

1 **Running Title: Mechanisms and Evaluation of Bone Fragility in Type 1 Diabetes Mellitus**

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31 **Abstract**

32

33 Subjects with Type 1 diabetes mellitus have decreased bone mineral density and an up to 6
34 fold increase in fracture risk. Yet bone fragility is not commonly regarded as another unique
35 complication of diabetes.

36

37 Both animals with experimentally induced insulin deficiency syndromes and patients with type
38 1 diabetes (T1DM) have impaired osteoblastic bone formation, with or without increased bone
39 resorption. Insulin/IGF-1 deficiency appears to be a major pathogenetic mechanism involved,
40 along with glucose toxicity, marrow adiposity, inflammation, adipokine and other metabolic
41 alterations that may all play a role on altering bone turnover.

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43 In turn increasing physical activity in children with diabetes as well as good glycaemic control
44 appears to provide some improvement of bone parameters, although robust clinical studies
45 are still lacking. In this context, the role of osteoporosis drugs remains unknown.

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48 Keywords: Type I Diabetes, osteoporosis, fracture, treatment, bone assessment

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50 I. Introduction

51

52 Despite the wealth of information available concerning the various systemic complications of
53 chronic diabetes, the effects of this disease on the metabolism of minerals and the integrity of
54 bone, particularly bone fragility, are not yet fully appreciated. The earliest influence of the
55 diabetic environment on bone is seen in the increased prevalence of skeletal malformations in
56 the fetuses of diabetic mothers. Hypoplasia or deformities of the extremities, dislocation of
57 the hips, and agenesis of the sacrum or lumbar vertebrae occur 3-5 times as frequently among
58 these infants as among non-diabetic controls ¹. The second category of bony abnormalities
59 known to occur in those with diabetes results from the continuing trauma following diabetic
60 neuropathy and is characterized by focal osteolysis, bone fragmentation, sclerosis and
61 Charcot's neurogenic arthropathy. This condition is usually evident in the small bones of the
62 feet and less frequently involves the knees, upper extremities or vertebrae ². Hand
63 abnormalities, including carpal tunnel syndrome, sclerodactily, acroosteolysis, and
64 Dupuytren's contracture also occur more frequently in diabetes. Diabetic muscle infarction is a
65 rare complication seen in poorly controlled diabetics with advanced microvascular
66 complications ³. Late complications of diabetes may also impact negatively on skeletal health
67 e.g. renal osteodystrophy; falls and fractures secondary to poor vision, neuropathy, or
68 cerebrovascular disease.

69

70 As early as 1927 Morrison and Bogan ⁴ documented decreased skeletal mass and bone
71 development in children with longstanding diabetes. In 1934 several cases of diabetes
72 associated with vertebral crush fractures were reported from the Joslin clinic ⁵. Albright and
73 Reifenstein ⁶ confirmed these findings and Hernberg ⁷ reported in 1952 that osteoporosis was

74 much more severe in young adults with diabetes at post mortem. Subsequently, Berney and
75 others^{8, 9} reemphasized the coexistence of diabetes and radiologic evidence of decreased
76 bone mass. In 1970 Jurist¹⁰, employing resonant frequency analysis, reported decreased
77 skeletal strength in diabetic women compared with age-matched controls. Diabetes was found
78 to occur in more than 20% of patients with vertebral crush fractures in a large epidemiologic
79 study from Israel¹¹. Applying single photon absorptiometry, Ringe *et al*¹², Levin *et al*¹³ and Mc
80 Nair *et al*¹⁴ documented a 31-48% decrease in bone mineral density (BMD) in insulin requiring
81 diabetic patients. A 25-30% decrease in metacarpal cortical thickness was subsequently
82 reported by Santiago *et al*¹⁵ and Hough *et al*¹⁶.

83 It is, however, the role of diabetes and its treatment as the cause of a metabolic bone disease
84 resulting in a generalised decrease in bone mass and/or compromised bone quality, with its
85 increased propensity to fracture, that has attracted much attention of late. It is now well
86 established that osteoporotic fractures occur significantly more commonly in subjects with
87 type 1 diabetes¹⁷. Whether this merely reflects the common co-existence of the two diseases
88 or whether involvement of the skeleton should be regarded as yet another unique
89 complication of diabetes, needs to be ascertained.

