

# **Osteoporosis as a Manifestation of Endocrine Diseases**

*Essay*

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in **Internal Medicine**

*By*

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وَأَنْزَلَ اللَّهُ عَلَيْكَ  
الْكِتَابَ وَالْحِكْمَةَ  
وَعَلَّمَكَ مَا لَمْ تَكُنْ  
تَعْلَمُ وَكَانَ فَضْلُ  
اللَّهِ عَلَيْكَ عَظِيمًا

صدق الله العظيم □

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## **List of Abbreviations**

|                |                                                               |
|----------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>AGHD</b>    | : GH-deficient                                                |
| <b>AN</b>      | : Anorexia nervosa                                            |
| <b>BMD</b>     | : Bone mineral density                                        |
| <b>BSAP</b>    | : Bone-specific alkaline phosphatase                          |
| <b>BUA</b>     | : Broadband ultrasound attenuation                            |
| <b>CaSR</b>    | : Calcium sensing receptor                                    |
| <b>cGCR</b>    | : Cytosolic glucocorticoid receptor                           |
| <b>DEXA</b>    | : Dual-energy X-ray absorptiometry                            |
| <b>DM</b>      | : Diabetes mellitus                                           |
| <b>DPD</b>     | : Deoxypyridinoline                                           |
| <b>ERs</b>     | : Estrogen receptors                                          |
| <b>FDA</b>     | : Food and drugs administration                               |
| <b>FIT</b>     | : Fracture Intervention Trial                                 |
| <b>Free T4</b> | : Hypothalamic–pituitary–thyroid                              |
| <b>FSH</b>     | : Follicle stimulating hormone                                |
| <b>GCs</b>     | : Exogenous glucocorticoids                                   |
| <b>GH</b>      | : Growth hormone                                              |
| <b>GHD</b>     | : Growth hormone deficient                                    |
| <b>GIO</b>     | : Glucocorticoid-induced osteoporosis                         |
| <b>HR pQCT</b> | : High resolution peripheral quantitative computed tomography |
| <b>HR-MRI</b>  | : High-resolution magnetic resonance imaging                  |
| <b>HRT</b>     | : Hormone replacement therapy                                 |
| <b>HT</b>      | : Hormonal therapy                                            |
| <b>IGF I</b>   | : Insulin-like growth factor I                                |
| <b>IGF</b>     | : Insulin like growth factor-1                                |
| <b>IL</b>      | : Interleukin                                                 |
| <b>IRR</b>     | : Incidence rate ratio                                        |
| <b>ISCD</b>    | : International Society for Clinical Densitometry             |
| <b>LH</b>      | : Luteinizing hormone                                         |
| <b>LRP5</b>    | : Lipoprotein receptor related protein 5                      |

## **List of Abbreviations** (Cont...)

|                |                                                           |
|----------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>microCT</b> | : Microcomputed tomography                                |
| <b>M-CSF</b>   | : Macrophage colony-stimulating factor                    |
| <b>MRI</b>     | : Magnetic Resonance Imaging                              |
| <b>NFkB</b>    | : Nuclear factor kB                                       |
| <b>NICE</b>    | : National Institute of Clinical Excellence               |
| <b>NTX</b>     | : N-telopeptide (NTX)                                     |
| <b>OC</b>      | : Osteocalcin                                             |
| <b>OI</b>      | : Osteogenesis imperfecta                                 |
| <b>OP</b>      | : Osteoporosis                                            |
| <b>OPG</b>     | : Osteoprotegerin                                         |
| <b>OST</b>     | : Osteoporosis Self-assessment Tool                       |
| <b>PBM</b>     | : Peak bone mass                                          |
| <b>PD</b>      | : Periodontal disease                                     |
| <b>PHPT</b>    | : Primary hyperparathyroidism                             |
| <b>PMO</b>     | : Postmenopausal osteoporosis                             |
| <b>PPAR</b>    | : Peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor              |
| <b>PTH</b>     | : Parathyroid hormone                                     |
| <b>PTH1R</b>   | : Parathyroid hormone receptor-1                          |
| <b>PVN</b>     | : Paraventricular nucleus                                 |
| <b>QCT</b>     | : Quantitative computed tomography                        |
| <b>QUI</b>     | : Quantitative ultrasound index                           |
| <b>QUS</b>     | : Quantitative ultrasonography                            |
| <b>RANK</b>    | : Receptor activator of NF KB                             |
| <b>RANKL</b>   | : Receptor activator of nuclear factor- $\kappa$ B-ligand |
| <b>SAXS</b>    | : Small Angle X ray Scattering                            |
| <b>SERMs</b>   | : Selective estrogen receptor modulators                  |
| <b>SNPs</b>    | : Single nucleotide polymorphisms                         |
| <b>SOS</b>     | : Speed of sound                                          |
| <b>SOST</b>    | : Sclerostin                                              |
| <b>STAT</b>    | : Signal transducers and activators of transcription      |

## **List of Abbreviations** *(Cont...)*

|                      |                                                           |
|----------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>T<sub>3</sub></b> | : Triiodothyronine                                        |
| <b>T<sub>4</sub></b> | : Tetraiodothyronine                                      |
| <b>TGFb</b>          | : Transforming growth factor b                            |
| <b>TNF-alfa</b>      | : Tumor necrosis factor alfa                              |
| <b>TRAIL</b>         | : Tumor necrosis factor-related apoptosis-inducing ligand |
| <b>TRH</b>           | : Thyrotrophin-releasing hormone                          |
| <b>TRs</b>           | : Thyroid receptors                                       |
| <b>TSH</b>           | : Thyroid stimulating hormone                             |
| <b>TSHR</b>          | : TSH receptor                                            |
| <b>ucOC</b>          | : Undercarboxylated osteocalcin                           |
| <b>vBMD</b>          | : volumetric BMD                                          |
| <b>μCT</b>           | : Micro-CT                                                |
| <b>3-D</b>           | : Three-dimensional                                       |

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# Introduction

**O**steoporosis, defined as a skeletal disorder characterized by compromised bone strength predisposing to an increased risk of fracture, is a major public health problem throughout the world. Elderly people are the fastest growing population in the world and, as people age, bone mass declines and the risk of fractures increases (*Lane, 2006*).

