



"Balancing Cancer Treatment and Skeletal Integrity: Hormonal Therapies and Bisphosphonates in Breast and Prostate Cancer"

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ABSTRACT

Patients diagnosed with cancer frequently face skeletal complications such as pathological fractures and persistent discomfort, often exacerbated by metastasis to the bone, particularly in cases of breast cancer (BCa) and prostate cancer (PCa). Treatments including radiation therapy, chemotherapy, and hormonal therapies can weaken bones, increasing the risk of fractures associated with osteoporosis. Bisphosphonates, a class of drugs used for osteoporosis, have shown promise in impeding the progression of metastatic bone disease and possess anti-neoplastic properties that aid in tumor growth prevention. This review examines recent advancements in hormonal therapies for BCa and PCa and their effects on skeletal health. In BCa, anti-estrogens such as aromatase inhibitors (AIs) are pivotal, while androgen deprivation therapy (ADT) using gonadotropin-releasing hormone agonists (GnRH-agonists) remains the cornerstone for PCa treatment. These therapies, although effective, contribute to significant bone loss and increased fracture risk. Prostate cancer, the most prevalent cancer among men, particularly affects those over 75 years old, leading to severe hypogonadism and decreased bone density due to ADT. Similarly, hormonal therapies for BCa, especially AIs, drastically reduce estrogen levels, leading to bone loss and increased fracture rates. Comparative studies between AIs and tamoxifen have shown a higher incidence of fractures with AIs, emphasizing the need for vigilant bone health monitoring. Bisphosphonates have emerged as critical in managing bone metastases in both BCa and PCa. They inhibit osteoclastic activity, reducing bone resorption and providing direct anti-tumor effects. Their use in preventing and treating bone loss in cancer patients undergoing hormonal therapies is well-documented, with zoledronic acid showing significant benefits in maintaining bone density. Overall, the integration of bisphosphonates into treatment regimens for BCa and PCa patients undergoing hormonal therapies can mitigate skeletal complications, improve quality of life, and potentially enhance survival outcomes. Further research is essential to optimize these therapies and explore new avenues for protecting bone health in cancer patients.

Keywords: Cancer diagnosis, Hormonal therapies, Osteoporosis, Bisphosphonates, Cognitive function alterations.

1. Introduction

Patients diagnosed with cancer have a significant chance of experiencing skeletal problems, such as pathological fractures and persistent discomfort [1]. Tumors frequently spread to the bone, resulting in notable illness and death. Definite solid tumors tend to metastasize. The most common bone affected by basis is the breast. There are two types of cancer: breast cancer (BCa) and prostate cancer (PCa). Additionally, Treatment options include radiation therapy, chemotherapy, and hormonal therapies. These contribute to the weakening of bones and higher occurrence rate evidence of fractures caused by osteoporosis [2]. Pharmaceuticals Bisphosphonate, a class of drugs frequently utilized in treatments for osteoporosis, have also been approved. Metastatic bone disease. Indicates that Indicates that certain agents may impede the advancement of metastatic bone disease and its progression are being discussed. These agents possess anti-neoplastic properties and aid in the prevention of tumor growth. Osseous occurrences [3]. Within this review, we will examine and assess the impacts of more recent endocrine/hormonal therapies for lack of clarity, but I would like to discuss the role of BCa and PCa. Bisphosphonates are used for both therapy and Skeletal event prevention. These treatments will also result in bone loss [4].

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2. Hormonal therapies for breast and prostate cancer

Hormonal deprivation therapy is the primary treatment for hormone-sensitive breast cancer (BCa) and prostate cancer (PCa). The initial treatment of choice is hormone deprivation. Early initiation of therapy is crucial for effective treatment. progression of the illness, prior to the initiation of Bone metastases. The treatment for breast cancer involves Anti-estrogens, also known as aromatase inhibitors (AIs) When estrogen or progesterone receptors are present Optimistic. Prostate cancer (PCa) lacks distinctive indicators apart from greater than the prostate-specific antigen (PSA)[5]. Androgen deprivation therapy (ADT) using a specific method Gonadotropin-releasing hormone agonists Gonadotropin-releasing hormone agonists (GnRH-agonists) are the main kind of treatment. employed consistently or periodically till prostate cancer undergoes androgen independence[6].

