

This House Believes Bisphosphonates Should be Standard of Care for Early Breast Cancer

Rob Coleman
Sheffield



The
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Of
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Rob Coleman and All Reasonable Clinicians Believe Bisphosphonates Should be Standard of Care for Early Breast Cancer

Rob Coleman
Sheffield



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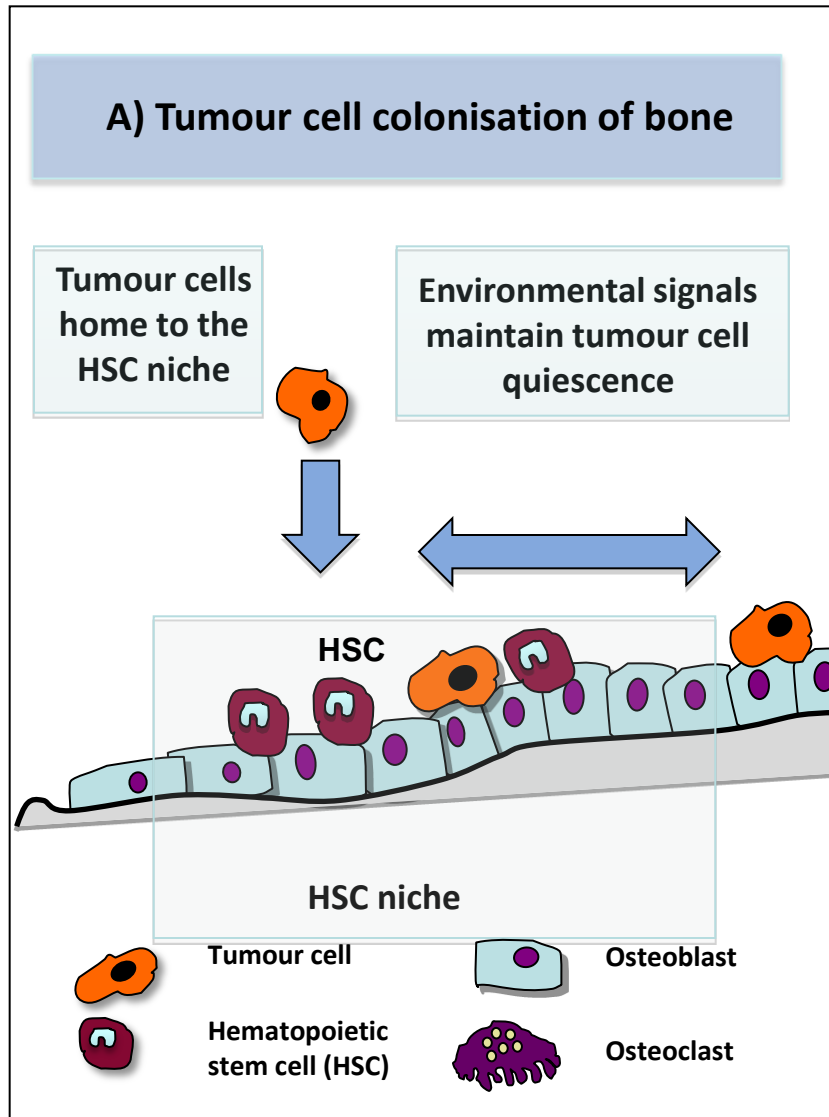
Requirements For a New Treatment in Early Breast Cancer

- Biologically plausible
- Multiple supportive clinical trials
- Meaningful benefit
- Compatible with current standard treatment
- Well tolerated
- Cost effective
- (Regulatory approval)

Professor David Dodwell?

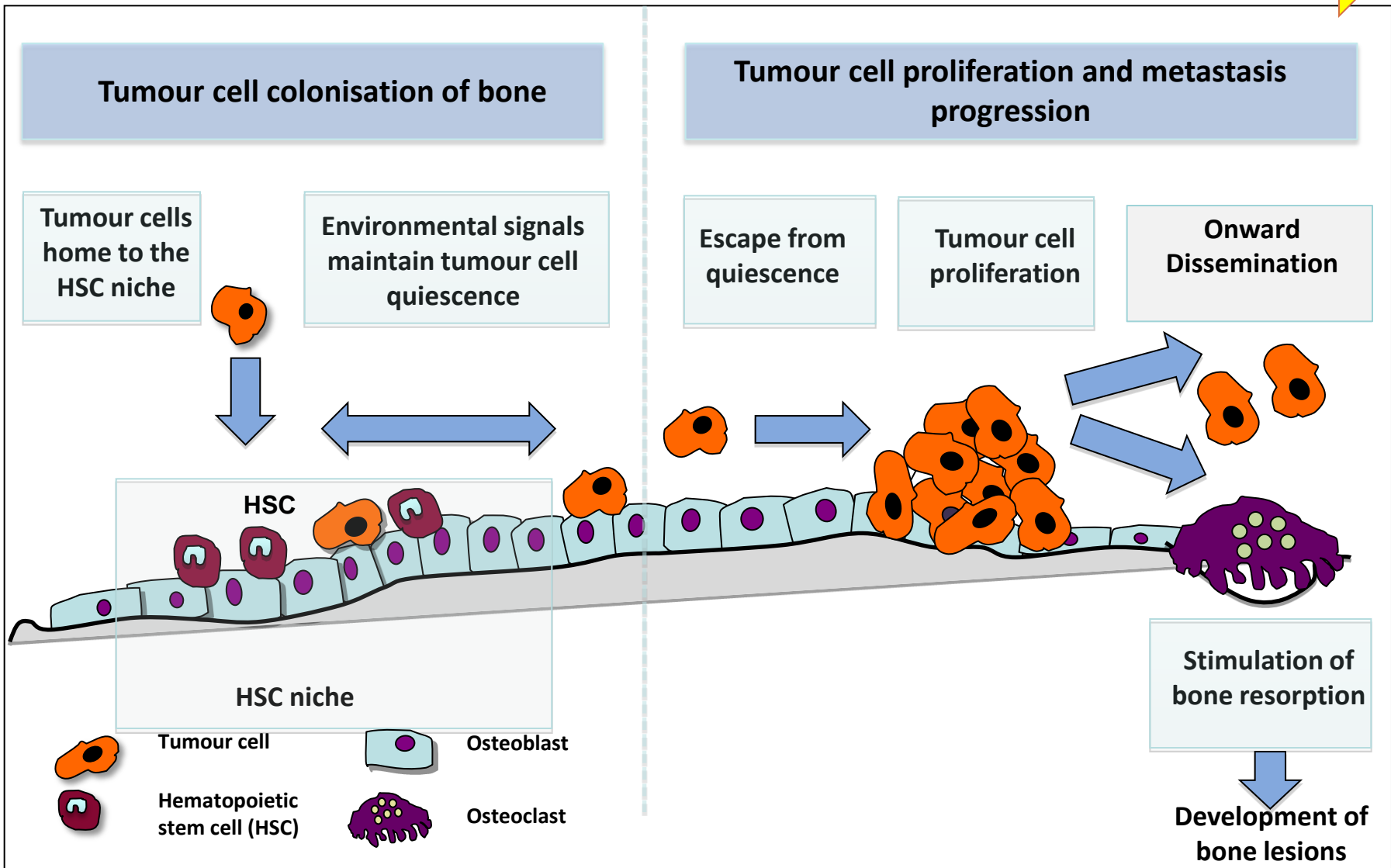


Phases of Bone “Metastasis”



Breast Cancer Metastasis

Years



Research is Full of Surprises



Late 1990s/2000s Early Prevention Studies—Clodronate

Available online <http://breast-cancer-research.com/content/8/2/R13>

Research article

Open Access

Reduction in bone relapse and improved survival with oral clodronate for adjuvant treatment of operable breast cancer [ISRCTN83688026]

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Abstract

Introduction Experimental and clinical data show that the oral



original article

Annals of Oncology 19: 2007-2011, 2008
doi:10.1093/annonc/mdn429
Published online 29 July 2008

Adjuvant oral clodronate improves the overall survival of primary breast cancer patients with micrometastases to the bone marrow—a long-term follow-up

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Background: Adding oral clodronate to postoperative adjuvant breast cancer therapy improves disease-free survival (DFS) and overall survival (OS). Long-term follow-up data from this study are reported.