This disease is considered a "silent thief" that generally does not become clinically apparent until a fracture occurs. Osteoporosis represents an increasingly serious problem in the United States and around the world. Many individuals, male and female, experience pain, disability, and diminished quality of life as a result of having this condition. The economic burden the disease imposes is already considerable and will only grow as the population ages (*Ahmed and Elmantaser, 2009*).

Osteoporosis has been divided into several classifications according to etiology and localization in the skeleton. Osteoporosis is initially divided into localized and generalized categories. These two main categories are classified further into primary and secondary osteoporosis (*Orwoll et al., 2008*).

Variations in the alimentary and endocrine systems in both women and men have a fundamental role in the development of osteoporosis: if these variations are combined with an inappropriate life style (eg, inadequate physical exercise, alcohol

abuse or smoking), pathologies such as hyperparathyroidism, thyrotoxicosis and/ or the use of drugs such as antipsychotics or corticosteroids, the risk of osteoporosis is increased (**Lanzini et al., 2006**).

Osteopenia and osteoporosis are among the complications of Diabetes mellitus (DM) as it may alter bone remodeling. Moreover, DM increases the risk and severity of chronic inflammatory periodontal disease, in which bone resorption occurs (**Gracia-Hernandez et al., 2012**).

Thyroid diseases have widespread systemic manifestations including their effect on bone metabolism. On one hand, the effects of thyrotoxicosis including subclinical disease have received wide attention from researchers over the last century as it an important cause of secondary osteoporosis. On the other hand, hypothyroidism has received lesser attention as its effect on bone mineral metabolism is minimal (**Dhanwal, 2011**).

Exogenous glucocorticoids (GCs) are used as anti-inflammatory and immunosuppressive drugs in the treatment of a wide range of rheumatic and other inflammatory diseases. However, their pleiotropic effects may lead to numerous adverse effects such as unwanted metabolic effects and osteoporosis (**Strehl et al., 2011**).

The presence of osteoporosis in men is correlated mainly with the effect of growth hormone (GH) and hypogonadism. GH stimulates the increase in muscle mass and the formation of

bone tissue. It was stated that GH replacement improves target organ sensitivity to parathyroid hormone (PTH), PTH circadian rhythm, calcium and phosphate metabolism, bone turnover, and bone mineral density (BMD) in adult GH-deficient (AGHD) patients. In postmenopausal women with established osteoporosis, GH and insulin like growth factor-1 (IGF-1) concentrations are low, and administration of GH has been shown to increase bone turnover and BMD, but the mechanisms remain unclear (*Joseph et al., 2008*).

## **Aim of the Work**

**T**he aim of this review is to discuss the update in the causes and pathogeneses of osteoporosis associated with endocrinal disorders.

# **Osteoporosis**

## **Definition:**

**O**steoporosis is an asymptomatic systemic disease characterized by deterioration of the microarchitecture of bone and low bone mass, which ultimately predisposes patients to fractures secondary to low-energy mechanisms (*McKean et al., 2013*). Osteoporosis takes place when bone resorption by osteoclasts far exceeds bone formation by osteoblasts (*Muhammad et al., 2012*).

Osteoporosis remains a major public health problem through its association with fragility fractures. Despite the availability of preventative therapeutic agents, the incidence and its associated costs continue to rise globally. Understanding osteoporosis epidemiology is essential to developing strategies to reduce the burden of osteoporotic fracture in the population (*Cole et al., 2008*).

Osteoporotic fractures are associated with increased mortality and major morbidity, including loss of independence, reduced function and mobility, pain, kyphosis and respiratory compromise (*Walsh & Eastell, 2013*).

## **Epidemiology**

It is a common disease affecting 8 million women and 2 million men in the United States and leading to more than 2 million osteoporotic fractures annually (*Diab and Watts, 2013*).

About half of the women at age of 50 or older will suffer an osteoporotic fracture during their lifetime, causing disability, increased mortality, and financial burden, Fragility fractures occur less commonly in men, but they are associated with a higher mortality than in women (**Mazziotti et al., 2012**).

The social and economic burden of osteoporosis is increasing steadily because of the aging of the world population. Currently affecting more than 10 million people in the United States, osteoporosis is projected to impact approximately 14 million adults over the age of 50 by the year 2020 (**Lane, 2006**).

Epidemiological studies have recently reported on the burden of hip and vertebral fractures in Mexico. It is estimated that 1 in 12 Mexican women and 1 in 20 Mexican men will have a hip fracture after the age of 50 (lifetime risk probability of 8.5 and 3.8%, respectively) Compared to other countries, Mexico shows intermediate hip fracture incidence rates<sup>12</sup> (age-standardized incidence rates of 203 and 108 per 100, 000 person years in women and men, respectively) (**Clark et al., 2013**).

During early adult life there are actually more fractures in men than women; most of these fractures are traumatic. After the menopause, women have an increasingly greater risk of osteoporotic fracture. This increased risk is related to the dramatic loss of estrogen with the cessation of menses. In men, there is analogous dramatic decrease in androgen secretion (**Adler, 2013**).