90

91 **II. Fracture Risk**

92

93 Following earlier⁴⁻⁹ suggestions of an increased prevalence of fractures in T1DM, the results of
94 the Iowa Women's Health Study, an 11 year follow-up of 32,089 postmenopausal women,
95 were reported in 2001¹⁸. Hip fractures were found to be 12-times more common in women
96 with T1DM compared to matched controls. Men with T1DM were found to have a 17.8 fold
97 increased risk of hip fractures in a 6-year follow up of 27,159 Norwegian subjects¹⁹. Miao et al

98 ²⁰ reported a similar 8-12 fold increase in hip fracture risk in a Swedish cohort of more than
99 24,000 patients with T1DM. In 2007, two large meta-analyses were published, reporting a near
100 identical 6.9 ¹⁷ and 6.3 ²¹ fold increase in hip fracture risk in patients with T1DM compared to
101 subjects without diabetes. A less marked, but significant (OR=2.5 95%CI: 1.3-4.6) increase in
102 vertebral fracture risk has also been reported in T1DM ²². While no large studies evaluating the
103 risk of vertebral fracture in T1DM are available, there is data suggesting higher prevalence of
104 morphometric vertebral fractures, assessed by VFA, in cross-sectional study ²³. A more recent
105 meta-analysis showed that T1DM was associated with a threefold higher risk of any fracture, -
106 and up to 5 fold concerning hip fractures in women- ²⁴. T1DM is also associated with higher
107 fracture risk than T2DM ¹⁷. A retrospective cohort study from the THIN database in the UK
108 determined that the association between T1DM and increased risk of fracture of lower
109 extremities especially was lifelong, starting during childhood until advanced age ²⁵.

110

111 Fracture risk appeared to be related to the duration of diabetes with some studies revealing a
112 near linear relationship between duration of diabetes and fracture risk ^{18, 20}. Other studies ¹⁹
113 failed to document any association with duration, whereas yet others ²² proposed a bimodal
114 relationship with the highest incidence occurring within the first 2.5 years and again beyond 5
115 years of diabetes being diagnosed. Most, but not all ²⁶, studies failed to document a
116 relationship between the risk of fracture and glycemic control. An association between the
117 presence of microvascular complications of diabetes and the increase in fracture risk, was
118 however reported in most studies ¹⁷⁻²².

119

120 **III Quantitative and structural bases of bone fragility**

121

122 A. Bone mineral density and ultrasound parameters

123 Table 1 lists more recent studies, using more sensitive dual energy X-ray absorptiometry (DXA)
124 techniques, to measure axial BMD in younger subjects with T1DM. Most²⁷⁻⁴⁴, although not all
125⁴⁵⁻⁴⁹, studies report a significant decrease in BMD at either the spine, hip or total body. The
126 magnitude of the decrease in BMD varied quite markedly from 8-67%, and large gender
127 differences appear to be present, with many studies documenting changes in BMD in either
128 males or females only. A recent meta-analysis¹⁷ reported an average decrease in spine BMD
129 of -22% and a hip Z-score of -37% compared to that of age-and gender matched controls.
130 Many^{27, 30, 36, 43}, but not all^{29, 35}, studies suggested that a decrease in BMD occurred more
131 frequently in those with longstanding diabetes. Some studies, however, documented the
132 presence of osteopenia at diagnosis of diabetes³⁵. As depicted in Table 1, BMD correlated
133 poorly with glycaemic control in most^{29, 33-37} but not all^{28, 31, 32} studies. However many studies
134 reported an association between the presence of microvascular complications of diabetes and
135 the presence and/or progression of a decreased BMD^{27, 28, 38, 40, 42, 50}. In these studies, the
136 nature of the microvascular complication ranged from nephropathy to neuropathy to
137 retinopathy, and no consistent pattern was apparent. The Vestergaard meta-analysis¹⁷ also
138 documented an association between the decreased BMD observed in patients with type 1
139 diabetes and the presence of a microvascular complication, but failed to document an
140 association between BMD and glycaemic (HbA1c) control.

141

142 A few studies^{45, 51-57} have employed peripheral quantitative computer tomography (pQCT) or
143 peripheral DXA (pDXA) to study the BMD of the distal forearm or tibia in T1DM. Some^{45, 56}
144 have reported no difference in the BMD between diabetics and controls, whereas others^{51-55,}
145⁵⁷ have documented a decrease in either trabecular and/or cortical BMD at these sites.

