

Osteoporosis drug found safe in long-term trial

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A new study provides reassuring information about the short-term and long-term safety of denosumab, a monoclonal antibody that is used to treat postmenopausal osteoporosis.

Adverse events that had been noted in a pivotal clinical trial in women age 60 to 90 years old treated for 3 years showed no tendency to increase after a further 3 years of treatment, the study showed.

In addition, women who crossed over from 3 years of placebo to 3 years of denosumab experienced no increase in adverse effects compared with women treated for the initial 3 years.

"All of this is consistent with an excellent safety and tolerability profile for denosumab treatment for osteoporosis," said Dr. Nelson Watts, lead author of the study results published in *Journal of Bone and Mineral Research*. The authors noted that, especially in older women on long-term treatment, many if not all [adverse events](#) could be called "life events"—things that would have happened whether or not the person was participating in a clinical trial.

More information: NB Watts et al, Safety Observations With Three Years of Denosumab Exposure: Comparison Between Subjects Who Received Denosumab During the Randomized FREEDOM Trial and Subjects Who Crossed Over to Denosumab During the FREEDOM Extension, *Journal of Bone and Mineral Research* (2017). [DOI: 10.1002/jbmr.3119](#)

Provided by Wiley

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