## Evaluation and Management of Low Bone Density in Premenopausal Women

## Women's Health 2015 Congress April 19, 2015 Elizabeth Shane, MD

Professor of Medicine Columbia University Medical Center New York, NY

#### **Disclosures**

- Industry Research Support (To Institution)
  - Eli Lilly
  - Amgen
- Consultancies
  - Radius Pharmaceuticals
- · Speakers Bureaus, Financial holdings
  - None
- · Discussion of unlabeled use of drugs
  - Teriparatide, denosumab

## **Key References**

- Cohen A, Shane E. 2013 Evaluation and management of the premenopausal woman with low BMD. Curr Osteoporos Rep 11:276-285.
- Ferrari S, et al. 2012 Osteoporosis in young adults: pathophysiology, diagnosis, and management. Osteoporos Int 23:2735-2748.
- Campos-Obando N, et al. 2014 Osteoporotic vertebral fractures during pregnancy: be aware of a potential underlying genetic cause. J Clin Endocrinol Metab 99:1107-1111.
- Cohen A. et al. 2011 Abnormal bone microarchitecture and evidence of osteoblast dysfunction in premenopausal women with idiopathic osteoporosis. J Clin Endocrinol Metab 96:3095-3105.
- Choe EY, et al. 2012 Effect of teriparatide on pregnancy and lactation-associated osteoporosis with multiple vertebral fractures. J Bone Miner Metab 30:596-601.
- Cohen A, et al. 2013 Teriparatide for idiopathic osteoporosis in premenopausal women: a pilot study. J Clin Endocrinol Metab 98:1971-1981.
- Langdahl BL, et al. 2009 Teriparatide versus alendronate for treating glucocorticoid-induced osteoporosis: an analysis by gender and menopausal status. Osteoporos Int 20:2095-2104.
- Grossman JM, et al. 2010 American College of Rheumatology 2010 recommendations for the prevention and treatment of glucocortico osteoporosis. Arthritis Care Res(Hoboken) 62:1515-1526.

## Ms. A.A., 29 yo healthy woman

- · Fractured left hip after minor fall
- · BMD below expected range for age
  - -2.5 at spine, -2.8 at total hip, -3.1 at femoral neck
- Menarche age 15, regular menses, no amenorrhea, GOPO
- PMH unremarkable, no medications, tobacco, ETOH
- + FH osteoporosis maternal aunt & grandmother
- Physically active, 2 servings dairy/day
  - Slim but not undernourished
  - 5'3" (160cm) 100lb (45.4 kg) BMI 17.7 kg/m<sup>2</sup>
- No blue sclerae, kyphosis, bone tenderness
- Routine and special labs normal
- Bone turnover markers in normal premenopausal range

## Osteoporosis in Premenopausal Women

- Uncommon
- · Most have a secondary cause
- · Difficult to diagnose in absence of low trauma fractures

#### **Outline**

- · Osteoporosis in premenopausal women
  - Diagnosis
  - Etiology
  - Evaluation
- Management of osteoporosis in premenopausal women with
  - Secondary osteoporosis
  - Idiopathic osteoporosis

# World Health Organization T Scores Low Bone Mass (Osteopenia) Normal Bone Mass (Osteopenia) T scores correlate with life time fracture risk for postmenopausal Caucasian women.

# Diagnosis of Osteoporosis in <a href="POST">POST</a>menopausal Women

- Based on the WHO classification <sup>1</sup>
- · Areal BMD by DXA
  - T-Score ≤ -2.5 SD <u>below young adult mean</u> at spine, hip or forearm

No comparable data are available for PREmenopausal women.

1. WHO Tech Rep Ser 1994;843:1-129 3. Cooper, Bone. 1993;14 Suppl 1:S89-97 2. Cummings, N Engl J Med. 1995;332:767-73

# Indications for Treatment of Osteoporosis in **POST**menopausal Women

- Low areal BMD by DXA (T score < -2.5)</li>
- Low trauma fractures

No clear intervention thresholds for PREmenopausal women.