Patients and methods: Patients with primary breast cancer received clodronate treatment along with standard adjuvant breast cancer treatment.

Results: Analysis of 290 of 302 patients demonstrated that a significant long-term survival advantage was observed in the clodronate group at a median follow-up of 103 ± 12 months; 20.4% of patients in the control group (P = 0.04) died during the 8.5 years following primary therapy. The incidence of bony and visceral metastases and improvement in distant relapse-free survival were no longer seen with clodronate.

Conclusion: These long-term survival data extend the survival advantage of clodronate in breast cancer.

Key words: adjuvant therapy, bisphosphonate, breast neoplasm, clodronate



ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Ten-year Follow-up of a Randomized Adjuvant Clodronate Treatment Trial in Breast Cancer Patients

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From the Department of Oncology, Helsinki University Central Hospital, Helsinki, Finland; Department of Oncology, Uppsala University Hospital, Uppsala, Sweden; the Department of Oncology, Helsinki University Central Hospital, Helsinki, Finland; and the Department of Radiation Therapy, Helsinki University Central Hospital, Helsinki, Finland (P. Virkkunen)

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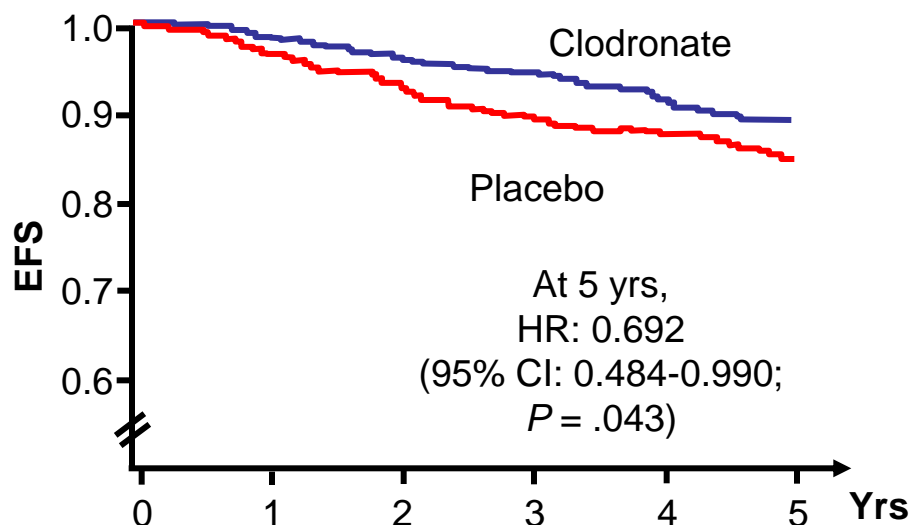
Acta Oncologica Vol. 43, No. 7, pp. 650–656, 2004

Ten-year follow-up results are presented of an adjuvant clodronate trial in patients with primary breast cancer. Between 1990 and 1993, 299 women with primary node positive breast cancer were randomized to oral clodronate 1600 mg daily (149) or controls (150) for 3 years. All patients received adjuvant chemotherapy. Within 10 years bone metastases were detected at the same frequency in the clodronate and control groups: 44 (29%) vs. 42 (28%), respectively, (p = 0.35). The frequency of non-skeletal recurrences (visceral and local) was significantly higher in the clodronate group (50%) as compared with the controls 51 (34%) (p = 0.005). Ten-year disease-free survival (DFS) remained significantly lower in the clodronate group (45% vs. 58%, p = 0.01, respectively). This was especially seen in oestrogen receptor negative patients (25% vs. 38%, p = 0.004, respectively). No significant overall survival difference was found between the groups. As

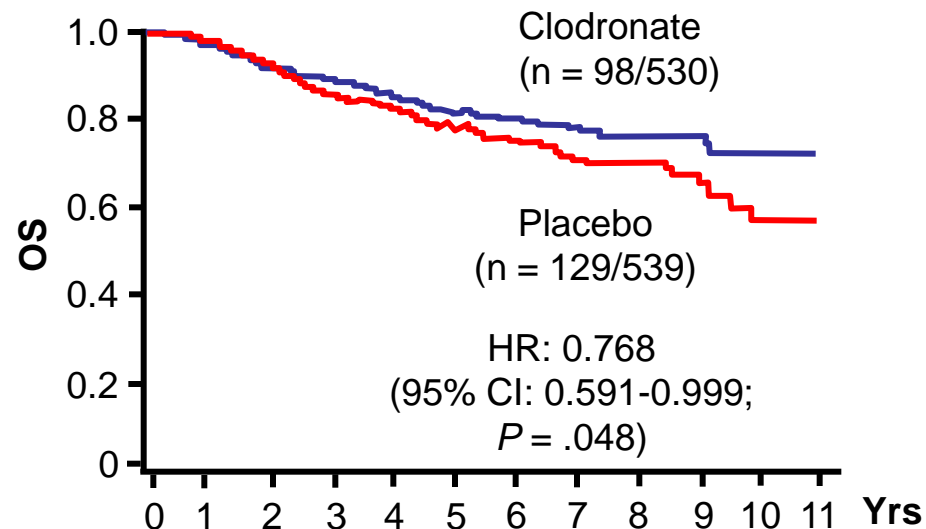


ClodroPlac: Oral Clodronate for Adjuvant Treatment of Stage I-III Breast Cancer (N=1069)

BONE METASTASIS FREE SURVIVAL ITT

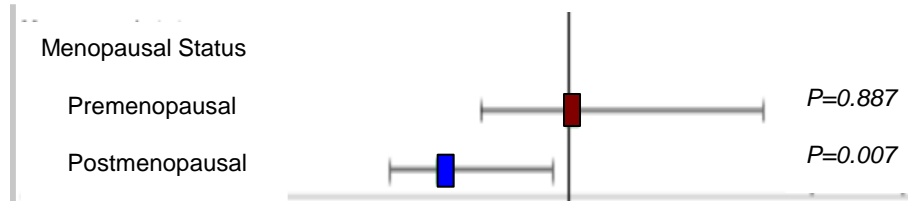
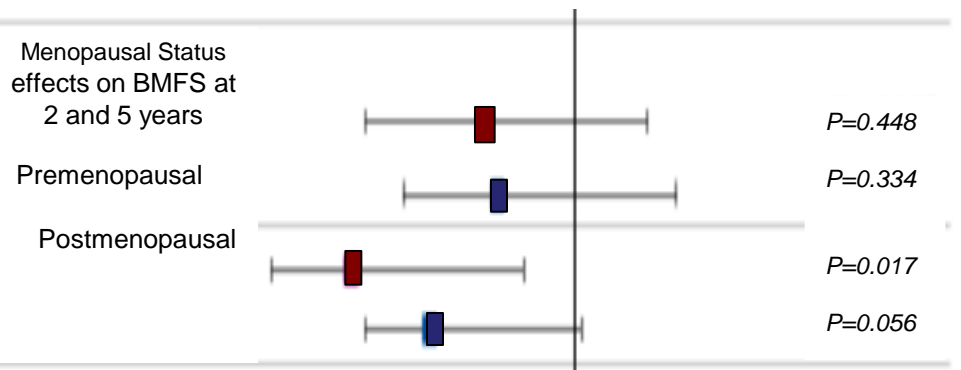