3. Prostate Cancer

Prostate carcinoma (PCa) is the prevailing form of cancer and the second most significant factor associated with cancer-related mortality among males in the United States [7]. Men have a 16% probability of developing prostate cancer (PCa) during their lifetime. Approximately 1 in 34 individuals will succumb to this condition. The average age at diagnosis was 68 years, and Black males were 40% likelihood. A greater susceptibility to prostate cancer exists among individuals of African descent than among those of European descent. Black men have a prostate cancer mortality rate that is twice as high as that of white men [8]. The decrease in death rates during the past 10 years can be somewhat ascribed to the earlier identification. It is feasible to determine the presence of PSA and improve therapy through testing. Treatments are available for both localized and advanced diseases[9].

3.1 Application of Gonadotropin-Releasing Hormone Agonists (GnRH-Agonists) in the treatment of Prostate Cancer

Men >75 years old are more likely to have PCa than any other age group, with 50% of them having additional comorbidities. PCa usually progresses slowly. severe illness, which many elderly men suffer from the effects of cancer therapy. The most important outcome of PCa therapy is hypogonadism. Because of ADT, estrogen and testosterone levels decrease to castrate levels. Because testosterone levels in males decline with age; almost half of males before and above 80 years of age are hypogonadal. start of GnRH-agonist therapy [10]. Hypo Reduced bone density is caused by agonism. reduced muscular mass, elevated fall risk, and poor balance. Treatment with GnRH agonist results in a severe case of hypogonadism, which causes an elderly condition known as weakness in younger men. Approximately 70% of PCas depend on androgen. [11] and hence react to hormonal stimulation treatment, whether through bilateral surgical castration orchiectomy, estrogen therapy, or contra-androgens. Since the late 1980s, GnRH agonists have been frequently used for regional and advanced illness. Among 33% and 70% of men, GnRH agonists are now administered to patients with PCa as pri anti-androgen therapy and Mary therapy is used to address local diseases. Frequently, males with increasing GnRH agonist levels are used to treat PSA following radiation or marytherapy, and this is the most common use among males aged >80 years [12].

3.2 Adjuvant and Neoadjuvant Treatment for Prostate Cancer Using GnRH-Agonists

Neoadjuvant therapy is frequently used in conjunction with either radiation therapy or surgical radical prostatectomy in men with locally or locally progressed prostate cancer. The patient is an illness, but there are no signs of metastasis. Neoadjuvant androgen deprivation therapy (ADT) is often administered via injection three months before The initiation of radiation or prostatectomy. This meta-analysis was conducted using data from the Cochrane database. The study concluded that neoadjuvant treatment before radiation therapy was effective. Robotic-assisted prostatectomy did not enhance overall survival. The event, while causing a decline in positive outcomes, had a notable impact on survival. The surgical margins were positive and slightly reduced. Regarding the reappearance of a disease, this has been documented in previous studies [13]. The justification for The use of neoadjuvant therapy before radiotherapy is that its purpose is to reduce the size of the tumor and hence the Level of radiation necessary. Adjuvant therapy was administered before radiation. Survival rates were enhanced in patients following therapy. Free from disease Furthermore, there was a notable absence of biochemical illness recurrence, indicating a successful outcome in terms of enhanced survival [14]. There was no observed enhancement in Disease-specific survival, which refers to the measurement of the length of time that individuals diagnosed with a specific disease survive without disease progression or death. Adjuvant GnRH-agonist therapy combined with external radiation therapy enhances local control, disease-free survival, and survival rates in individuals with locally advanced prostate cancer (PCa) compared with androgen deprivation. The information provided is based solely on the literature [5]. Adverse reactions, such as episodes of sudden intense heat and sweating, Gynecomastia and bone loss should be taken into consideration. Occurs when these drugs are administered in conjunction with an adjuvant[15].