- By FRAX

# Diagnosis of Osteoporosis in <u>PRE</u>menopausal Women is <u>NOT</u> Straightforward

Measurement of BMD by DXA has pitfalls in PRE menopausal Women

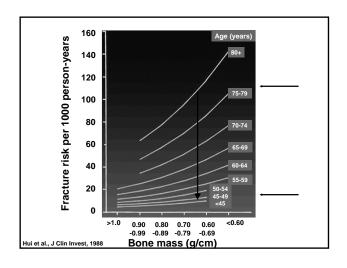
## In young women, low areal BMD by DXA may be due to...

- Low Peak Bone Mass 1-3
  - Genetics
  - Suboptimal bone mass accrual during adolescence due to lifestyle choices, medical conditions or drug exposures
- Statistical Definition of Z or T Score in population of normal women
  - 2.5% will have Z score ≤ -2.0
  - 0.5% will have T score  $\leq$  -2.5
- Small Stature
  - DXA underestimates BMD in small individuals
- Constitutional Leanness 4-6
  - Non-pathological state of underweight, normal menses, often familial
  - Low BMD by DXA
- Abnormal microarchitecture, low strength by HR-pQCT

. Bonjour et al., Med Sport Sci 2007. 2. Chevalley et al., JCE&M 1998. 3. Ferrari et al., JCE&M 1998. . Bossu et al., Am J Physiol Endocrinol Metab 2007 5. Fernandez-Garcia et all., Br J Nutr 2009 6. Galusca et al., JCE&M 2008 Low BMD in <u>YOUNG</u> women is not associated with the same risk of fracture as low BMD in OLDER women.

- Premenopausal women are estrogen replete and have more muscle, lower bone turnover, thicker cortices, better trabecular connectivity and fewer falls
- Incidence and prevalence of fractures much lower in <u>PRE</u>menopausal than <u>POST</u>menopausal women <sup>1-5</sup>
  - Even when BMD is very low

hompson, Injury, 2004 2. Melton, Osteoporos Int, 1998 3. Hosmer, Osteoporos Int, 2002



# The 2007 ISCD Guidelines for Reporting BMD Results in <u>PRE</u>menopausal Women Use the Z SCORE, NOT the T SCORE!

Z scores compare people to age-matched controls instead of peak bone mass (age 30)

In premenopausal women and men < age 50

- Z scores <u>above</u> -2.0 should be reported as "within the expected range for age"
- Z scores <u>below</u> -2.0 should be reported as "below the expected range for age"

Goal: Avoid terms like "osteoporosis" and "osteopenia" as their predictive meaning less clear in young women

Does not apply to perimenopausal women where the T-score is now used

www.iscd.org

# A premenopausal woman can be considered to have osteoporosis when she has......

- Low BMD Z-score  $\leq$  -2.0 or T score  $\leq$  -2.5
- · Secondary cause of osteoporosis
  - e.g., glucocorticoids, hypogonadism, celiac disease, hyperparathyroidism, rheumatoid arthritis

#### OR

- History of vertebral or non-vertebral low-trauma fracture(s) at major site
  - Whether or not BMD is frankly low

What about premenopausal women with low BMD (T-score <-2.5, Z score <-2.0)

# BUT NO SECONDARY CAUSE AND NO FRACTURES?

- Neither ISCD nor IOF would say such a woman has osteoporosis.
- I am not convinced that is true.

## Etiology & Evaluation of Premenopausal Osteoporosis

## Who Should Be Evaluated?

- Women with fragility fracture(s) or prevalent vertebral fracture(s), regardless of BMD
- · Women with low BMD
  - -Z score < -2.0
  - -T score  $\leq$  -2.5

#### Goals of Evaluation

- Identify secondary causes of osteoporosis
- Especially treatable causes

## Secondary Causes of Osteoporosis in Young Women

- Genetic
  - Idiopathic hypercalciuria
     Osteogeneis imperfecta
- Thalassemia Endocrine
- Estrogen deficiency
  - Amenorrhea (except pregnancy)
  - Eating disorders anorexia, bulemia
     Prolactinoma, Sheehan's