146 Although the decreased BMD reported in subjects with T1DM^{27-44, 50, 58} may largely explain the
147 higher fracture risk observed in these patients^{17-22, 26}, alterations in bone quality, as described
148 below, may also contribute and actually confer its specific nature to diabetic bone disease.
149 Quantitative ultrasound (QUS) parameters, including speed of sound (SOS), broadband
150 ultrasound attenuation (BUA), and derived variables like ultrasound BMD or stiffness index of
151 the radius, tibia, calcaneus or phalanges, have been reported in patients with T1DM in a
152 limited number of studies^{42, 59-63}. Low values for these parameters were reported in T1DM,
153 which appeared to correlate with the duration of diabetes⁵⁹⁻⁶¹ and the degree of metabolic
154 control⁶¹⁻⁶³.

155

156 B. Bone size and microstructure

157 A number of studies have documented a smaller cross-sectional radial or tibial bone area in
158 T1DM compared to controls^{51, 56, 57}, especially during childhood^{57, 64} but with a normalization
159 with age⁶⁵, and reported an association between glycemic control and decreased bone size^{52,}
160 ⁵⁴.

161 High resolution (HR)-pQCT measurements at the ultradistal radius and tibia showed in a cross-
162 sectional study that T1DM patients as a group have lower total and trabecular volumetric BMD
163 compared to healthy subjects, and these alterations are more prominent in those subjects
164 with chronic microvascular diseases (MVD). They also exhibit lower trabecular and cortical
165 thickness at the tibia, resulting in decreased estimated bone strength compared to healthy
166 patients with MVD⁶⁶. Of note, however, cortical porosity, another important determinant of
167 bone strength, was not increased in T1DM subjects, even those with MVD. These data suggest
168 that MVD may be independent risk factor of fractures. By magnetic resonance imaging (MRI),
169 Adalrahman confirmed trabecular deficits with reduced bone volume and trabecular

170 number at the proximal tibia of young adults with childhood onset of T1DM, as well as
171 increased medullary fat in the vertebrae⁶⁷.

172 Fracture toughness, the ability of the bone material to resist to crack initiation and
173 propagation is another determinant of fracture risk, besides bone strength. Nuclear
174 magnetic resonance spectroscopy (NMR) and reference point indentation (RPI) have been
175 shown to be useful clinical surrogates to assess fracture toughness. In a study Granke et al
176 showed that the fracture toughness properties decreased with age. NMR-derived properties
177 such as pore water RPI-derived tissue stiffness correlated with fracture toughness on human
178 femoral bone⁶⁸.

179

180 **IV Bone turnover**

181

182 A variety of animal models of T1DM (streptozotocin – induced; spontaneously diabetic NOD
183 mice) have been shown to exhibit bone loss/impaired bone strength. Both animals with
184 experimentally induced diabetes and patients with T1DM demonstrate similar metabolic bone
185 profiles , namely impaired bone formation, low levels of osteocalcin/bone specific alkaline
186 phosphatase, whereas it is less clear whether increased bone resorption also occurs.
187 Employing short-term (2-week) animal models of streptozotocin diabetes, the low BMD
188 observed in insulinopaenic diabetes was earlier explained by secondary hyperparathyroidism
189 and increased bone resorption resulting from a negative calcium balance (impaired intestinal
190 calcium absorption; hypercalciuria)^{69, 70}. Using more appropriate animal models of chronic
191 diabetes (8-10 weeks), and employing time-spaced tetracycline labelled bone
192 histomorphometry, bone formation and resorption were found to be markedly suppressed⁷¹⁻
193 ⁷⁴.

194 Subsequently, low bone formation has been confirmed in patients with T1DM, using
195 biomarkers of bone turnover like serum osteocalcin^{33, 75-79}. In some human studies, bone
196 resorption in T1DM is either decreased or unaltered and does not explain the low BMD
197 observed in this disease⁸⁰. In children and young adults, T1DM patients had lower PINP and
198 CTX levels compared to controls^{67, 81}. However enzymatic cross-linking of collagen is reduced
199 in diabetes⁸² and thus bone resorption assessed with CTX assay may be underestimated,
200 CTX measuring cross-linked telopeptides.