OVERALL SURVIVAL ITT



BONE METASTASIS FREE SURVIVAL - POSTMENOPAUSAL PATIENTS

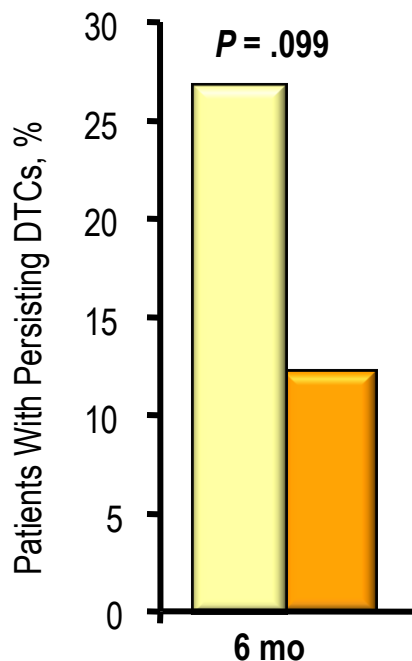
OVERALL SURVIVAL - POSTMENOPAUSAL PATIENTS



Bone Marrow Tumour Cells Reduced With Zoledronic Acid in Early Adjuvant Breast Cancer

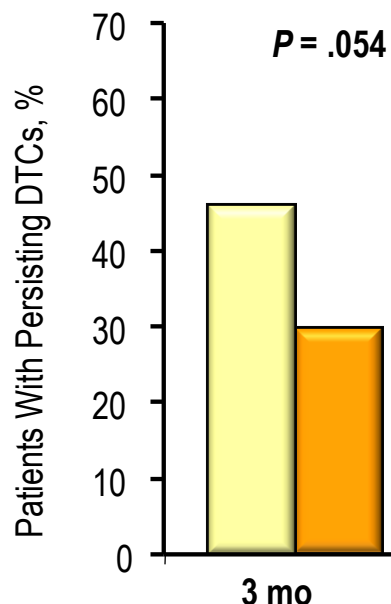
Rack et al¹ (N = 172)

ZOL q 4 weekk (n = 31) vs
no ZOL for 6 months (n = 141)



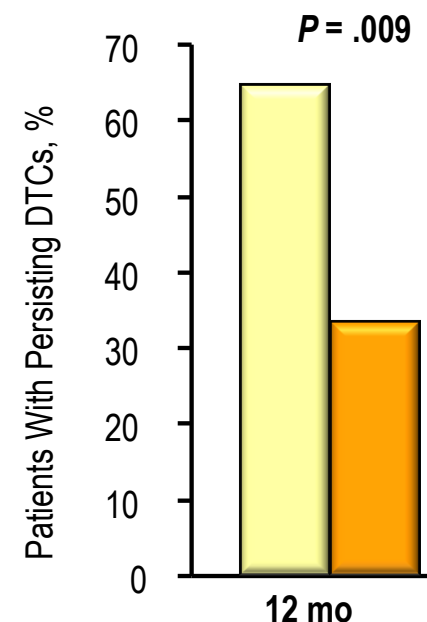
Aft et al² (N = 120)

ZOL q 3 weekly vs
no ZOL for 1 yr (w/Chx)



Solomayer et al³ (N = 96)

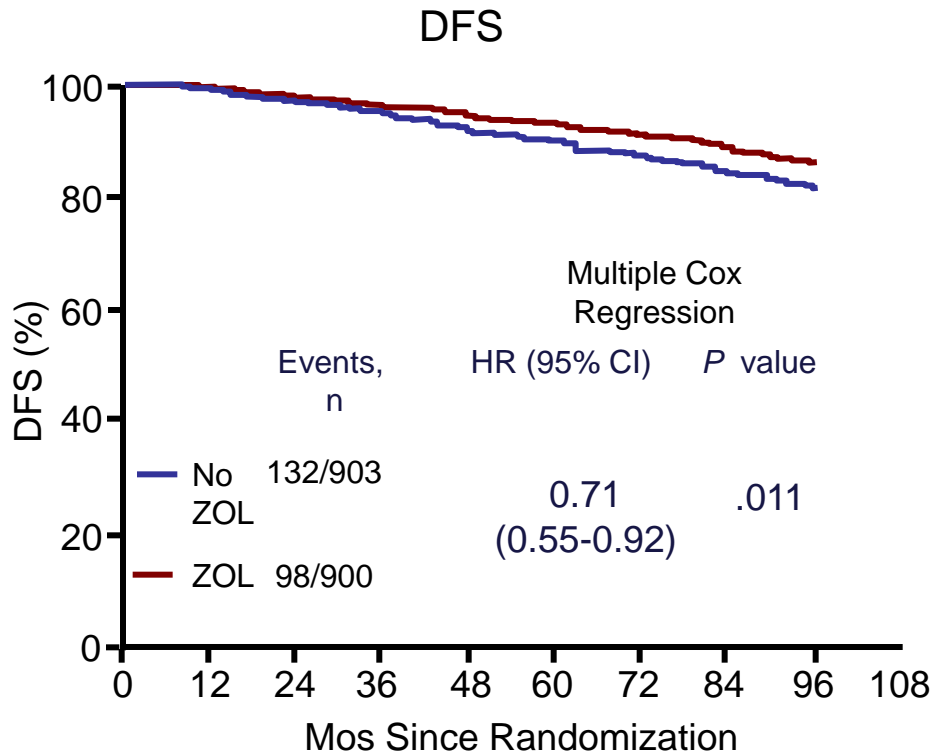
ZOL q 4 weeks (n = 44) vs
no ZOL for 2 year (+ Adj Rx; n = 52)



Abbreviations: Chx, chemotherapy; DTC, disseminated tumour cell; ZOL, zoledronic acid.

1. Rack B, et al. *Anticancer Res.* 2010;30(5):1807-1813;
2. Aft R, et al. *Lancet Oncol.* 2010;11(5):421-428.;
3. Solomayer EF, et al. *Ann Oncol* 2012; 23(9):2271-7.

ABCESG-12 (84 Months): Efficacy



Pts at Risk, n

	0	12	24	36	48	60	72	84	96	108
No ZOL	903	858	833	807	758	653	521	405	191	
ZOL	900	862	841	822	788	674	544	419	208	



THE NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL OF MEDICINE

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Endocrine Therapy plus Zoledronic Acid in Premenopausal Breast Cancer

Michael Gnant, M.D., Brigitte Mlineritsch, M.D., Walter Schippinger, M.D., Gero Luschin-Ebenbreuth, M.D., Sabine Postlberger, M.D., Christian Menzel, M.D., Raimund Jakse, M.D., Michael Seifert, M.D., Michael Hubalek, M.D., Vesna Bjelic-Radicic, M.D., Hellmut Samonigg, M.D., Christoph Tausch, M.D., Holger Eidtmann, M.D., Günther Steger, M.D., Werner Kwassny, M.D., Peter Dubsky, M.D., Michael Fridrik, M.D., Florian Fitzal, M.D., Michael Sliemers, M.D., Ernst Rüdiger, Ph.D., and Richard Greil, M.D., for the ABCESG-12 Trial Investigators*

ABSTRACT

BACKGROUND
Ovarian suppression plus tamoxifen is a standard adjuvant treatment in premenopausal women with endocrine-responsive breast cancer. Aromatase inhibitors are superior to tamoxifen in postmenopausal patients, and preclinical data suggest that zoledronic acid has antitumor properties.

METHODS
We examined the effect of adding zoledronic acid to a combination of either goserelin and tamoxifen or goserelin and anastrozole in premenopausal women with endocrine-responsive early breast cancer. We randomly assigned 1808 patients to receive goserelin (3.6 mg given subcutaneously every 28 days) plus tamoxifen (20 mg per day given orally) or anastrozole (1 mg per day given orally) with or without zoledronic acid (4 mg given intravenously every 6 months) for 3 years. The primary end point was disease-free survival; recurrence-free survival and overall survival were secondary end points.