  - Hyperthyroidism
  - Cushing's syndrome
  - Primary hyperparathyroidism
- Gastrointestinal
- Celiac disease
- Malabsorption
- Inflammatory bowel disease
- Lactose intolerance
- Rheumatologic
  - Rheumatoid arthritis Systemic lupus erythematosis

Pulmonary

Medications

- Cystic fibrosis Emphysema

- Prednisone

- Antiepileptic drugs
- GnRH agonists
- Thyroid hormone
- Depo-Provera
- Cancer chemotherapy
- SSRIs - PPIs
- HAART
- Miscellaneous
  - Major depression
  - Pregnancy-associated
- HIV
- Idiopathic

#### **Most Common** Causes of Osteoporosis in Premenopausal Women

- · Glucocorticoid excess
- Premenopausal estrogen deficiency
- · Eating disorders
- GI disease
  - Celiac disease, inflammatory bowel disease, malabsorption
- Medications
  - Antiepileptic drugs, cancer chemotherapy, prednisone
- Alcoholism
- · Primary hyperparathyroidism
- · Osteogenesis imperfecta
- Idiopathic

Bagur et al., ASBMR 2014 SU0312

#### **Secondary Causes of Osteoporosis** in Young Women How often will you find a cause?

- In a population-based study of ∂/♀ age 20-44
  - 90% had a secondary cause 1
- In series from tertiary referral centers (young ♀)
  - Only ~50% had a secondary cause <sup>2-5</sup>

## **Evaluation of Low BMD** in a Premenopausal Woman

#### A careful history and physical exam are KEY

#### Ask about

- Fractures
- Family history of fractures
- · Kidney stones
- Menstrual history
- Dieting & exercise behavior
- Eating disorders
- Subtle GI symptoms
- Medications, including OTC supplements
- Look for signs of
- Cushing Syndrome
- · Thyroid hormone excess
- Systemic mastocytosis urticaria, dermatographia
- · Inflammatory disease
- Connective tissue disorders
  - Osteogenesis imperfecta
  - Ehlers-Danlos

## **Initial Laboratory Evaluation**

- · Complete blood count
- Serum calcium, phosphate
- Electrolytes, renal function
- Serum albumin, transaminases, total alk phosphatase
- Serum TSH
- Serum 25-hydroxyvitamin D
- · 24 hour urine for calcium, creatinine, free cortisol

#### Additional Laboratory Tests As Indicated

- · Estradiol, LH, FSH, prolactin
- PTH
- 1,25-dihydroxvitamin D
- · Iron studies
- · Vitamin A (retinol)
- · Celiac screen
- · Serum/urine protein electrophoresis
- · Erythrocyte sedimentation rate or C-reactive protein
- · Serum tryptase and histamine
- · Genetic testing for OI, EDS
- Whole exome sequencing for mutations in Wnt, LRP5/6, other genes?

## **Bone Turnover Markers??**

- If low or normal
  - Suggests prior bone loss or low peak bone mass
- · If above premenopausal range
  - Suggests ongoing bone loss
- · Cautionary notes:
  - Wide normal range
  - Highly variable
  - Must be interpreted according to age
    - · Physiologically high in growing children
    - · High after fractures

# Tetracyline-labeled Transiliac Bone Biopsy?

- · Not widely available
- · Primarily a research tool
- May be indicated in patients with idiopathic lowtrauma fractures
- May identify other sources of bone fragility and guide therapy
- May be more accurate reflection of bone turnover at the tissue level than bone turnover markers

## Idiopathic Osteoporosis (IOP) 1,2

- · Operational definition
  - Premenopausal women and men < 50
  - Otherwise healthy
  - Normal gonadal function
  - No secondary cause of bone loss
- Usually Caucasian
- Often present in mid-30s
  - May present during pregnancy or lactation
- · One or more low trauma fractures
  - Cluster over 5-10 yrs
- · May be mild or devastating

Albright & Reifenstein, 1944

2. Khosla et al. Bone 1994

#### **IOP Without Fractures?**

- Clinical significance of isolated low areal BMD in otherwise healthy young woman uncertain
  - Short-term fracture risk increased?
  - Microarchitecture normal or abnormal?