201

202 Unfortunately bone histology data in patients with T1DM are scarce. Only one study with 2
203 biopsies from patients with T1DM and 6 with T2DM showed markedly depressed bone
204 formation rate compared to non-diabetic patients⁸³. Although a larger case-control study of
205 18 patients with type 1 diabetes and relatively good glycemic control (average HbA1C 6.8%)
206 showed no bone structural or dynamic differences between groups, bone formation was
207 significantly less in the small group of subjects who had fractures compared with T1DM
208 patients without fractures⁸⁴. A recent reanalysis of these biopsies further indicates an
209 increased degree of bone mineralization and non-enzymatic collagen crosslinks in diabetes
210 subjects, particularly those with fractures, which would be consistent with a lower bone
211 turnover. Moreover these parameters were positively correlated with HbA1C, indicating that
212 poor glycemic control has consequences on material bone properties⁸⁵

213

214 **V Cellular and molecular mechanisms of diabetes bone disease**

215

216 The pathogenesis of diabetic bone fragility is probably multifactorial. T1DM can directly
217 influence bone quantity and quality in a number of ways or indirectly impact on skeletal

218 health by causing hypogonadism ^{86, 87}, hypercalciuria ^{88, 89}, alterations in vitamin D
219 metabolism ^{89, 90} or because of its association with certain diseases known to adversely
220 influence bone (e.g. Coeliac disease ⁹¹) (Fig1).

221

222 I. Insulin, incretin and IGF-1

223 Insulin has been shown to have anabolic actions on bone *in vitro* ⁹². Furthermore, in
224 knockout models of insulin receptor substrate 1 or 2 (IRS-1; IRS-2), the main intracellular
225 substrates of the insulin receptor, bone formation and resorption are markedly reduced ⁹³,
226 ⁹⁴. The administration of insulin to animals with experimental diabetes has also been shown
227 to correct the decreased bone turnover that characterizes the chronic diabetic state ^{71, 95}.
228 Insulin deficiency, as a cause of the low bone formation in T1DM therefore appears
229 attractive. However, no changes in bone turnover were observed in global knockout of the
230 mouse insulin receptor (IR), subsequently rescued by transgenic expression of the human IR
231 in the liver, pancreas, and brain, but not bone ⁹⁶. Decreased insulin signalling alone cannot
232 therefore account for the low bone turnover in T1DM. These knockout mice have elevated
233 insulin levels which increase IGF-1 signalling. Sufficient signalling through either IR or IGF-1 is
234 therefore required for optimal bone turnover ^{80, 97}. Human data support the notion that the
235 lack of insulin may affect negatively osteoblasts. In T1DM adolescents, bone phosphatase
236 alkaline (ALP), osteocalcin and IGF-I levels were significantly lower compared to healthy
237 controls ⁷⁵ and lower IGF-I were associated with osteopenia ³³. The decreased levels of IGF-I
238 seen in T1DM but not in T2DM are not fully explained.

239 Incretin peptides, especially glucose-dependent insulinotropic polypeptide (GIP) and
240 glucagon-like peptide-I (GLP-I), are gut hormones known to potentiate the secretion of
241 glucose-dependent insulin from the pancreas. GLP-I agonists and dipeptidyl peptidase-4

242 (DDP4) inhibitors are a new class of incretin-based therapies for the treatment of type 2
243 diabetes, which play an important role in the regulation of bone turnover ⁹⁸. Recent data
244 suggest that incretins could also have a positive effect on bone quality in T1DM. In
245 streptozotocin-treated mice, incretin peptides were able to prevent the alterations of
246 cortical microarchitecture and the deterioration of bone quality ⁹⁹. Clinical studies are
247 needed to determine if the rodent data is applicable and to elucidate the effects of incretin
248 on fracture risk.

249

250 II. Hyperglycaemia and AGEs

251 Hyperglycaemia is known to suppress osteoblastic differentiation and signaling, potentially
252 resulting in impaired bone formation ^{80, 100}. Chronic hyperglycaemia may also result in the
253 non-enzymatic glycosylation of proteins (e.g. collagen) and other cell components (e.g.
254 DNA), collectively referred to as advanced glycation end products (AGES) ¹⁰¹. Various AGES
255 and their receptors (RAGES) have been implicated in the development of complications of
256 diabetes, including diabetic bone disease. In a cross-sectional study, T1DM people with
257 fracture were having higher serum levels of pentosidine, an AGE product, compared to non-
258 fracture ones, although values largely overlapped with those of non-fractured diabetics ¹⁰².