3.3 Advanced disease at the local level.

There has been a growing trend in men over 80 years old who experience local recurrence and rising PSA levels after undergoing primary therapy, such as prostatectomy or radiation. administered ADT, but if this extends the duration Their ability to survive is uncertain[16].

3.4 Metastatic disease in prostate cancer

Approximately 80-90% of individuals with advanced prostate cancer experience bone metastases, which have a substantial impact on their health. The formation of metastases relies on the bone microenvironment enabling prostate cancer cells to remain within the bone. Prostate cancer skeletal metastases in the bones are predominantly characterized by osteoblastic activity. In addition, there is a component in their structure that causes bone resorption. Breast cancer (BCa), which is predominantly characterized by osteolysis, also exhibits a component consisting of osteoblasts [17].

3.5 Effects of GnRH-Agonist Treatment

Despite the fact that treatment with GnRH-agonists has alleviated pain and decreased cancer-related illness in patients with advanced-stage disease, the use of this has resulted in negative consequences, including symptoms such as sudden feelings of intense heat, alterations in cognitive function, a decrease in mood, and a reduction in bone density. Bone mineral density (BMD) and adverse lipid profile modifications [18].

3.6 Osteoporosis

GnRH-agonists pose a significant risk for osteoporosis in elderly men. Approximately 2 million men already suffer from osteoporosis, while an additional 12 million men are at risk of developing the condition. Males constitute 33% of all hip fractures. Experience with elevated 1-year mortality rates following hip fractures. Men are more truthful than women. Annual rate of bone loss the prevalence rate of this condition in the male population was 0.5%. The prevalence of this condition is 1.0% in women and 1% in men. The rate of bone loss at the hip and spine during therapy is 2-3% each year. Initially, the loss is 72, but over time, the loss decreased. However, it can endure the entire therapy duration [19]. Treatment with GnRH agonists leads to elevated osseous remodeling. Elevated osteoclast function. An increase in the C-telopeptide indicates reflection. The level of the serum and the increase in osteoblasts. Elevated blood levels of amino acids can lead to increased activity. Terminal propeptide of type I procollagen. PINP is an abbreviation for procollagen type 1 N-terminal propeptide. These markers provide relatively accurate reflection of bone changes. Typically, bone density loss occurs rapidly, often within a few weeks. Urban transformations can often span several months or even years. The user's text is concise and straight forward. Increased remodeling is observed after GnRH treatment. Ultimately, osteoporosis is associated with a higher risk of fractures the rate is 69% [20].

3.7 Estrogen depletion resulting from treatment with GnRH agonists

Testosterone, the primary male hormone, plays a crucial role in maintaining bone health. However, males also produce estrogen, although in lower quantities. Significantly lower than in females. Both males both men and women undergo testosterone conversion. Conversion of androgens to estrogen in certain tissues the organs and tissues involved are the testes, liver, adrenal glands, and fat cells. In recent years, there have been advancements in both epidemiological studies and intervention strategies. Previous research has demonstrated the crucial nature of this issue. Role of estrogen in the development and maintenance of the term "bone" is referenced in source [21]. Additionally, GnRH agonist treatment reduces male estrogen levels equivalent to castration. Effects on male patients undergoing androgen deprivation therapy (ADT) for prostate cancer. Estrogen-based medical castration Diethyl stilbestrol (DES) has traditionally been treatment for metastatic prostate cancer. Hip bone mineral density. List of patients who underwent surgical castration the immediate effect of bilateral orchiectomies is a reduction [22]. The annual decrease in hip bone mineral density (BMD) in males with estrogen is approximately 10%, whereas in males without estrogen, it decreases by only 1% each year. Gen for medical castration is described in reference [23]. It's unsurprising. Assuming that males with prostate cancer (PCa) are given transdermal estrogen administration is associated with increased bone mineral densities (BMDs) if administered orally, estrogen is provided. Micronized estradiol elicits a reduction in response one remodeling. Nevertheless, the effects of estrogen over an extended period Clinical trials have not yet been conducted [24].