RESULTS
After a median follow-up of 47.6 months, 137 events had occurred, with disease-free survival rates of 92.6% in the tamoxifen group, 92.0% in the anastrozole group, 99.8% in the group that received endocrine therapy alone, and 94.0% in the group that received endocrine therapy with zoledronic acid. There was no significant difference in disease-free survival between the anastrozole and tamoxifen groups (hazard ratio for disease progression in the anastrozole group, 1.10; 95% confidence interval [CI], 0.78 to 1.52; P=0.59). The addition of zoledronic acid to endocrine therapy, as compared with endocrine therapy without zoledronic acid, resulted in an absolute reduction of 3.2 percentage points and a relative reduction of 36% in the risk of disease progression (hazard ratio, 0.64; 95% CI, 0.46 to 0.91; P=0.01); the addition of zoledronic acid did not significantly reduce the risk of death (hazard ratio, 0.60; 95% CI, 0.32 to 1.11; P=0.11). Adverse events were consistent with known drug-safety profiles.

CONCLUSIONS
The addition of zoledronic acid to adjuvant endocrine therapy improves disease-free survival in premenopausal patients with estrogen-responsive early breast cancer. (ClinicalTrials.gov number, NCT00295646.)

From the Medical University of Vienna (M.G., R.J., M. Seifert, G.S., P.D., F.F.), Hanusch Hospital (M. Steiner), and the Austrian Breast and Colorectal Cancer Study Group (E.H.)—all in Vienna; Paracelsus Medical University Salzburg, Salzburg (B.M., C.M., R.G.); Medical University of Graz, Graz (W.S., G.L., V.B.-R., H.S.); Hospital of the Sisters of Mercy (S.P., C.T.) and General Hospital Leiz (M.F.)—both in Linz; Medical University of Innsbruck, Innsbruck (H.H.); and Wiener Neustädter Hospital, Wiener Neustadt (W.K.)—all in Austria; and the University of Salzburg-Holzheim, Hall, Germany (H.E.). Address reprint requests to Dr. Gnant at the Medical University of Vienna, Währinger Gürtel 18-20, A-1090 Vienna, Austria, or at michael.gnant@meduniwien.ac.at.

*The investigators participating in the Austrian Breast and Colorectal Cancer Study Group trial 12 (ABCESG-12) are listed in the Appendix.

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N ENGL J MED 360:7 FEBRUARY 12, 2009

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AZURE: Study Design

Accrual September 2003 - February 2006

**3,360
Breast Cancer
Patients
Stage II/III**

R

Standard therapy

**Standard therapy +
Zoledronic acid 4 mg**

**6 doses
Q3-4 weeks**

**8 doses
Q 3 months**

**5 doses
Q 6 months**

Months

6

30

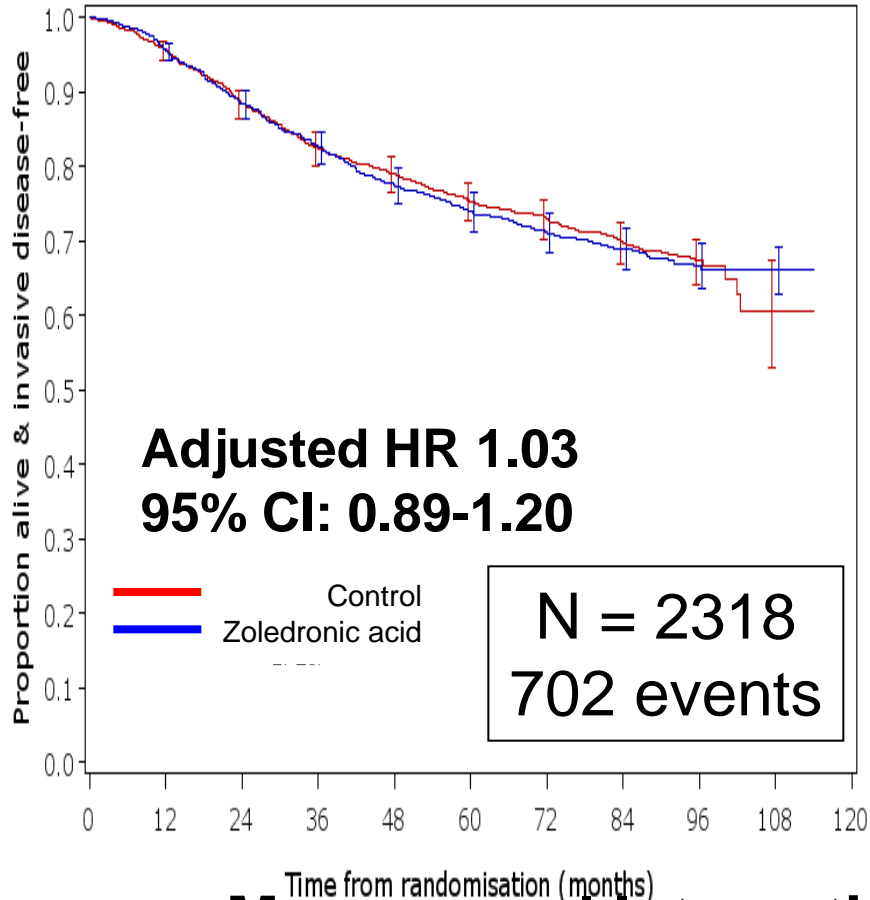
60

Zoledronic acid treatment duration 5 years

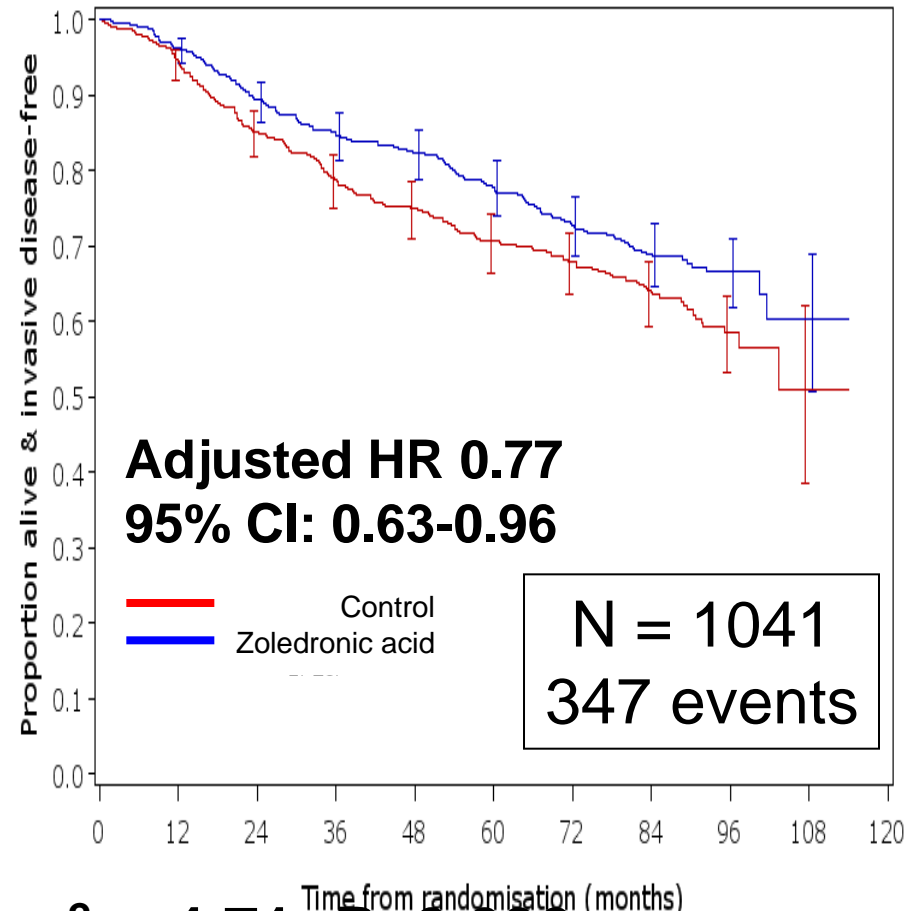
Countries	Centres	Patients
UK	123	2710
Eire	10	247
Australia	28	226
Spain	8	107
Portugal	1	32
Thailand	2	25
Taiwan	2	13