Do women with Fractures differ from those with Low BMD?

## **Cross-sectional Case-Control Study**

#### Control – 40

- No adult fractures
- Normal BMD Z score ≥ -1.0

#### Low BMD group - 19

 No low trauma <u>adult</u> fractures

#### Fracture group - 45

- 1-12 adult fractures
- Mean age at 1st fracture 30
- Fracture type
  - Vertebrae, ribs, hip, pelvis, forearm, humerus, ankle, metatarsal

ohen et al., Osteoporos 2012, 23:171-82

## Central QCT of Spine and Hip in IOP



Avoids problem of apparent low areal BMD by DXA in small people

#### Measures

- · Important fracture sites
- Bone size
- · Volumetric BMD at the spine and hip
- · Cortical thickness at hip

Lang et al IBMR 2004, 2006:

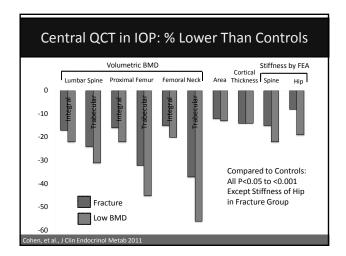
Cohen, et al., J Clin Endocrinol Metab 2011

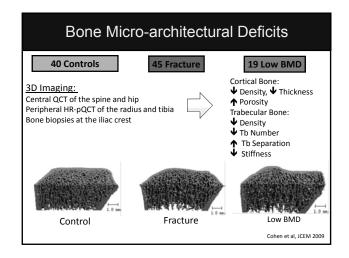
## In Premenopausal IOP, Low Areal BMD by DXA (Z ≤-2.0) Predicts Low Volumetric BMD by cQCT

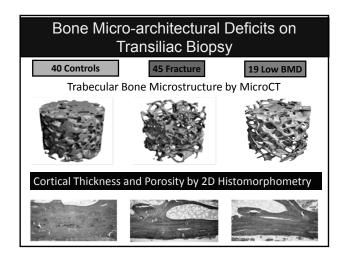
Used cQCT results from Controls to calculate Z-scores for IOP Subjects

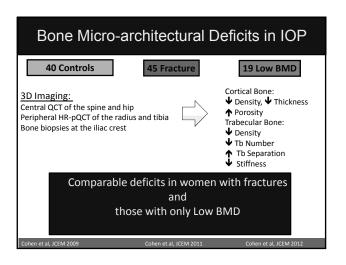
- At the spine, 18 of 19 Subjects with Z ≤-2.0 by DXA also had central QCT Z scores <-2.0</li>
- Positive predictive value of DXA for cQCT Z-score <-2.0
  - 95% at the lumbar spine
  - 90% at the total hip
  - 86% at the femoral neck

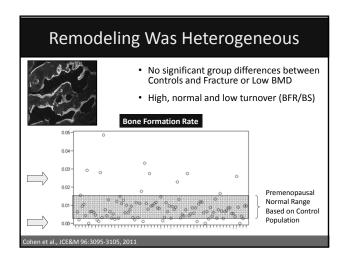
Cohen, et al., J Clin Endocrinol Metab 2011

