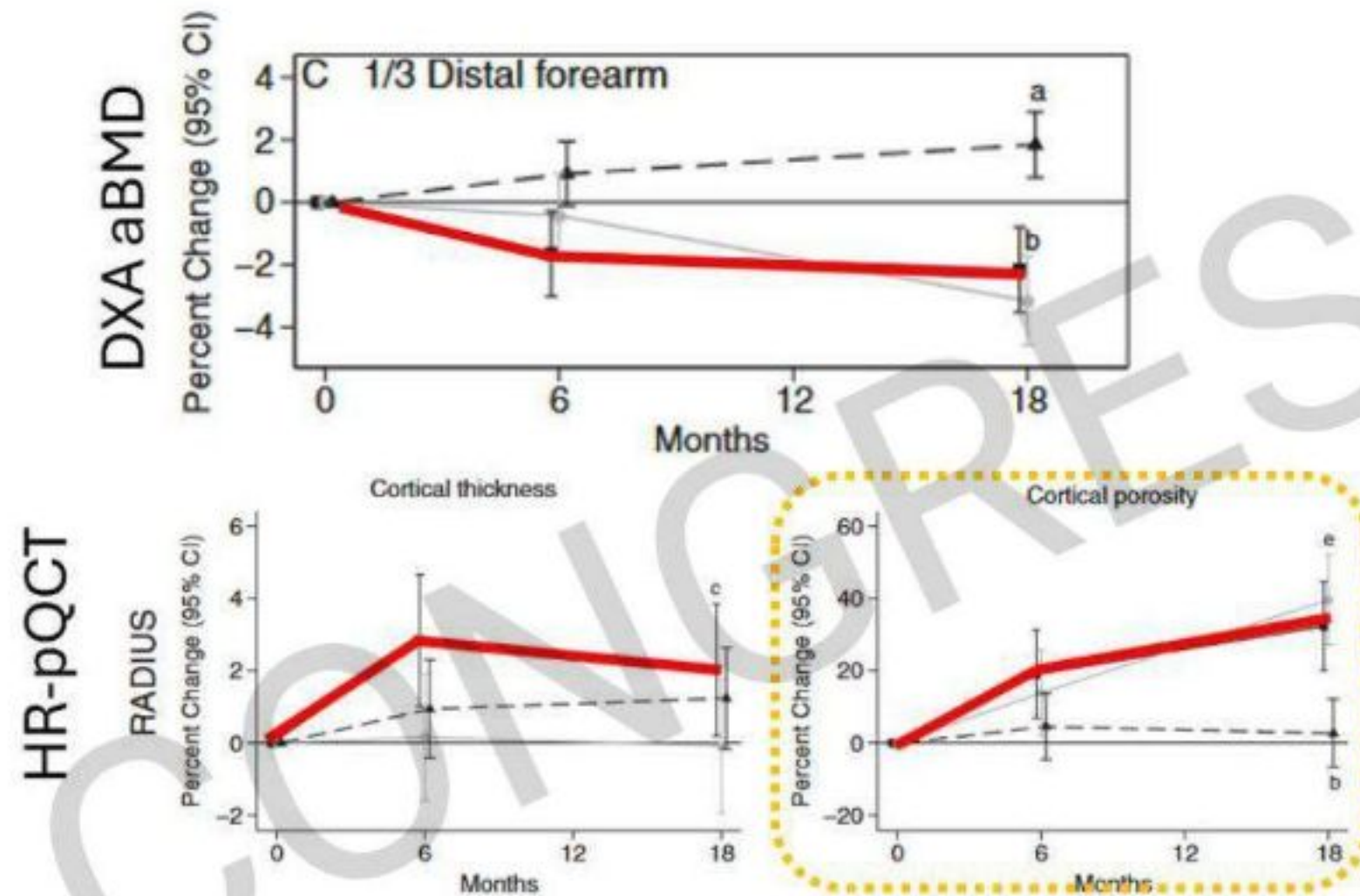
Stinus Hansen,^{1,2} Ellen M Hauge,³ Jens-Erik Beck Jensen,⁴ and Kim Brixen^{1,2}

