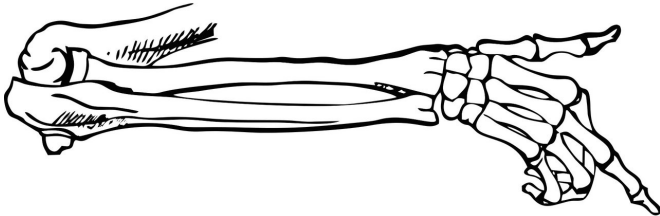


# Do pain relievers impede bone drug's efficacy?

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New research published in the *Journal of Bone and Mineral Research* suggests that non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) that are taken to reduce pain may block the beneficial effects of bone-protective drugs called bisphosphonates.

In the study of 5,212 community-dwelling [women](#) aged 75 years and older, the use of NSAIDs did not seem to have a direct impact on individuals' bone fracture risk, but the medications appeared to negate the bone-protective effects of the oral bisphosphonate, clodronate, on preventing osteoporotic fractures.

"We need to exercise some caution in extrapolating these data to more widely used bisphosphonates in [osteoporosis](#), but given that concomitant usage of NSAIDs and bisphosphonates is relatively common, this could have major clinical consequences and result in a failure to reduce fracture risk as much as we had hoped," said senior author Eugene McCloskey, MD, of Northern General Hospital, in the UK.

**More information:** Potential adverse effect of non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) on bisphosphonate efficacy. An exploratory analysis from a randomized controlled trial of clodronate.,

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