4. Breast Cancer (BCa)

Breast cancer is the most frequently diagnosed malignancy in women. Over 200,000 American women are affected by it annually, making it the second most common occurrence. The primary cause of cancer-related deaths in there are 36 women. Endocrine therapy plays a crucial role aspects related to hormone receptor-positive patients positive breast cancer has been treated. Numerous individuals for many years, tamoxifen has been widely regarded as the most effective and reliable treatment option. Initial hormonal therapy for breast cancer. In recent times, Administration of the aromatase inhibitors letrozole and anastrozole as part of the treatment [25]. The use of exemestane resulted in improved outcomes. Tamoxifen in postmenopausal women early-stage breast cancer. Also were used as the primary line treatment as a substitute for tamoxifen Conclusion: A 5-year course of tamoxifen the list contains numbers 3, 14, and 28. Artificial intelligences (AIs) are superior in terms of effectiveness compared to tamoxifen. Preventing BCa recurrence administered as the initial treatment option or following tamoxifen therapy. Treatment for early-stage breast cancer. Artificial intelligence is also used in premenopausal women in conjunction with ovarian suppression [26].

4.1 AIs and Bone

Aromatase inhibitors (AIs) are a group of substances that inhibit the conversion of androgens into estradiol, leading to significantly reduced levels of estradiol. Artificial intelligences have the ability to can be categorized into two groups: competitive or Non-steroidal aromatase inhibitors (AIs), an inactivator, and steroidal AIs are used. Letrozole and other non-steroidal aromatase inhibitors (AIs) Anastrozole is a class of imidazole-based compounds. This can attach to the active component of the substance in a reversed manner: The enzyme aromatase, which belongs to the cytochrome P450 family, is inhibited. Formation of estradiol. Steroid inhibitors Fomestane and exemestane are androgenic. Similar to its structure, the objective was to rival the activity of the enzyme aromatase. The substances mentioned are substrate and androstenedione. They connect cava together. Quietly and permanently bound to the active site of the enzyme becomes inactive due to a lack of enzymatic activity. This leads to increased estradiol production. Exemestane exhibits low androgenic activity which is ascribed to one of its metabolites [27]. Currently, there are three AIs in the third generation endorsed by the FDA the United States is a treatment destination for BCa. All of them are rather powerful. Resulting in a 98% reduction in aromatase activity. The primary pathway for estradiol conversion is bioconversion method for estradiol synthesis in postmenopausal women therefore, all artificial intelligence methods result in a substantial decrease. Estradiol levels in postmenopausal individuals Women. Estrogen plays a crucial role in preserving bone health. Deficiency in mass caused by natural causes Ural or surgical menopause, also known as induced menopause, significantly contributes to bone loss, resulting in substantial bone loss in women. During the initial 5-7 years, individuals lose approximately 20% of their bone mass menopause refers to the cessation of menstruation. The loss of bone forms the foundation for a rapid and significant increase in the likelihood of experiencing a fracture following the participant is 55 years old (range, 60–77 years). Within a potential epidemiological study in a previous study [28], researchers examined serum estrogen levels in women. The diol content was below 5 pg/ml. Discovered elevated susceptibility to hip and vertebral complications men are more likely to experience vertebral fractures than women with low levels of serum estrogen. Concentrations exceeding 10 pg/ml. Due to loss the bone mass at the hip is eight times larger. In women with decreased estrogen levels elevated estrogen levels in the bloodstream minimize bone density loss and prevent fractures. There to counteract the negative consequences of decreased estrogen levels and elevated susceptibility to osteopenia and osteoporosis adverse effects are a significant concern in the administration of Ais [29].