259

260 III. Marrow adiposity

261 In the bone marrow, mesenchymal stromal cells (MSC) are the common progenitors that
262 give rise to osteoblasts, adipocytes and chondrocytes. A reciprocal relationship exists
263 between adipogenesis, which is largely driven by the pro-adipogenic transcription factor,
264 peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor (PPAR γ 2) and osteoblastogenesis. Stimulation of
265 PPAR γ 2 expression *in vitro* has been shown to promote adipocyte maturation of MSCs and

266 to reduce the number of mature osteoblasts ¹⁰³. Marrow adiposity has been demonstrated
267 in a number of conditions where increased adipogenesis has occurred at the expense of
268 impaired osteoblastogenesis e.g. glucocorticoid excess, old age. McCabe ⁸⁰ and others ¹⁰³
269 have also demonstrated increased bone marrow PPAR γ 2 activity and increased bone
270 marrow adiposity in mice with T1DM. Whether marrow adiposity is causally related to the
271 low BMD observed in T1DM remains unclear. A direct link in all forms of bone loss appears
272 unlikely, since PPAR γ 2 antagonists, capable of preventing marrow adiposity, did not prevent
273 T1DM bone loss ¹⁰⁴.

274

275 IV. Inflammation

276 Type 2 diabetes is often referred to as a state of accelerated ageing and chronic low-grade
277 inflammation (“inflammaging”). Type 1 diabetes is, however, also known to up-regulate a
278 number of inflammatory genes, and the pathogenesis of various complications of T1DM is
279 thought to have, at least in part, an inflammatory basis ¹⁰⁵.

280 Inflammatory cytokines like IL-1 classically stimulate osteoclastic bone resorption. However,
281 inflammatory cytokines like TNF- α have been shown to inhibit osteoblastogenesis from
282 mesenchymal stromal cells through several mechanisms ¹⁰⁶. Moreover, the inflammatory
283 milieu appears to dictate whether osteoblastic bone formation is impaired (e.g. in
284 rheumatoid arthritis) or whether osteoblastic bone formation is stimulated (e.g. at sites of
285 entheses in ankylosing spondylitis) ¹⁰⁷. Further studies are required to determine whether
286 bone loss in T1DM has an inflammatory basis and whether anti-inflammatory agents impact
287 on this process.

288

289 V. Osteocyte function

290 The low bone formation rate that is characteristic of T1DM (see above) suggests that in
291 addition to its direct negative effects on osteoblasts, diabetes could also affect the function
292 of osteocytes, i.e. the master regulator of bone cells functions. Sclerostin is an osteocyte-
293 derived inhibitor of Wnt signaling pathway, essential for osteoblast differentiation and bone
294 formation ¹⁰⁸. In humans, sclerostin levels have been shown to be higher in patients with
295 T1DM compared to controls in a cross-sectional study ¹⁰². Catalano et al showed that
296 sclerostin levels are higher in female with T1DM compared to males and that the duration of
297 the disease was associated with higher levels of sclerostin ¹⁰⁹. Sclerostin levels are also
298 higher in prediabetic subjects ¹¹⁰. These findings suggest that sclerostin expression and/or
299 osteocytes viability and functions could be impaired in diabetes. Whether the mechanostatic
300 response to skeletal loading is impaired in these subjects however remains unknown.

301

302 VI Others

303 Nutritional deprivation and keto-acidosis, still too commonly encountered in the patient
304 with poorly controlled T1DM, are well known to impair bone formation ¹⁶. Poorly controlled
305 T1DM is often attended by dyslipidaemia, which is associated with increased PPAR γ 2
306 expression, impaired osteoblast differentiation and marrow adiposity ⁸⁰. Finally, theories
307 derived to account for the bone loss in T1DM must also acknowledge reports of
308 abnormalities in circulating levels of the adipokines (leptin, adiponectin), amylin,
309 prostaglandins and glucocorticoids in both experimental and human T1DM, which may
310 negatively impact on bone health ^{16, 111-113}.

311

312 VI Evaluation and Management of bone fragility in T1DM

313 In children and adolescents with T1DM, diagnosis of low bone mass should follow paediatric
314 guidelines, i.e., BMD Z-score below -2.0 and a fragility fracture ¹¹⁴. But it is not clear who
315 should undergo a BMD test among T1DM patients. In young adults, diagnosis of
316 osteoporosis rely not only on aBMD (T-score and not Z.-score) but also on multiple fragility
317 fractures ¹¹⁵. Early onset of T1DM can negatively affect bone size and mass. The use of
318 markers of bone turnover to investigate osteoporosis in this age category remains
319 controversial ¹¹⁶.