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

JBMR[®]

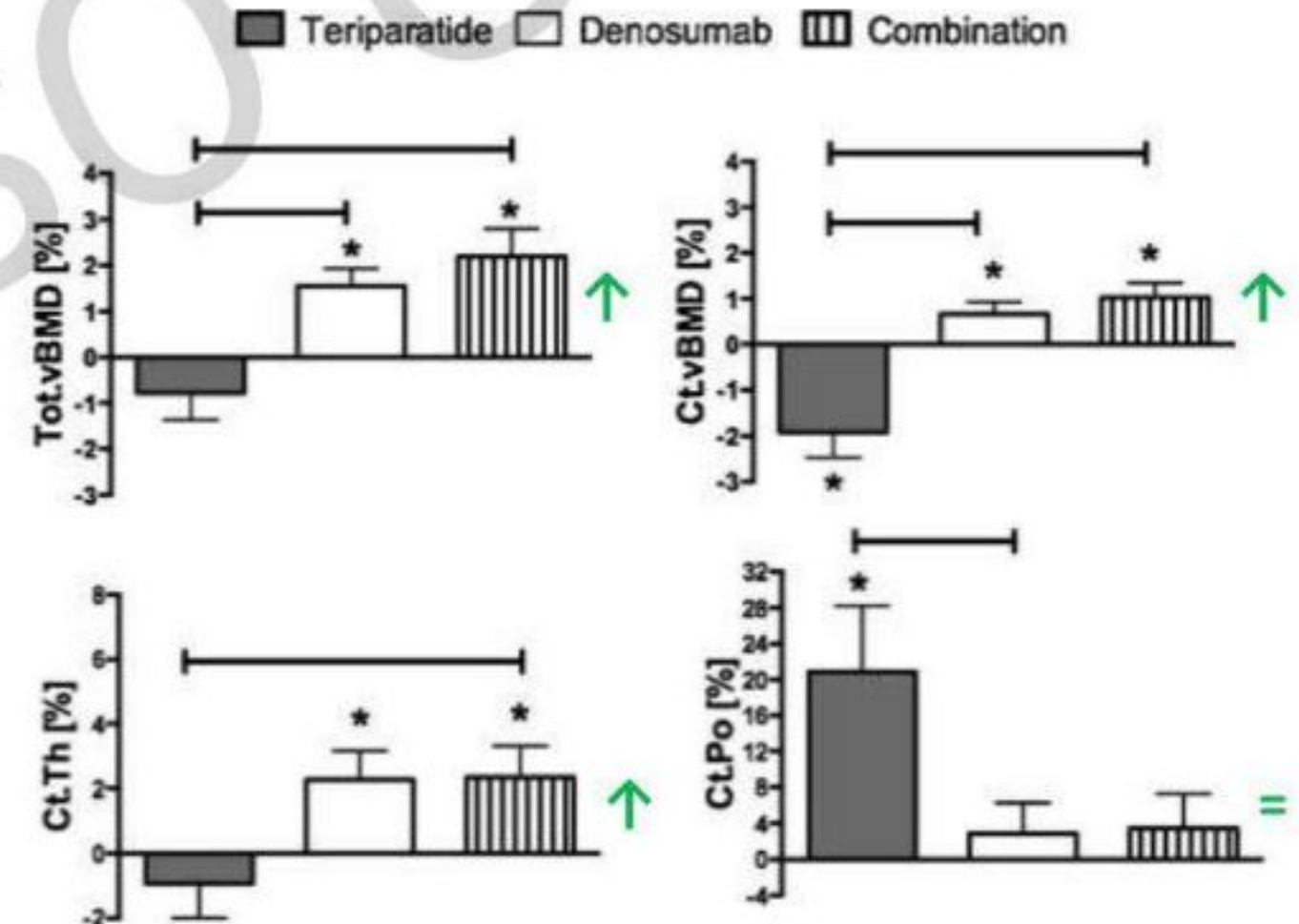
Comparative Effects of Teriparatide, Denosumab, and Combination Therapy on Peripheral Compartmental Bone Density, Microarchitecture, and Estimated Strength: the DATA-HRpQCT Study

