Reviewer's report

Title: Are Osteoporotic Fractures Being Adequately Investigated? A Questionnaire of GP & Orthopaedic Surgeons.

Version: 1 Date: 12 July 2005

Reviewer: J Dequeker

Reviewer's report:

General
This is a well conducted study with a clearly defined investigational topic the current practice of GPs and Orthopedics how they deal with fractures in the elderly in order to prevent further osteoporotic fracture in high risk patients.
The report is concise well formulated and confirms a "real" problem of lack of interdisciplanary "good medical practice".
The study of residronate is wrongly quoted in the discussion. It is not etidronate but risedronate. It would be better to use as for the other studies % reduction expression (eg 28%) rather than the difference in incidence 3.2% to 1.9%.
The advice to investigate fragility fracture is good but better would be to advice that all fragility fractures over the age of fifty should receive preventive treatment whatever the result of bone densitometry. The adherence to therapy will be enforced by the positive attitude and follow up of the OP nurse in association with the GP. It is never to late to treat fracture in high risk patients as proven by the studies in France where they added systematically Vit D and calcium in the food of old people homes see ref 12-

---------------------------------------------------------------

Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)

---------------------------------------------------------------

Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)

---------------------------------------------------------------

Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)