AZURE: Invasive DFS by Menopausal Status (Median follow up 84 months)

Pre, peri and unknown menopausal status



>5 years post-menopausal



Menopausal Interaction: $\chi^2_1 = 4.71; P = 0.030$

No. at risk
Control
ZOL

	1156	1092	999	924	876	805	732	528	157	11	0
2: Zol	1162	1088	998	924	855	801	734	514	155	8	0

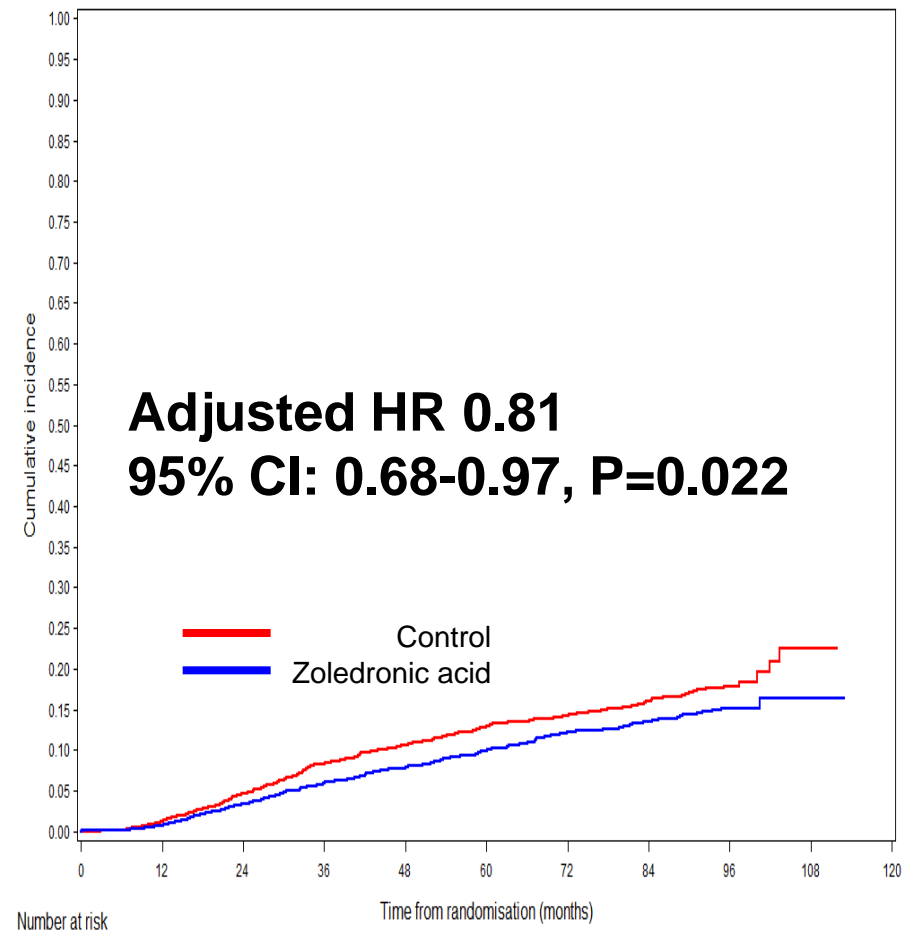
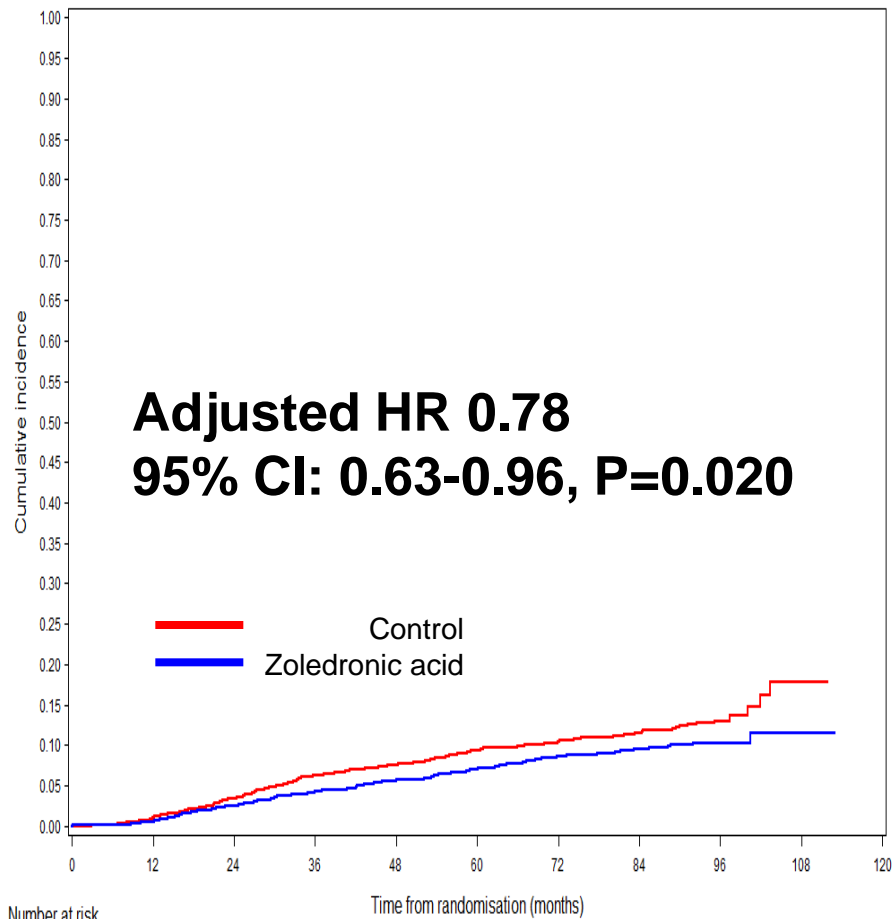
No. at risk
Control
ZOL

	522	482	432	398	371	339	308	208	62	5	0
2: Zol	519	488	444	416	401	371	325	239	84	8	0