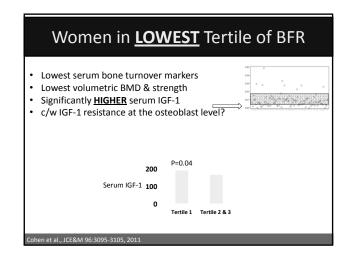


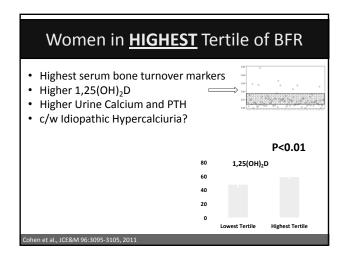


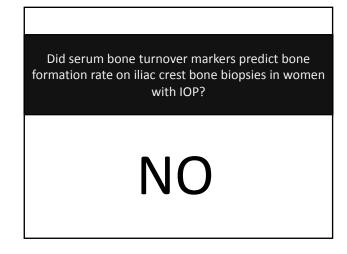


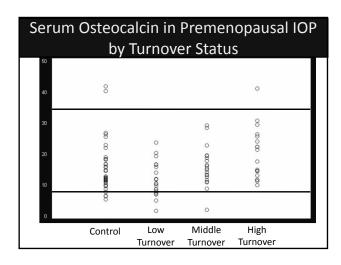


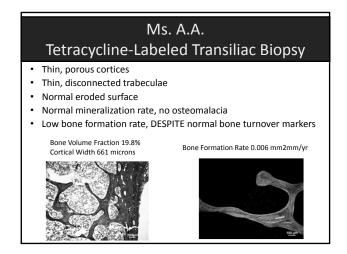












## IOP in Premenopausal Women

- Consistent deficits in volumetric BMD, microarchitecture, stiffness at spine & hip <sup>1</sup>, distal radius & tibia <sup>2</sup>, iliac crest <sup>3</sup>
- Heterogeneous turnover varying pathogeneses 4,5
  - Primary osteoblast dysfunction, IGF-1 resistance
  - Idiopathic hypercalciuria
- Cohen et al., JCE&M 97;4244–4252, 2012
- 2 Cohen et al. ICE&M 94:4351-4360 200
- Cohen et al., JCE&M 96;3095-3105, 2011
- . Cohen et al., Osteoporos 23; 171-82, 2012

#### **Conclusions**

 Assessment of bone turnover by bone biopsy may provide clues to pathogenesis of IOP in individual patient

Fracture and Low BMD subjects:
Differed comparably from Controls
Did NOT differ from each other
Selection bias?
Part of a continuum?
Fractures due to happenstance?

#### Outline

- · Osteoporosis in premenopausal women
  - Diagnosis
  - Etiology
  - Evaluation
- Management of osteoporosis in premenopausal women with
  - Secondary osteoporosis
  - Idiopathic osteoporosis

The challenge for physicians caring for premenopausal women with osteoporosis

- 1. To decide WHETHER to treat
  - 2. To decide HOW to treat

# Management of Premenopausal Osteoporosis

- · General Measures
  - Adequate nutrition, calcium, vitamin D, exercise
  - Avoid tobacco, excess alcohol

Makes sense but minimal effects on BMD <sup>1</sup>

- Specific therapy of secondary cause(s) often yields large increases in BMD
  - Celiac Disease <sup>2-5</sup>, Primary hyperparathyroidism <sup>6</sup>
  - Control inflammation in chronic inflammatory states (RA  $^{7},\,$  inflammatory bowel disease  $^{8,9})$

Peris, Clin Rheumatol, 2006 2. Sategna-Guidetti, Aliment Pharmacol Ther. 2000 3. Ciacci, Am J Gastroenterol. 1997
 McFarlane, Gut. 1996 5. Mautalen, Am J Gastroenterol. 1997 6. Lumachi, Ann N Y Acad Sci. 2007

## Conservative Treatment in Premenopausal Women With Unexplained Fractures

- 16 women
- · Calcium, vitamin D and exercise
- BMD followed annually for average of 3 yrs
  - Spine BMD increased by ~2%
  - Femoral neck BMD increased by ~6%
- NO new fractures

Peris, Clin Rheumatol, epub August, 200

# Ms. A.A. Conservative Management

- Calcium intake 1200 mg day from food and supplements
- Vitamin D ~1000 IU daily
- · OCP for birth control
- Over next 10 years
  - BMD remained very low but quite stable
  - 2 pregnancies with expected bone loss
  - No new fractures
- Subsequent evaluations for 2° osteoporosis
  - No new medical diagnoses or medications