Joy N Tsai,¹ Alexander V Uihlein,¹ Sherri-Ann M Burnett-Bowie,¹ Robert M Neer,¹ Yuli Zhu,¹ Nicholas Derrico,¹ Hang Lee,² Mary L Bouxsein,^{1,3} and Benjamin Z Leder¹



Journal of Bone and Mineral Research, Vol. 28, No. 4, April 2013, pp 736–745

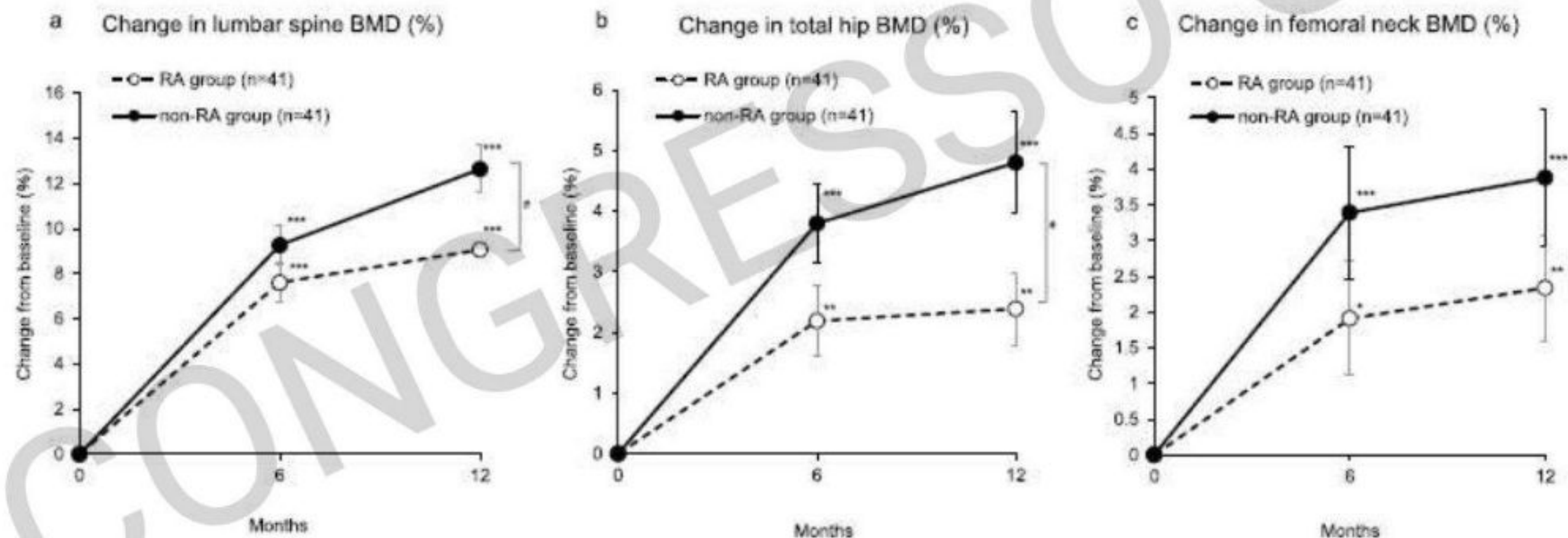
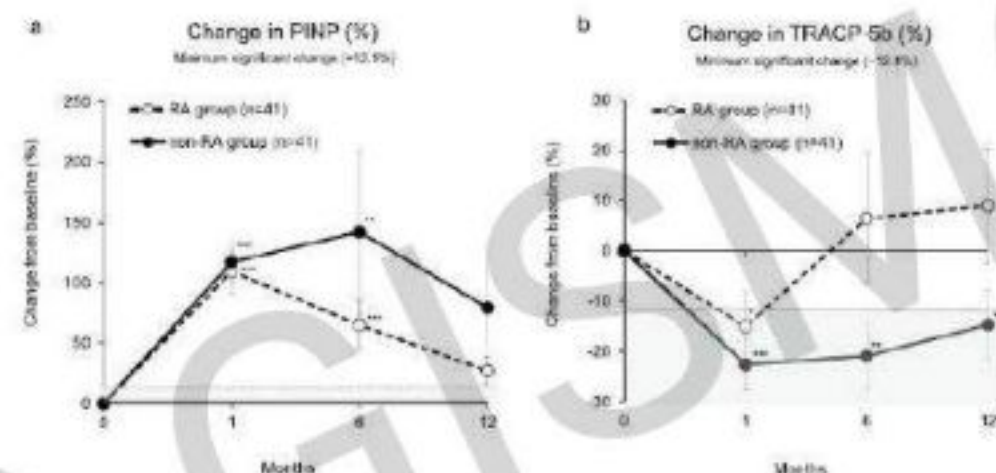
Distal radius, 12m