Time to Bone Metastasis

Bone metastasis as first recurrence

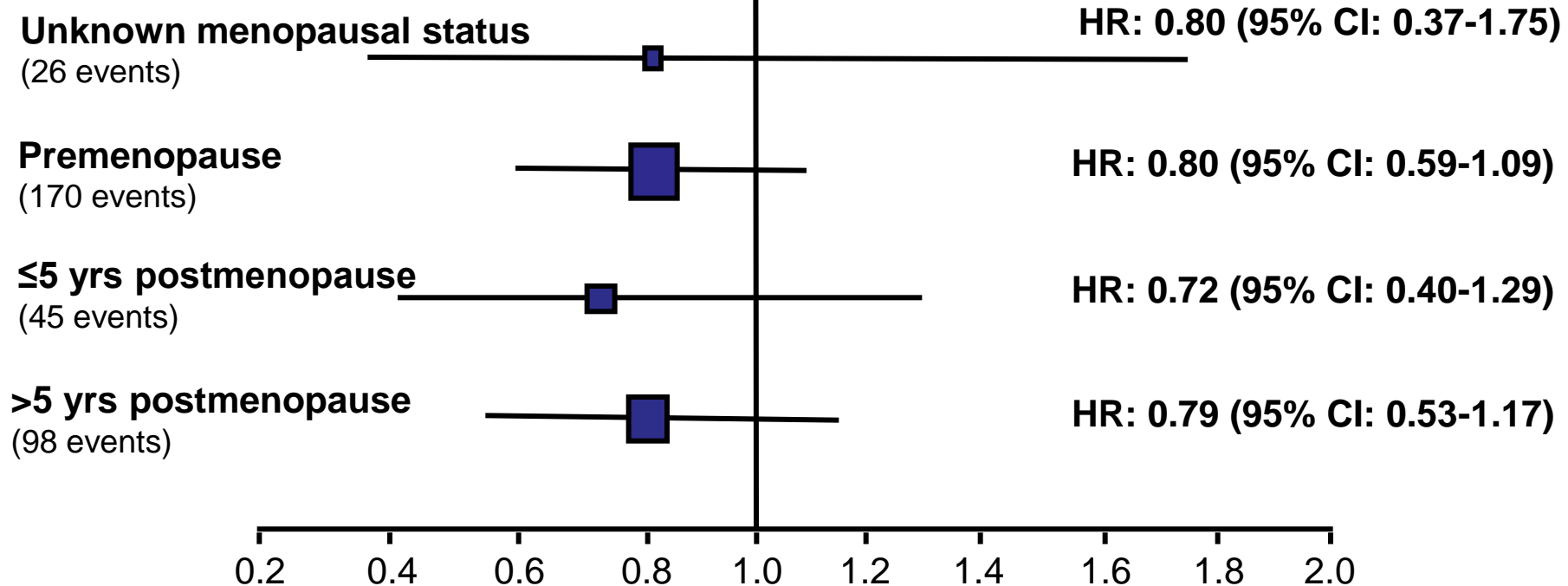
Bone metastasis at any time



AZURE: Treatment Effects on Bone Metastasis as First IDFS Event by Menopausal Status

Menopausal Group

Hazard Ratio



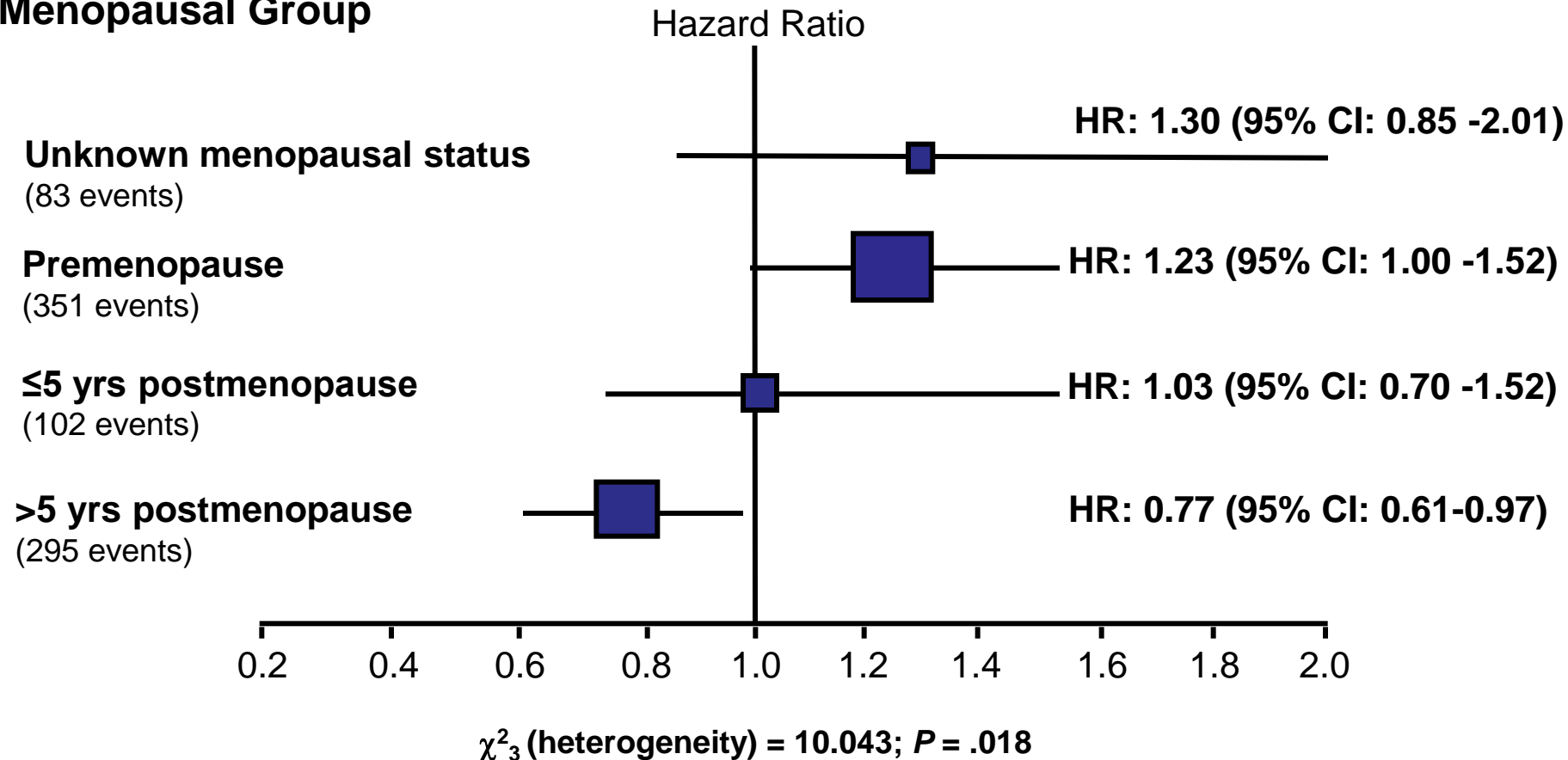
χ^2_3 (heterogeneity) = 0.118; $P = .990$

Adjusted for imbalances in ER, lymph node status, T stage and neo-adjuvant therapy.

No differences in effects on bone IDFS events by menopausal status

Impact of Menopausal Status on First IDFS Event Outside Bone

Menopausal Group



Adjusted for imbalances in ER, lymph node status, T stage and neo-adjuvant therapy.

