

Wrist fracture linked to higher subsequent fracture risk

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(HealthDay)—For postmenopausal women, wrist fracture is associated with increased risk of subsequent non-wrist fracture, according to a study published in the November issue of the *Journal of Bone and Mineral Research*.

Carolyn J. Crandall, M.D., from the David Geffen School of Medicine at the University of California Los Angeles, and colleagues examined the frequency and type of fractures that occur after a wrist fracture among [postmenopausal women](#). A post-hoc analysis of data from the Women's Health Initiative Observational Study and Clinical Trials was conducted. Participants, aged 50 to 79 years, were followed for a mean of 11.8 years.

The researchers found that 15.5 percent of the [women](#) who experienced

wrist fracture subsequently experienced non-wrist fracture. Compared with those who had not experienced wrist fracture, women who had experienced previous wrist fracture had increased risk for non-wrist fracture (hazard ratios: 1.40 overall; 1.48 for spine; 1.78 for humerus; 1.88 for upper extremity; 1.36 for lower extremity; and 1.50 for hip). After adjustment for [bone mineral density](#), physical activity, and other risk factors, the associations persisted. In women who were younger when they experienced wrist fracture, the risk of non-wrist fracture was higher (interaction $P = 0.02$).

"There may be substantial missed opportunity for intervention in the large number of women who present with [wrist fractures](#)," the authors write.

Two authors disclosed financial ties to Amgen.

More information: [Abstract](#)
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