



# Management of men and women over 50yrs who have sustained a fragility fracture: 2012 guidance

**Fragility fracture definition:**  
 Fracture site excluding fingers, toes, scaphoid and skull  
 Fracture force excluding major RTA or fall from more than 6 feet

**DXA**  
 Not essential If over 75 years OR DXA clinically inappropriate

Lowest T score > -2

Lowest T score -2 to -2.5

Lowest T score < -2.5  
 OR DXA inappropriate  
 OR Current steroids planned for 3+ months

General guidance, Smoking cessation, Alcohol moderation, ensure Calcium and vitamin D Replete

**BLOOD INVESTIGATIONS<sup>1</sup>:** Bone profile (Serum calcium, phosphate, ALP, Albumin, 25OH vitamin D), Renal profile, ALT/ AST, FBC, ESR, TSH

Multiple fractures, vertebral fracture, Or secondary cause

YES

Ensure Calcium and vitamin D replete

NO

Repeat BMD in 2-5 years or sooner if further fracture

Start Bone specific Therapy

<sup>1</sup>Additional Investigations if indicated:

- PTH (if high calcium)
- Coeliac screen (if history of unexplained anaemia)
- Serum & urine electrophoretic strip (if unexplained high ESR)
- 24 hour urinary calcium (if high calcium/ renal stones)
- Serum testosterone, LH and SHBG, PSA (Men)
- 24 hour urinary cortisol

Secondary causes including:  
 Smoker, Alcohol >3 units, parental hip fracture  
 Inflammatory arthritis including Rheumatoid  
 Inflammatory bowel disease  
 Chronic liver disease, Malabsorption  
 Hypogonadism, Menopause < 45 years  
 Type I diabetes, Multiple sclerosis, Parkinsons Disease

**DURATION OF THERAPY:**

Oral agents:

- Assess adherence @ 3mth then annually
- Review treatment after 5 years
- At end of treatment cycle consider:
  - RE-fractures, adherence, tolerance
  - Repeat DXA/ bone markers/ Frax
  - Continuing for 10yr total if DXA still < -2.5, on steroids, more fractures
  - Else 2 years off treatment then restart
  - IF greater than 80 years can continue
- Zoledronate/ Dmab: 3 yrs then reassess

**INDICATIONS for Referral to bone clinic:**

1. Pre-menopausal women with fragility fracture
2. Men under the age of 60 years with fragility fracture
3. Multiple fragility fractures with BMD >-2
4. Fragility fractures with complex medical diseases including cancer therapies and kidney disease.
5. Worsening painful vertebral fractures for more than 6 weeks

Bone markers if available:  
 Serum PINP or Fasting serum CTXI

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**Alendronate for 5-10 yrs**  
70mg once a week  
**+ With Ca + Vit D**

**Prescriber:**  
Check for swallowing, dyspepsia, ulcer  
Check GFR/eGFR > 30ml/min  
discuss administration /compliance  
discuss potential side effects