# Management of Premenopausal Osteoporosis

- Pharmacologic therapy rarely justified unless
  - Fractures
  - -Ongoing bone loss with conservative Rx
  - -Extremely low BMD (T or Z score  $\leq$ -3.0)

# Management of Premenopausal Osteoporosis

- If drug therapy necessary, avoid SERMs (e.g., raloxifene)
  - Cause bone loss in premenopausal women 1,2
- Use bisphosphonates with caution in childbearing women <sup>3</sup>
  - Long residence in the skeleton and cross placenta
  - Animal studies adverse effects on fetus (high doses)
  - Case reports suggest safe in pregnancy & lactation 4-9
- Teriparatide & Denosumab contraindicated in pregnancy

1. Powies, J. Lin Outon, 1996 - 2, venmanen, J. Lin Oricol, 2000 - 3. Statriopoulos, Hormones (Atriens) 2011 4. Biswas, Osteoporos Int, 2003 S. Chan, J. CE&M 2006 6. Djokanovic, J. Obstet Gynaecol Can 2008 7. Illidge, Clin Oncol (R Coll Radiol) 1996 8. Munns J Bone Miner Res 2004 9. O'Sullivan Osteoporos Int 201

## BPs or Teriparatide Improve BMD in Premenopausal Women With Secondary Osteoporosis

- · Anorexia nervosa
- Chemotherapy induced amenorrhea
- GnRH therapy for endometriosis
- Crohn's disease (+ infliximab)
- Cystic fibrosis
- · Thalassemia major
- · HIV-associated osteopenia
- Glucocorticoid-induced osteoporosis

#### **CAVEATS**

- BPs and TPTD are only FDA-approved in premenopausal women taking Glucocorticoids.
- No data that treatment with BPs or TPTD <u>prevent</u> <u>fractures</u> in premenopausal women.

Ferrari et al., Osteoporos Int. 2012; 23:2735-2748

## Glucocorticoids in Premenopausal Women

 Bisphosphonates and teriparatide prevent bone loss and/or increase BMD in premenopausal women on GCs <sup>1-4</sup>

#### **HOWEVER**

- Premenopausal women on GCs may not lose bone
- Bone loss more likely if oligomenorrhea or amenorrhea
- Less likely to fracture on GCs than postmenopausal women

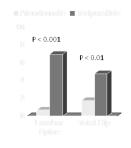
1. Nakayamada, J Rheumatol, 2004

- 2. Sato, J Rheumatol, 2003
- 4. Roux, Osteoporosis Int, 2013

#### Teriparatide vs Alendronate for Treatment of GC-Induced Osteoporosis

Saag et al, NEJM, 2007

- Randomized active comparator trial of 528 patients with GIOP
- Sub-analysis of BMD changes and fractures in 51 premenopausal women
- No fractures in either group



Langdahl et al. Osteoporos Int, 2009;20:2095-04

# Recommendations For Premenopausal Women on GCs: ACR 2010

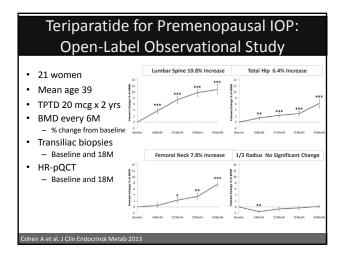
- · Assess for
  - prevalent fragility fractures
  - childbearing potential
  - dose and likely duration of GC therapy
- Measure BMD
- · Prescribe calcium and vitamin D
- · Prescribe estrogen if deficient

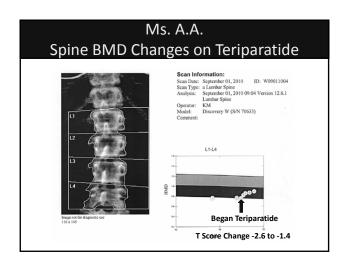
American College of Rheumatology. Arthritis Care and Research 62;1515-26, 2010

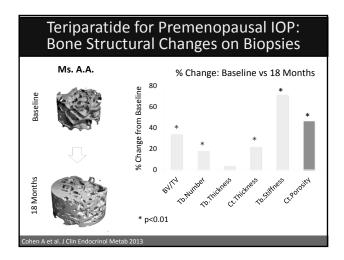
# Recommendations For Premenopausal Women on GCs: ACR 2010