5. The effectiveness of AIs

5.1 Research on AI and its Impact on Bone Markers in Healthy Women

In addition to ovarian tissue, non-ovarian tissue such as fat, muscles, skin, liver, and bone also expresses the aromatase gene (CYP-19). A significant location of activity for AIs. AI impacts systemic estrogen suppression of bone metabolism as well as by preventing the local production of estrogen into the bone microenvironment, leading to skeletal loss. Some reports have discussed the consequences of AIs in bone in postmenopausal women in good health. Goss and associates [30] carried out a random, placebo-controlled, single-blind exploratory research assessing how low plasma estrogen AI-induced levels impacted markers of 80 healthy postmenopausal individuals' bone turnover women receiving 24-week outpatient therapy, Letrozole, anastrozole, and exemestane are used. Three different inhibitors produced plasma estrogen amounts to drop and indicators of bone resorption to rise in the same proportion. exemestane, but additionally raised the serum concentrations of the bone-formation marker at week 24 (PINP). As this The androgenic structure was blamed for the effect of the exemestane [31].

5.2 Data on Women Before Menopause

Chemotherapy combined with ovarian ablation therapy has resulted in a significant rate of bone loss in premenopausal women with BCa [32]. GnRH analogues have been used either independently or in tandem with Tamoxifen. Goserelin treatment, a GnRH has produced a significantly larger reduction in bone density compared to that of adjuvant chemotherapy treatment with methotrexate, cyclophosphamide, or CMF (5-fluorouracil). When goserelin is used individuals, the lumbar spine's BMD dropped by 10.5% as opposed to CMF's 6.5% conditioned individuals ($p < 0.001$). The patients with CMF continued to be estrogen-deficient and experienced bone loss, in contrast to individuals receiving goserelin just one, Lin's bone density had returned. year following the therapy's conclusion [33]. In women who are not yet menopausal, AIs help to peripheral aromatase, result in less food intake returning to the hypothalamus, along with a rise in stimulation of ovaries [34]. Thus, they ought to be recommended following ovarian removal by surgery, radiation, or with the assistance of GnRH equivalents. Premenopausal BCa's AIs are undergoing assessment in two sizable International Breast Trials by the Cancer Study Group (IBCSG), suppressed of the SOFT (Stomach Function Trial), and the Exemestane and Tamoxifen Trial (TEXT). Tamoxifen on its alone (with or without tamoxifen is contrasted with previous chemotherapy, inhibition of the ovaries, and exemestane and inhibition of ovulation. In TEXT before to Patients going through menopause are randomized to Get the LHRH analog triptorelin with Tamoxifen. Chemotherapy combined with ovarian ablation therapy has resulted in a significant rate of bone loss in premenopausal women with BCa [35]. GnRH analogs were used either independently or in tandem with Tamoxifen. Goserelin treatment, which is a GnRH, produced a significantly larger reduction in bone density than adjuvant chemotherapy with methotrexate, cyclophosphamide, or CMF (5-fluorouracil). When goserelin was used, the lumbar spine's BMD dropped by 10.5% compared with that of CMF-conditioned individuals (6.5% conditioned individuals ($p < 0.001$). Patients with CMF continued to be estrogen-deficient and experienced bone loss, in contrast to individuals receiving administration of guanxinin just one case, Lin's bone density had returned. year following the therapy's conclusion

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6. AIs as the First-Line Therapy for BCa: Impact on Bone Loss and Fractures

6.1 Comparing AIs with Tamoxifen

6.1.1 Letrozole

The Breast International Group (BIG 1-98) 5-year study of letrozole, letrozole followed by tamoxifen is presently evaluating letrozole. Tamoxifen, and tamoxifen were followed by letrozole). Among the 8,010 women who have signed up, 4,003 people are a part of the letrozole group, and 4,007 to the group taking tamoxifen. Clinical Fractures during a median follow-up of 25.8-year months were noticeably more common with letrozole. There are no other results yet[40].