An investigation of the differential therapeutic effects of romosozumab on postmenopausal osteoporosis patients with or without rheumatoid arthritis complications: a case-control study

Kosuke Ebina^{1,2} · Yoshio Nagayama³ · Masafumi Kashii⁴ · Hideki Tsuboi⁵ · Gensuke Okamura⁴ · Akira Miyama⁶ · Yuki Etani² · Takaaki Noguchi¹ · Makoto Hirao⁴ · Taihei Miura¹ · Yuji Fukuda¹ · Takuya Kurihara¹ · Ken Nakata⁷ · Seiji Okada¹

GCs = ???

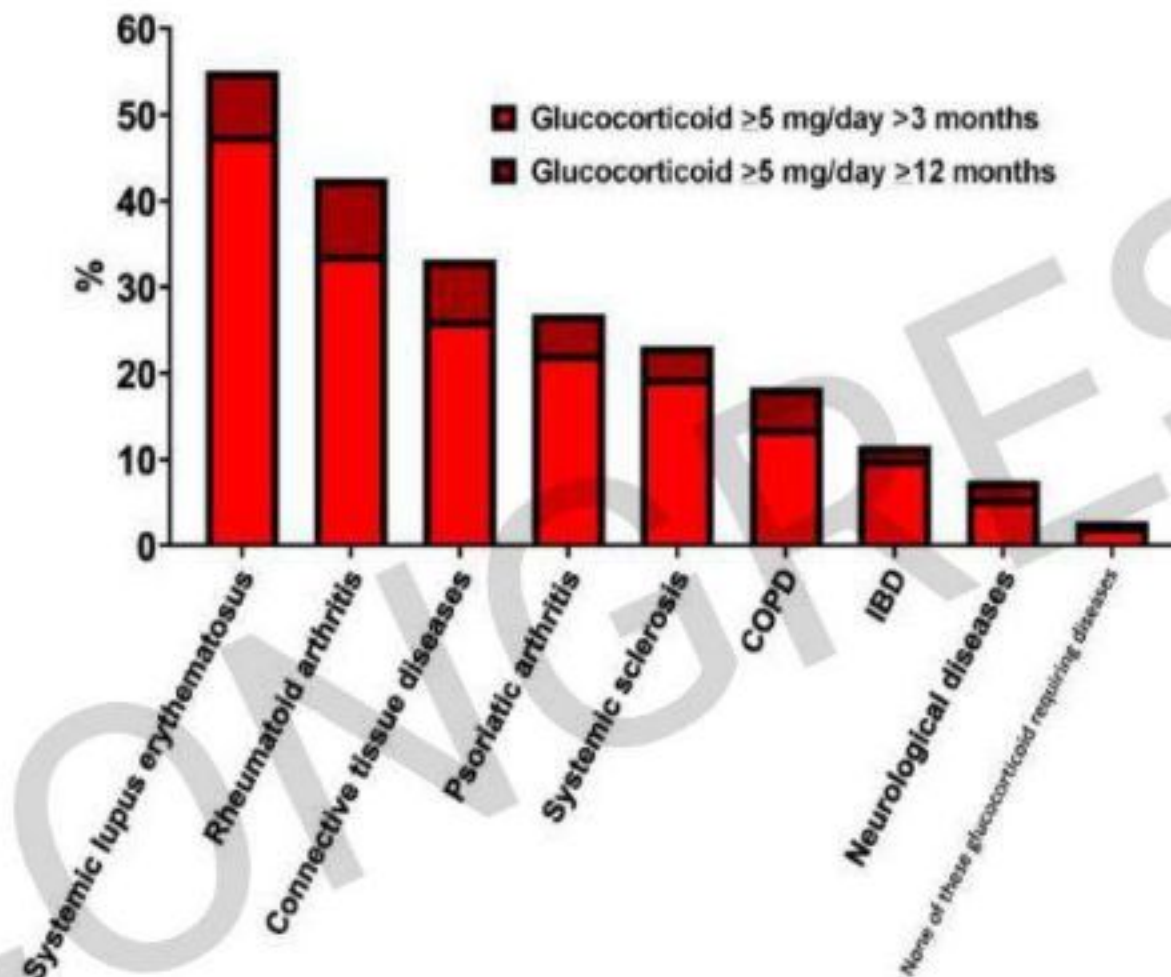


ROMO in RA might be impaired... but still excellent! +8% in 1 year

GIOP: who's to blame?

Risk of fracture in women with glucocorticoid requiring diseases is independent from glucocorticoid use: An analysis on a nation-wide database

Giovanni Adami^{a,*}, Davide Gatti^a, Maurizio Rossini^a, Alessandro Giollo^a, Matteo Gatti^a, Francesco Bertoldo^b, Eugenia Bertoldo^a, Amy S. Mudano^c, Kenneth G. Saag^c, Ombretta Viapiana^a, Angelo Fassio^a



BMJ Open Prevalence and prescription patterns of oral glucocorticoids in adults: a retrospective cross-sectional and cohort analysis in France

Anna Bénard-Laribiére,¹ Antoine Pariente,^{1,2} Elodie Pambrun,¹ Bernard Bégaud,^{1,2} Laurence Fardet,^{3,4} Perrine Noize^{1,2,5}