- In women of NONchildbearing potential, prescribe BPs if
  - Prevalent fragility fracture(s)
  - Prednisone  $\ge$  5 mg/day for  $\ge$  1 month
- In women of childbearing potential, prescribe BPs if
  - Prevalent fragility fracture(s)
  - Prednisone ≥ 7.5 mg/day for ≥ 3 months
- · No consensus about
  - Those with no prevalent fragility fracture
  - Women of childbearing potential with prevalent fracture on GCs for < 3 months</li>

American College of Rheumatology. Arthritis Care and Research 62;1515-26, 2010







### What about after TPTD?

 In postmenopausal women and men, BMD declines after TPTD stopped if not followed by anti-resorptive therapy.

In menstruating women, is endogenous estrogen production sufficient to prevent this?

# Partial Loss at Lumbar Spine 2 Years after Stopping TPTD • 15 women from pilot study rescanned at ~ 2 yrs • ~5% loss at spine (p<0.001) • Stable BMD at total hip and femoral neck • Those who lost >3% BMD at spine were older

- 46 vs 38; p=0.046

Do premenopausal women need antiresorptive treatment to prevent bone loss after teriparatide?

#### **PROBABLY**

Which antiresorptive should be used?

#### DEPENDS ON THE CLINICAL SITUATION

ohen A et al. ASBMR 2014; Poster SUO0373

Estrogen?

Bisphosphonates?

Denosumab?

Possible future choices - more anabolic therapy?

Anti-Sclerostin Antibodies?

PTHrP analogues?

## **Key Diagnostic Points**

- Diagnosis of osteoporosis in premenopausal women most secure if secondary cause or low trauma fractures
- Low areal BMD by DXA in otherwise healthy women should be interpreted with caution
  - But may reflect low volumetric BMD and strength
- Bone turnover markers of limited assistance in assessing bone turnover
  - Bone biopsies may be helpful

## **Key Management Points**

 Crucial to assess for secondary causes of bone loss and treat specifically

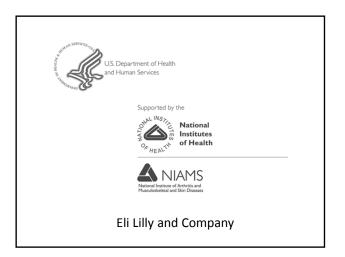
No fracture data are available for treatment studies of premenopausal women...

Given relatively low fracture rates in premenopausal women, there probably never will be...

premenopausal women with various causes of bone loss

# FDA-Funded RCT of TPTD in Premenopausal IOP

- · New study enrolling
- Randomized, placebo-controlled, single switch-over
- Quadruple tetracycline-labeled transiliac biopsy at 3 months
- Funded by FDA Orphan Products/Disease Branch
- At completion, observation vs antiresorptive Rx with denosumab funded by Amgen and hopefully FDA
- To refer women with IOP:
  - Call 212-305-7225



## Research Team

Metabolic Bone Program, Columbia University Mariana Bucovsky

Institute for Biomechanics, ETH Zürich

Mariana Bucovsky
Adi Cohen
X. Edward Guo
Mafo Kamanda-Kosseh
Stavroula Kousteni
X. Sherry Liu
J. Sanii Manavalan
Donald J. McMahon
Thomas Nickolas
Emily M. Stein
Polily Young
Chiyuan Zhang

Thomas Kohler Ralph Müller Alexander Zwahlen

Ludwig Boltzman Institute of Osteology Vienna, Austria

Regional Bone Center, Helen Hayes Hospital

Birgit Buchinger Sonja Gamsjaeger Klaus Klaushofer

Hua Zhou David W. Dempster

Barbara Misof

Osteoporosis Research Center, Creighton University Lefteris Paschalis Joan Lappe Robert R. Recker Julie Stubby Paul Roschger

## Thank you!