320

321 FRAX algorithm (www.shef.ac.uk/FRAX) was developed to estimate an individual's ten-year
322 probability of major osteoporotic fracture and hip fracture in subjects older than 40 years of
323 age. T1DM is considered as one of the causes of secondary osteoporosis and not as risk
324 factor and therefore it increases fracture probability only when BMD is not included in the
325 calculation, as illustrated in table 2. Trabecular Bone score (TBS) is a new texture parameter
326 derived from DXA image of the spine and provides information related to bone
327 microarchitecture and fracture risk. TBS was shown not to be significantly different between
328 T1DM and healthy persons but to be lower in T1DM patients with prevalent fractures ¹¹⁷. A
329 low TBS value increases the predicted fracture probability in T1D to the same degree as in
330 non-diabetic subjects (Table 2).

331 In young adults, general recommendations should therefore be followed to diagnose low
332 bone mass in T1DM individuals ¹¹⁸, whereas after the age of 40, fracture risk evaluation can
333 be performed using FRAX, ideally including femoral neck BMD and other DXA-derived
334 informations (TBS and VFA).

335

336 Fracture prevention

337 It needs to be reiterated that no RCTs are available to guide the treatment of bone fragility
338 in diabetes and that management is entirely empirical and derives from the good clinical
339 practice and experience of the physician. Many osteoporosis guidelines mentioned T1DM as
340 a risk factor for osteoporosis and fracture and suggest earlier bone evaluation in those
341 patients. In contrast recommendations on osteoporosis screening are not found in most
342 diabetes guidelines. In a recent publication Zhukouskaya proposed a flow chart for
343 evaluation, management and treatment of T1DM patients at risk of poor bone health ¹¹⁹.

344

345 1. Non-pharmacologic measures

346 General measures to prevent osteoporosis also apply to the patient with T1DM, especially to
347 children with early onset of diabetes, who could have difficulties reaching peak bone mass
348 during growth ¹²⁰. These include a balanced diet rich in dairy, ensuring an adequate calcium
349 (1000mg/day) and vitamin D (1000 IU/day) intake, regular weight-bearing exercise (40 min
350 walk 3x/week), limiting alcohol to <3 units per day, stopping smoking, the avoidance of other
351 bone toxins and the prevention of falls ¹²¹. In children and adolescents, physical activity is
352 the best way to build-up bone mass and strength. Maggio and al have shown that regular
353 weight-bearing exercise increases bone mineral accretion in T1DM children similarly to non
354 diabetic children ⁸¹. In the older patient with T1DM, especially those with neuropathy, poor
355 vision or gait and balance problems, fall prevention is paramount.

356

357 2. Optimise metabolic control

358 Controversy exists as to the role of glycaemic control on BMD and fracture risk. Given the
359 fact that, much *in vitro* data ^{80, 100} suggest that hyperglycaemia and hyperlipidaemia are toxic
360 to osteoblasts, and at least some clinical reports ¹⁸⁻²⁰ have confirmed a relationship between

361 glycaemic control and fracture incidence, it is our contention that every effort should be
362 made to optimise metabolic control in patients with T1DM at risk of fracture – this is
363 especially relevant to T1DM in the young. Optimization of the insulin treatment remains a
364 major point for normalization of glycaemia, prevention of diabetic complications and even
365 prevention of bone health. In a prospective study, there was a trend for higher BMD in
366 T1DM young adults treated with insulin for 7 years ⁵⁰. However, in order to avoid
367 hypoglycaemia, insulin is given at a dose that produces a slight hyperglycaemia compared to
368 non diabetic subjects. Thus it is possible that this slight chronic hyperglycaemia may affect
369 bone quality and account for the increased risk of fracture.

370

371 3. Management of associated disorders

372 T1DM is associated with a number of disorders known to impact adversely on skeletal
373 health. Hypogonadism, although more commonly encountered in T2DM and the metabolic
374 syndrome, also occurs more commonly in T1DM and should be assessed and managed if
375 present. In poorly controlled diabetes, excessive renal loss of calcium, magnesium may
376 occur. Coeliac disease occurs in 4-11% of patients with T1DM as opposed to <1% in the
377 general population and should be screened for with serum endomysial antibody assays in
378 those at risk of fracture ^{91, 122, 123}. If the diagnosis is confirmed with intestinal histology, a
379 gluten free diet is indicated.