6.1.2 Exemestane

The phase III, randomized, parallel group, multicenter Tamoxifen Exemestane Adjuvant trial was created to compare the survival without illness after 5 years of adjuvant Comparing 2.5 years of tamoxifen with exemestane lowed after 2.5 years of exemestane treatment until early BCa postmenopausal ladies. On clinical fractures are not currently available; however, a bone substudy that assesses BMD has been published. The number of women with established osteoporosis at baseline was more prevalent in the group that is less than the tamoxifen group. After 1 year of therapy, individuals were given Exemestane demonstrated noticeably greater bone loss. at the hip and spine compared with those treated with tamoxifen [41].

7. Ais After 2-4 Years of Tamoxifen Compared to Tamoxifen Alone

Third-generation AIs are more effective and more tolerable than tamoxifen. The ideal order in which hormone-responsive ladies' medicine is administered is being investigated because bone turnover and BMD may be affected by tamoxifen use in the past[42].

7.1 Anastrozole

The study, known as the Austrian Breast and Colorectal Study Group (ABCSG) 8/Arimidex-Nolvadex (ARNO) 95 study, was a prospectively designed combined analysis of two studies with successive anastrozole therapy given after two Tamoxifen was compared to years of tamoxifen by myself. Following an average follow-up of twenty-eight months, There were noticeably more clinical fractures. Among individuals who transitioned to

anastrozole as opposed to patients who were given just tamoxifen (2% as opposed to $P = 0.015$; 1%, correspondingly). the actual fracture rate in the group receiving anastrozole was less than that in the ATAC trial; this implies that previous tamoxifen treatment may have imparted certain advantage[43].

8. Bisphosphonates' involvement in breast and prostate cancer

8.1 Bone Metastases: Prevention and Treatment

Potent inhibitors of osteoclastic action, bisphosphonates are the cornerstone of bone-directed therapy for metastases of the bone. By causing osteoclast death, preventing osteoclast differentiation and maturation, and lowering osteoclast activity, they affect bone. Additionally, bisphosphonates directly affect tumor cells apoptotic induction, inhibition of matrix metalloproteinase 1, suppression of angiogenesis, and reduction tumor cells' adherence to bone and the decrease in vascular endothelial growth factor [44]. Treatment with bisphosphonates seeks to avoid and postpone events associated to the skeleton (SREs), decrease bone alleviate discomfort and enhance life quality[45].

8.2 Prostate Cancer

Although osteoblastic bone disease is the main cause of PCa, skeletal metastases in this disease have been demonstrated to involve osteoclastic resorption. Studies are being conducted to find out if bisphosphonates stop or postpone the beginning of bone metastases. Bisphosphonates work to stop although this hasn't been demonstrated yet, bone metastases in PCa [46]. Individuals with a history of bone treatment with bisphosphonates appears to be beneficial for PCa metastases (MRC PR05 study). However, men who are at high risk can receive oral clodronate did not affect metastases-free survival for a maximum of ten years in the case of bone metastases. Patient Choice could have played a role in the trial. However, trials in males with metastatic PCa have produced similarly disappointing outcomes when using pamidronate. In a similar vein, giving 4 mg of zoledronic acid did not influence the development of hormone-refractory, nonmetastatic prostate cancer in men bone spreads [47]. However, in a trial involving 634 guys who are hormone-refractory and have metastases illness, zoledronic acid therapy decreased .Pathologic fractures are included in SREs. Additionally, pain control was enhanced. Bisphosphonate experiments in PCa in the future are started. Men with high-risk diseases will take zoledronic acid in one trial [48]. In an additional men receiving long-term ADT for a recently discovered advanced illness, either metastatic or non-metastatic will get hormonal treatment, either in combination with or without zoledronic acid, celecoxib, docetaxel, or a mix of these [STAMPEOE experiment]. An additional strategy to target osteoclasts is using a receptor activator-blocking antibody of RANK-L, also known as NF-kappa B ligand, a crucial ligand in the activation and development of osteoclasts. The monoclonal drug denosumab antibody that suppresses and targets osteoclasts the cell signaling system connected to osteoclast maturation. It has been demonstrated that subcutaneous denosumab suppresses markers of bone resorption [49]. Denosumab is currently being tested in men with hormone-resistant prostate cancer with bone metastases to see if it can halt the course of the illness. Additionally, among metastasis-free castrate men who are highly susceptible to bone metastases, it is being assessed for metastasis-free life. In a third experiment, 1,400 men on present ADT are evaluating the effects of denosumab on BMD and fracture rate [50].

