

Risedronic acid cracks alendronic acid in real world

Compared with postmenopausal women treated with alendronic acid, the risk of a hip fracture during the first year of treatment is reduced by almost a half in those treated with risedronic acid, according to results from the REAL (RisedronatE, ALendronate) retrospective cohort study published in *Osteoporosis International*.

This real-world study used data from a US health service utilisation database, and included 33 830 women aged ≥ 65 years newly treated with either risedronic acid 35mg (n = 12 215), or alendronic acid 35mg or 70mg, once weekly. All results were risk-adjusted for potential between-group differences in baseline fracture risk.

The incidences of hip fracture after 6 and 12 months were 46% (p = 0.02) and 43% (p = 0.01) lower, respectively, in the risedronic acid recipients than the alendronic acid recipients; the crude incidences were 0.17% versus 0.29% in risedronic acid and alendronic acid recipients, respectively, at 6 months, and 0.37% versus 0.58% at 12 months. In addition, compared with alendronic acid, treatment with risedronic acid was associated with a 19% (p = 0.05) lower rate of nonvertebral fracture at 6 months, and a 18% (p = 0.03) lower rate at 12 months.

The Alliance for Better Bone Health. Study of Over 33,000 Women Comparing Two Most Prescribed Osteoporosis Treatments Shows Significant Difference in Hip Fracture Reduction. Media Release : 17 Nov 2006. Available from: URL: <http://www.pgpharma.com> 809069933