380

381 4. Bone active medications

382 None of the anti-osteoporotic agents have been tested for their antifracture efficacy in
383 T1DM subjects. Given the fact that bone formation is generally impaired in T1DM, one would
384 intuitively think that treatment with anti-resorptive agents would be less effective and that

385 an anabolic agent should be preferred. Intermittent parathyroid hormone, known to have
386 bone forming effects on bone, and more generally to increase bone turnover, has in fact
387 been shown to improve trabecular bone volume in animals with experimental type 1
388 diabetes ¹²⁴. To date however there are no human data on the effect of intermittent PTH in
389 T1DM patients. Sclerostin antibody has been tested in animal models with T2DM, where it
390 increased bone mass and strength, but not in the setting of T1DM ¹²⁵. Unfortunately no
391 clinical studies are yet available to confirm this in humans. Bisphosphonates, known for their
392 anti-fracture effects in high-turnover (e.g. postmenopausal) as well as low-formation (e.g.
393 glucocorticoid - induced) osteoporosis are usually recommended as first-line treatment for
394 diabetic bone disease, but no studies are available to support this contention. A cohort study
395 showed no difference in antifracture efficacy of biphosphonates in patients with diabetes
396 compared to control non diabetic patients, or between patients with T1DM and T2DM ¹²⁶.
397 However, atypical femoral fracture occurred twice more often in postmenopausal women
398 with diabetes (type 1 and 2) compared to those without diabetes (11.6% vs 5.6%) ¹²⁷, so
399 bisphosphonates should be used with caution and at least for limited durations in T1DM
400 patients with established bone fragility, especially in children and young adults with T1DM.
401 Strontium ranelate is contraindicated in patients at risk of cardiovascular disease. Both
402 bisphosphonates and strontium ranelate are contraindicated in patients with significant
403 renal impairment and a creatinine clearance <30ml/min. Denosumab has been shown to
404 increase cortical density and thickness but it has not yet been tested in the context of
405 diabetes neither in animal models nor in humans.

406 As the onset of T1DM happens often during childhood, specific attention should be directed
407 towards these growing children, who have not yet reached their peak bone mass.

408

409 **VII Conclusions**

410 T1DM confers significant increased fracture risk throughout life. Therefore fragility fractures
411 should be considered as a (new) major complication of this disease and fracture risk should be
412 properly evaluated and regularly re-evaluated in these patients. Since aBMD is usually
413 decreased in T1D, the common fracture prediction algorithms such as FRAX can be used to
414 evaluate fracture probability in T1D without further adjustments (contrarily to T2D). However
415 the development of non-invasive or minimally invasive methods to evaluate “bone quality”
416 parameters, such as high-resolution pQCT and micro-point indentation might be useful to
417 further identify T1DM subjects at increased fracture risk. Clinical trials evaluating the
418 benefits/risk of osteoporosis drugs on skeletal health in subjects with this common disease are
419 also urgently needed.

420

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422 None

423

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426

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797 Figure 1: Pathological mechanisms which may be involved in the development of diabetic
798 osteopenia
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Table I: DXA Measurement of BMD in Type 1 Diabetes