Table 1 Characteristics of oral glucocorticoid (GC) initiators, overall and according to the number of oral GC reimbursements over the year following treatment initiation (figures are percentages)

	All GC initiators n=206 759	Short-term users* n=139 703	Mid-term users* n=63 267	Long-term users* n=3789
Identified GC recognised indications†	27.3	23.7	33.4	61.1
Obstructive pulmonary diseases	21.3	19.1	26.0	26.2
Cancer	6.4	4.9	8.2	31.9
Rheumatic diseases	1.0	0.6	1.1	12.1
Rheumatoid arthritis	0.4	0.2	0.5	5.7
Polymyalgia rheumatica/giant cell arteritis	0.1	0.0	0.1	3.9
Inflammatory bowel diseases	0.6	0.4	0.9	3.3
Multiple sclerosis	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2

~22% rheumatic conditions

GCs and fractures

Arthritis & Rheumatology
Vol. 75, No. 10, October 2023, pp 1762–1769
DOI 10.1002/art.42529

AMERICAN COLLEGE
of RHEUMATOLOGY
Empowering Rheumatology Professionals

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Bone Loss in Inflammatory Rheumatic Musculoskeletal Disease Patients Treated With Low-Dose Glucocorticoids and Prevention by Anti-Osteoporosis Medications

Giovanni Adami, Angelo Fassio, Maurizio Rossini, Camilla Benini, Francesca Pistillo, Ombretta Viapiana, Davide Bertelle, and Davide Gatti

1. There is **no** «safe» GCs dosage
2. BMD loss is (partially) **preventable** with adequate preventive treatment