**Compliance review at 3 months**

**COMPLIANT** – continue for 5 yrs and review compliance annually

NON Compliant

Re-education and additional support

NON Compliant after further 3 months of support

**Risk assess need for treatment**

Benefit of treating outweighed by poor compliance / side effects

**Treat as intolerant**

**Intolerant to Alendronate**

**Side effect: Dyspepsia**

**Side effect: Swallowing issue**

**MILD**  
Risedronate

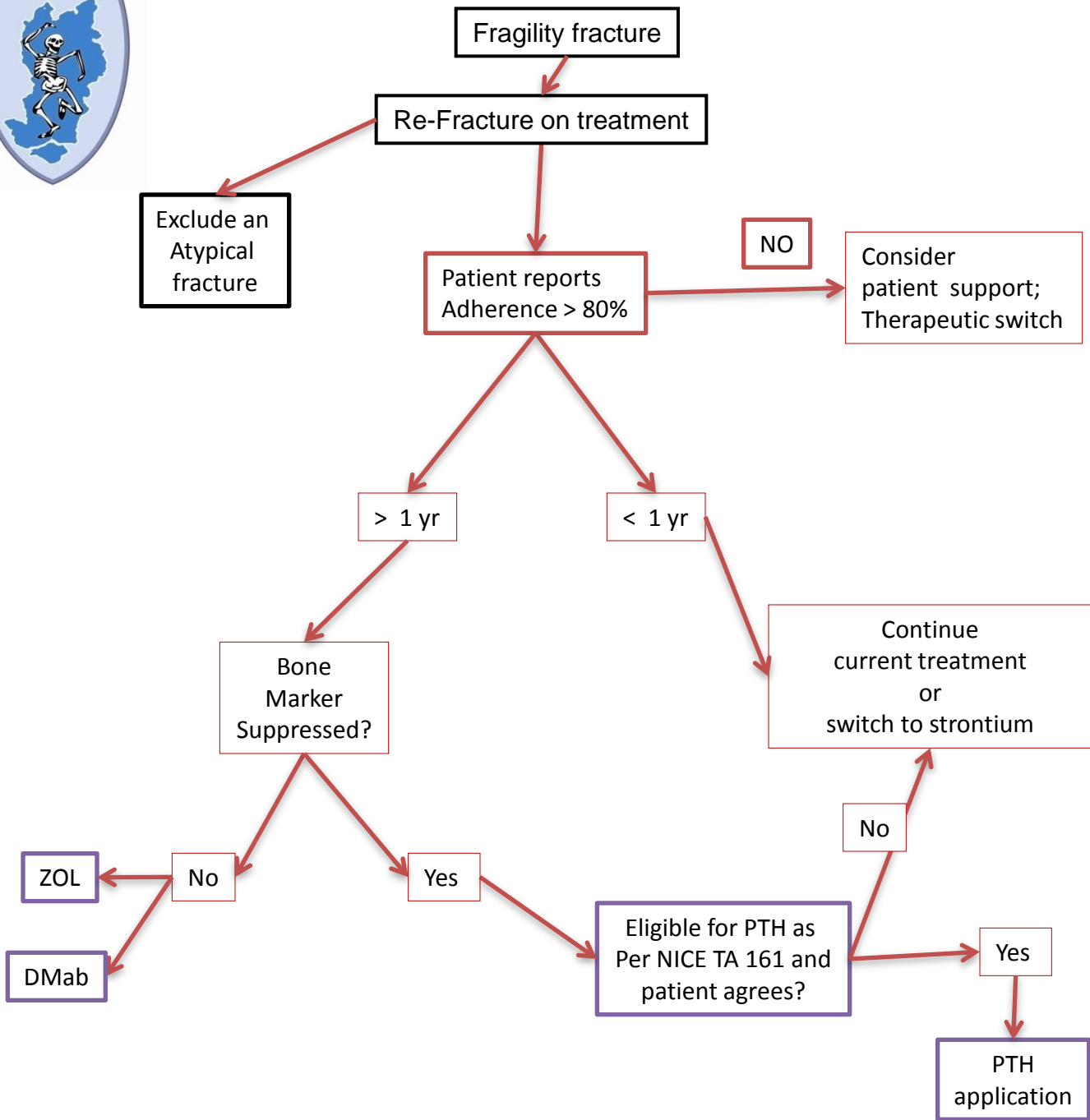
**MODERATE**  
Strontium OR  
Denosumab  
OR Zoledronate

OR Strontium  
OR Denosumab  
OR Zoledronate

Agents recommended for glucocorticoid induced osteoporosis:

1. Oral/ iv Bisphosphonates (Aln, Ris, Zol)
2. Teriparatide

Dosages of agents:  
Alendronate 70 mg ow  
Risedronate 35mg ow  
Strontium 2g nocte  
Denosumab 60mg sc 6 monthly  
Zoledronate 5mg yearly x3  
Teriparatide 20mg sc od



**Bone markers:**

1. Serum PINP or Fasting serum CTXI
2. Taken within 48 hours of fracture
3. Suppressed according to local ranges