	n	F/M	Age	Duration	Site	MVC	GC
Decreased BMD							
Munoz-Torres (1996) ³⁸	94	49/45	30	12	H and S	Yes	NR
Clausen (1997) ²⁶	36	0/36	48	27	Hip	Yes	NR
Gunczler (1998) ²⁸	26	11/15	12	4	H and S	NR	No
Hampson (1998) ³⁰	31	31/0	42	20	Hip	NR	NR
Tuominen (1999) ⁴³	56	27/29	62	18	Hip*	NR	NR
Rozadilla (2000) ⁴⁰	88	43/45	29	11	Spine	Yes	NR
Kemink (2000) ³³	35	14/21	38	9	H and S	NR	No
Campos Pastor (2000) ²⁵	57	30/27	35	17	H and S	Yes	NR
Lopez-Ibarra (2001) ³⁵	32	10/22	30	0	H and S	NR	No
Valerio (2002) ⁴⁴	27	12/15	13	7	Hip*	NR	Yes
Léger (2006) ³⁴	127	73/54	14	6	S and TB	NR	No
Rakic (2006) ³⁹	34	11/23	48	14	H and S	NR	NR
Strotmeyer (2006) ⁴²	67	67/0	32	5	Hip	Yes	NR
Miazgowski (2007)	36	36/0	44	22	Spine	No	No
Mastrandrea (2008) ³⁶	63	63/0	21	NR	Hip	NR	No
Heilman (2009) ³¹	30	11/19	13	5	Spine*	NR	Yes
Hamilton (2009) ²⁹	102	52/50	38	14	H and S	NR	NR
Eller-Vainicher (2011) ²⁷	175	104/71	33	9	H and S	Yes	Yes
Soto (2011) ⁴¹	45	45/0	23	13	H and TB	NR	No
Joshi (2013) ³²	86	22/53	27	15	S and TB	NR	Yes
No change in BMD							
Pascual (1998) ⁸⁷	55	29/26	11	3			
Lunt (1998) ⁸⁶	99	99/0	42	27			
Liu (2003) ⁸⁵	72	72/0	16	7			
Ingberg (2004) ⁸⁴	38	20/18	43	33			
Bridges (2005) ⁸³	35	0/35	49	20			

F/M Female/Male

Duration Duration of diabetes in years

Site Skeletal site demonstrating a decreased bone mineral density (BMD)

MVC Correlation between BMD and diabetic microvascular complication(s)

GC Correlation between BMD and glycaemic control (usually the mean HbA1c)

NR Not reported

H Hip

S Spine

TB Total Body

Hip* Only site measured

Spine* Only site measured

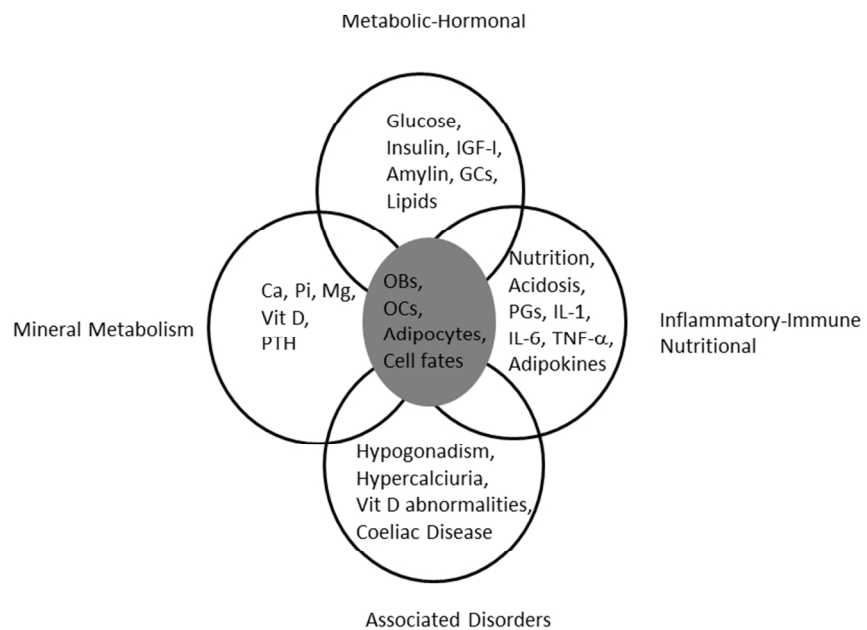
Table 2 : Ten-year probability of major osteoporotic fracture in T1DM patients (UK)

	FRAX		FRAX + BMD		FRAX + BMD + TBS	
	No diabetes	Diabetes	No diabetes	Diabetes	No diabetes	Diabetes
Woman, 52-y-old*	3.9	5.3	4.4	4.4	6.6	6.6
Woman, 62-y-old with a vertebral fracture**	14.0	20.0	17.0	17.0	20.0	20.0

*Woman, 52 year-old, 60 kg, 163 cm, T-score -1.5, TBS 1.16, no other FRAX clinical risk factor

** Woman, 62 year-old, 60 kg, 163 cm, T-score -2.5, TBS 1.16, with a vertebral fracture

Figure 1: Pathological mechanisms which may be involved in the development of diabetic osteopenia



254x190mm (96 x 96 DPI)