8.3 Breast Cancer

In BCa that has spread to the bone, bisphosphonates are now considered standard treatment, per the guidelines published by Cancer Care Ontario and the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) [51]. Numerous studies and meta-analyses have demonstrated the benefits of bisphosphonates. Zoledronic acid, ibandronate, and napidronate and clodronate have all demonstrated a reduction in the quantity of SREs and to boost the duration before bone metastases of BCa [52]. The ASCO recommendations state that the course of bisphosphonate therapy is maintained until .A decrease in the patient's overall performance status significantly. Denosumab anti-RANKL treatment is also being studied in women with PCa. BCa that is metastatic. In women with BCa and bone marrow, Lipton compared the intravenous injection of denosumab with normal bisphosphonate therapy metastases and discovered that, similar to intravenous bisphosphonates, subcutaneous denosumab lowers the risk of SRE and decreases bone turnover [53].

9. Preventing Bone Loss in BCa and the Prostate

9.1 Prostate Cancer

Although to a far lesser degree, men also develop osteoporosis and bone loss as they age, similar to women. Men's larger peak bone mass is one of the factors behind the difference [54], with more muscular mass and larger bone structure mass, as well as the lack of the rapid bone loss that women go through after the menopause fractures that older men sustain in numerous .Instances are caused by variables other than age, such as GnRH agonist, glucocorticoid, or hypogonadism use, excessive alcohol intake, and tobacco. Moreover, similar to women, guys may have inadequate consumption of calcium, a lack of vitamin D, and avoid doing any weightlifting activities. Past 50 Twenty percent of Caucasian men over the age of fifty will suffer a fracture. About thirty percent of all HIP in the United States, 25% of fracture care costs are incurred by older males who suffer from fractures [55]. Hip

fractures in males constitute a significant indicator of frailty since they have a higher 1-year mortality rate (37.5%) than in older women (28%)[56].

10. Avoiding Bone Loss by Using Bisphosphonates

Compared to otherwise healthy community-dwelling men, men on ADT are more likely to experience bone loss and fractures. Intravenous zoledronic acid and pamidronate given to males suffering from metastatic and PCa that is non-metastatic has improved elevated BMD. A yearly single dosage of 4 mg of Zoledronic acid raised the spine's BMD and hip. The goal of Greenspan et al. [57] was to ascertain whether using 70 mg/w of oral alendronate thrice a week might lessen bone loss and prevent bone turnover in a double-blind, randomized, placebo-controlled study including 112 men on ADT. Everybody Supplements of calcium and vitamin D were also given to the patients. One year later, males those given alendronate experienced notable improvements 3.7% in the spine and 1.6% at the hip in terms of BMD Men in the placebo group, however, saw losses of Hip pain is 0.7% and back pain is 1.4%. Our own research [58] included a double-blind, randomised, placebo-controlled study of oral risedronate (35 mg/week) in comparison to a placebo elderly males on GnRH-agonist medication for locally developed PCa and who furthermore obtained regular intakes of vitamin D and calcium, we demonstrated that following six months, neither the femur neck nor[59]. The risedronate showed a decrease in total hip BMD group, although BMD decreases were observed in the group using a placebo. The risedronate group experienced a substantial 2.3% increase in spine BMD, while the placebo group did not experience any change. Therefore, risedronate treatment can stop the accelerated bone loss that GnRHagonist therapy causes within 6 months[60].