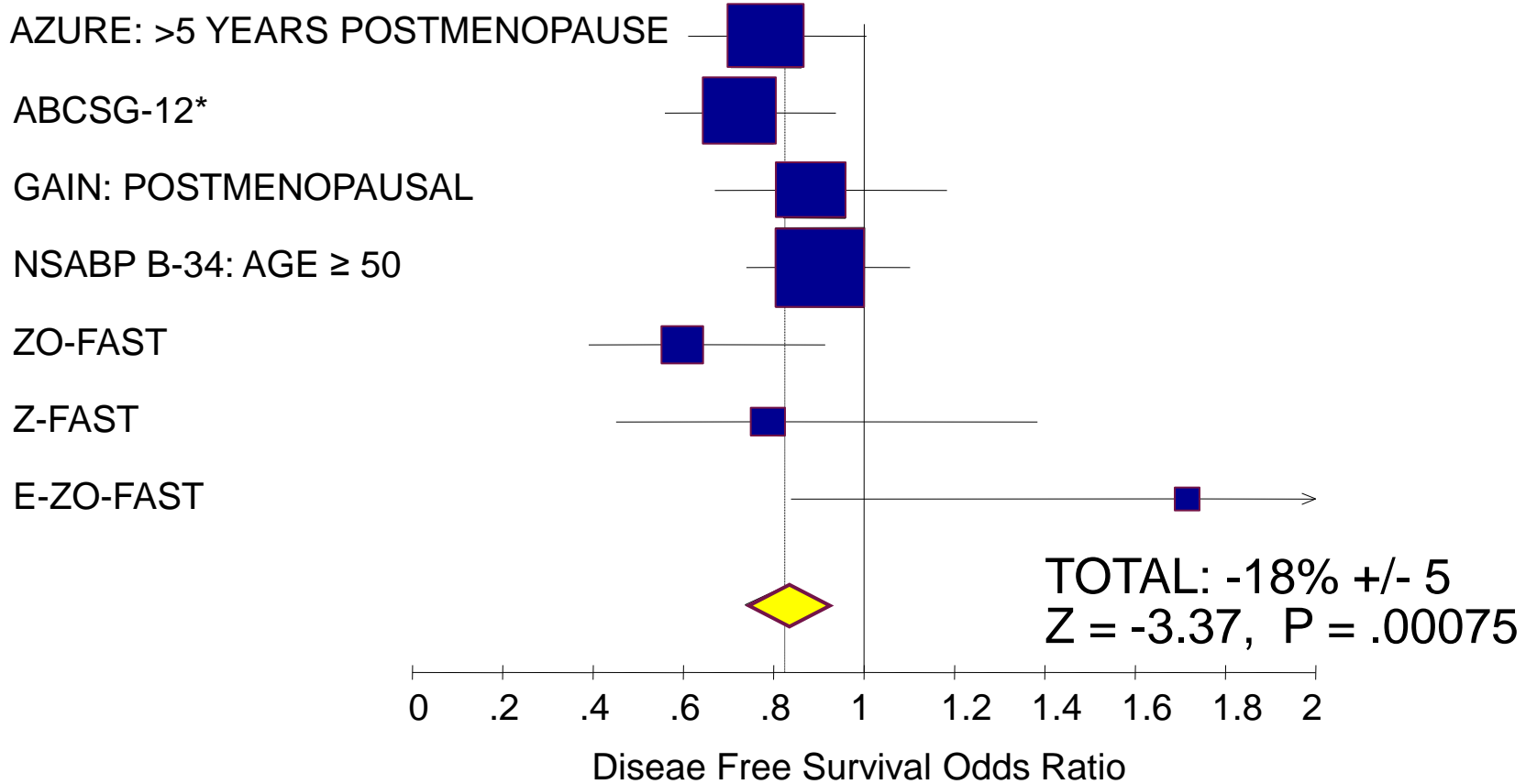
Significant differences in extraskkeletal IDFS events by menopausal status

Consistent Beneficial Effects in Postmenopausal Breast Cancer



Study

Odds Reduction (+/- S.D.)



TOTAL: -18% +/- 5
 Z = -3.37, P = .00075

χ^2_6 (heterogeneity) = 8.46 P = .21

* Induced menopause

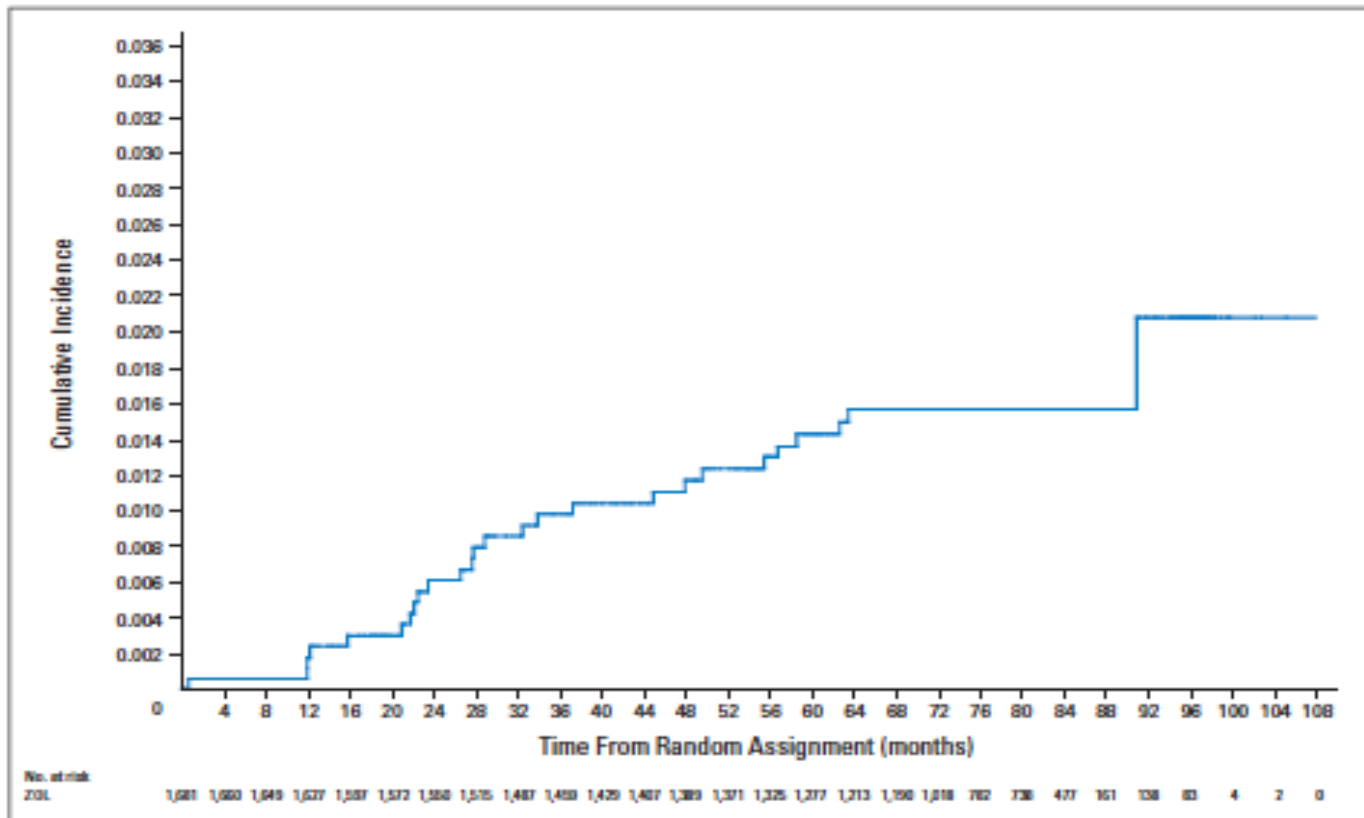
Achieving Meaningful Benefit



Intervention	Comparator	Study population	5 year risk reduction
Adjuvant tamoxifen	Nil	ER+	39%
Aromatase inhibitors	Tamoxifen	ER+ Postmen	24%
Adjuvant CMF	Nil	“Most”	14%
Adjuvant anthracyclines	CMF	“Most”	17%
Adjuvant taxanes	Anthracyclines	All “high risk”	16%
Trastuzumab	Nil	Her2+	35%
Bisphosphonates	Nil	Postmen	18%

