

Use of osteoporosis drugs have dropped following media reports of safety concerns

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Following a decade of steady growth, use of bisphosphonates—medications that are effective for treating osteoporosis—declined in the United States by more than 50% from 2008 to 2012.

The sudden drop seemed to occur after media reports highlighted safety concerns, such as the development of certain fractures that occurred rarely in long-term users, despite the fact that the US Food and Drug Administration and the American Society of Bone and Mineral Research did not recommend any specific safety restrictions on [bisphosphonates](#). The findings are published in the *Journal of Bone and Mineral Research*.

"Our study documents a dramatic drop in [osteoporosis](#) medication use by patients. Whether it will impact the long-term bone health of the nation remains to be seen," said senior author Dr. Timothy Bhattacharyya.

More information: *Journal of Bone and Mineral Research*, [DOI: 10.1002/jbmr.2565](#)

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