

■ **Once-monthly ibandronic acid along with patient support is associated with higher treatment persistence than once-weekly alendronic acid** in postmenopausal women with osteoporosis, according to results from the open-label, multicentre PERSIST* study. 1103 such patients were randomised to receive oral ibandronic acid 150mg once monthly (n = 561) or oral alendronic acid 70mg once weekly, for 6 months.** Ibandronic acid recipients were also enrolled in a patient support programme. At 6 months, a significantly greater proportion of ibandronic acid recipients were persisting with treatment, compared with alendronic acid-treated patients (56.6% vs 38.6%). After day 30, ibandronic acid recipients were about half as likely to fail to persist with treatment, compared with patients in the alendronic acid group (hazard ratio 0.538; 95% CI 0.44, 0.66).

* PERSistence Study of Ibandronate verSus alendronaTe

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Cooper A, et al. Treatment persistence with once-monthly ibandronate and patient support vs. once-weekly alendronate: results from the PERSIST study. *International Journal of Clinical Practice* 60: 896-905, No. 8, Aug 2006

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