ONJ is Uncommon in the Adjuvant Setting

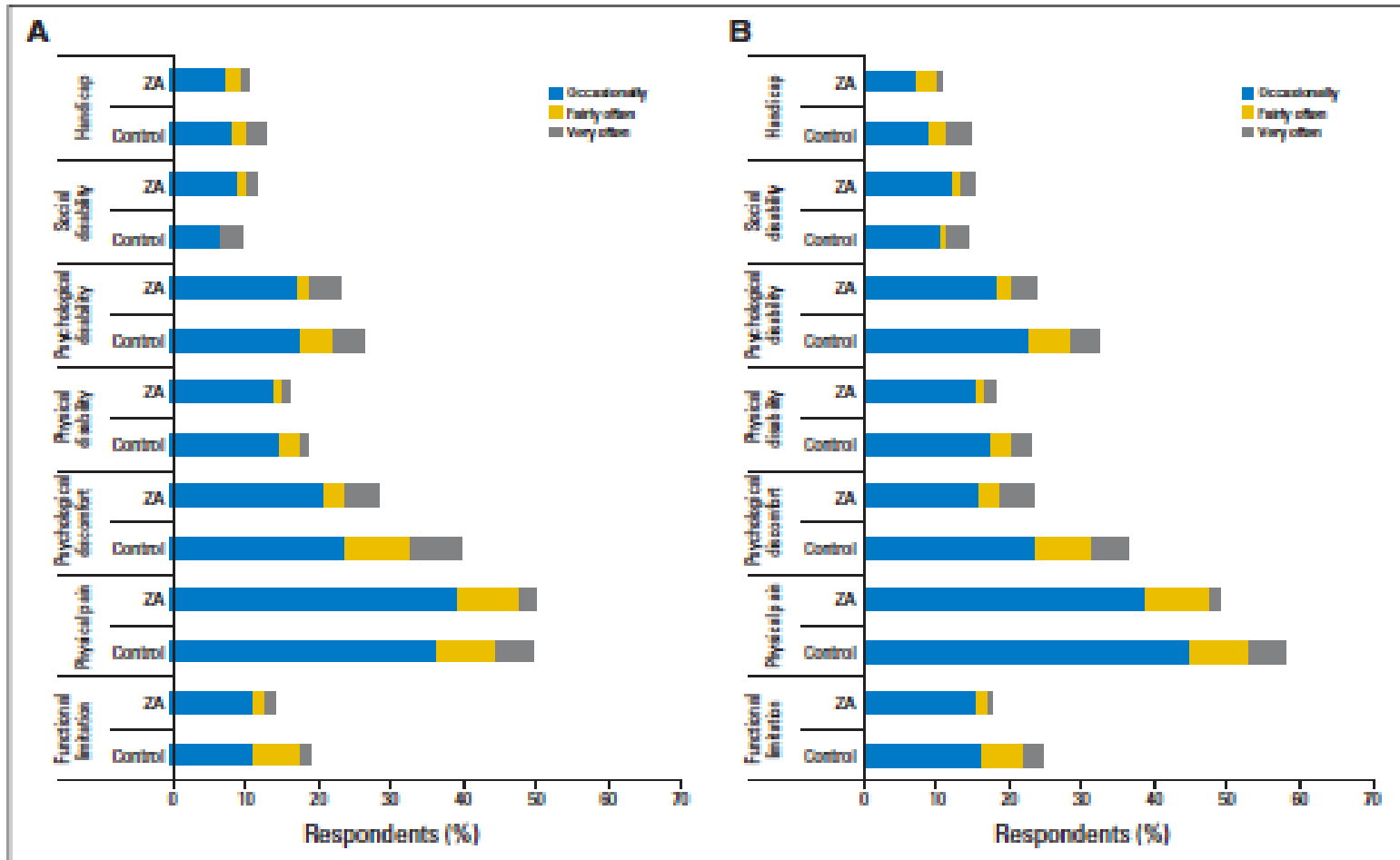
Cumulative incidence rate at 7 years = 2.1% (95%CI 0.9%-3.3%)
>50% resolved



Oral Health Related QOL is Unaffected by Zoledronic Acid

Oral HR-QOL in Last month

Oral HR-QOL Over 5 Years



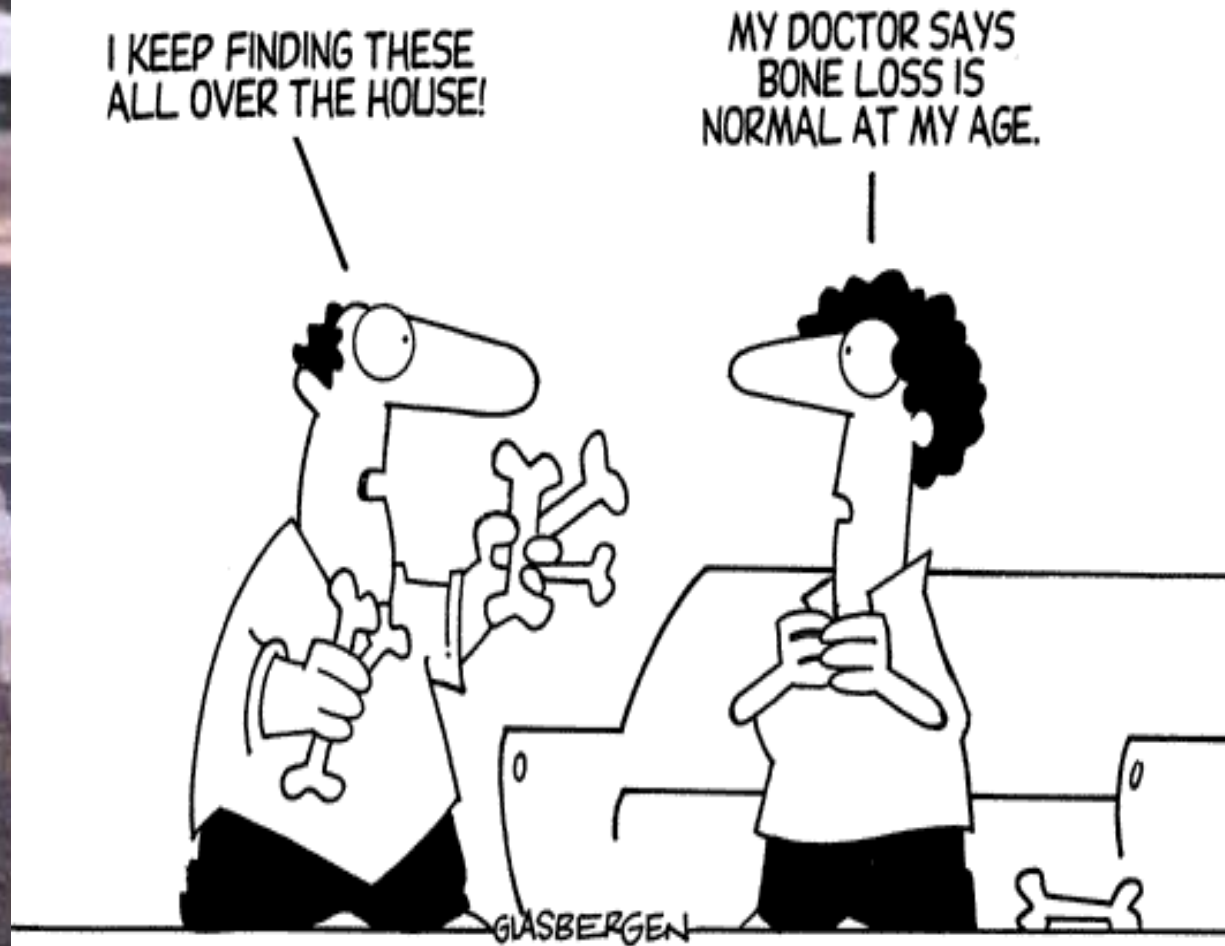
- Drug costs
 - Zoledronic acid - £4 - £30 for 4mg
- Clinical review and administration costs
 - Day case cost - Around £120
- Monitoring costs
 - Renal function £5

7-19 treatments = £910 - £2850

Today's Bonus Ball!



Preservation of Normal Bone Health



Requirements For a New Treatment in Early Breast Cancer

- Biologically plausible ✓
- Multiple supportive clinical trials ✓
- Meaningful benefit ✓
- Compatible with current standard treatment ✓
- Well tolerated ✓
- Cost effective ✓
- (Regulatory approval)

Don't Ignore the Evidence?



The Answer Must Be “YES!”