11. Bone Loss in Breast Cancer: Preventing and Treating It

Since the more recent endocrine treatments for BCa have been linked to decreased BMD and accelerated bone turnover, it is imperative to evaluate BMD more closely and make sure no secondary causes are raising the risk of bone loss. Patients should be informed about the importance of leading an active, healthy lifestyle and getting enough calcium and vitamin D [61]. However, like with bisphosphonates, BMD may decrease in some patients and may need to be treated. Zoledronic acid is recommended for women with BCa receiving AI therapy in order to prevent or delay bone loss, according to animal research by Gasser et al. [62]. In rats, zoledronic acid protected bone thinning and loss, while daily therapy with the AI letrozole, given orally, caused considerable bone loss and cortical thinning, according to Gasser and colleagues [63]. In Yonehara et al.'s study, 10 patients who additionally got 2.5 mg of sodium risedronate daily for six months were compared to 17 postmenopausal BCa patients receiving anastrozole (1 mg/d). The BMD and related T- and Z-scores significantly reduced in the women who received only anastrozole, while they significantly increased from baseline values in the women who also took bisphosphonate. Comparing postmenopausal women with osteoporosis treated with anastrozole to those with osteoporosis treated concurrently with anastrozole and risedronate, Confavreux et al. [64] examined bone turnover and loss. In the latter, bone density at the spine greatly increased and hip bone loss was avoided. Thus, risedronate appears to prevent bone loss caused by anastrozole. The Austrian Breast and Colorectal Cancer Study Group (ABCSCG-12 trial) compared tamoxifen (20 mg/d orally) and goserelin (3.6 mg every 28 days subcutaneously) ± zoledronic acid (4 mg intravenously every 6 months) versus anastrozole (1 mg/d orally) and goserelin ± zoledronic acid for three years in premenopausal women with hormone-responsive BCa. After three years of treatment, endocrine therapy without zoledronic acid resulted in a considerable overall loss of bone. Compared to patients receiving tamoxifen/goserelin, those getting anastrozole/goserelin experienced noticeably more severe bone loss[65]. Patients receiving zoledronic acid saw no change in BMD. In other words, zoledronic acid administered every six months effectively reduced bone loss[66].

Conclusion

This comprehensive review highlights the intricate relationship between cancer therapies and skeletal health, particularly focusing on breast cancer (BCa) and prostate cancer (PCa). Both cancers frequently metastasize to the bone, causing significant morbidity and mortality. The treatment regimens for these cancers, which include hormonal therapies, chemotherapy, and radiation therapy, often exacerbate bone loss and increase the risk of fractures. Hormonal therapies, such as aromatase inhibitors (AIs) for BCa and androgen deprivation therapy (ADT) for PCa, play crucial roles in managing these cancers. However, they also contribute to decreased bone mineral density (BMD) and heightened fracture risk. AIs, which reduce estrogen levels, are particularly associated with bone loss in postmenopausal women. Similarly, ADT, by lowering testosterone levels, leads to hypogonadism and subsequent osteoporosis in men. Prostate cancer remains a significant health concern, particularly among older men and those of African descent, who face higher risks of diagnosis and mortality. The use of gonadotropin-releasing hormone agonists (GnRH-agonists) is a common treatment strategy, but it comes with adverse effects, including reduced bone density and increased fracture risk. Breast cancer, the most common cancer in women, has seen advancements in endocrine therapies, yet these treatments also lead to bone health challenges. The use of bisphosphonates has shown promise in mitigating bone loss associated with cancer therapies. These agents, which inhibit osteoclastic activity, not only help in maintaining bone density but also have potential anti-tumor effects. Future research should focus on optimizing cancer treatments to minimize their adverse effects on bone health. This includes the development of new therapeutic agents that can effectively treat cancer while preserving skeletal integrity. Additionally, integrating bone-protective strategies, such as the use of bisphosphonates and ensuring adequate intake of calcium and vitamin D, into cancer care protocols can significantly improve patient outcomes.

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