

ARE ORAL BISPHOSPHONATES

WORKING?

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FRACTURE FEST 2025



THE PROBLEM

Absorption

1-2% oral bisphosphonates are absorbed, max 5% Affected by food

Distribution

Not homogenous Preference for high-turnover bone

Metabolism

50% metabolised

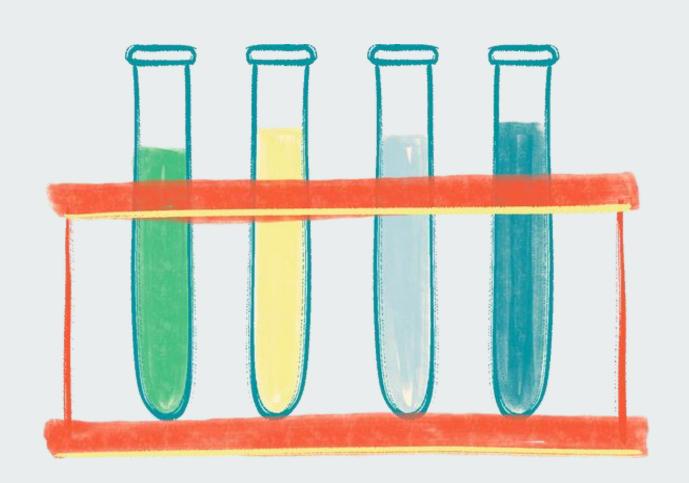
Excretion

50% excreted unmetabolised

BONE TURNOVER MARKERS

IOF-ESCEO-IFCC supports using BTM

> P1NP checked 6 months after starting treatment



Changes in BMD happen over years

Tx within 12 weeks



THE AUDIT

Is this a problem?

METHODS

Aug 22 - Dec 24



Aug 22 - April 25

Current OP tx= none at time of # OR drug holiday

Tx recommendation=
alendronate OR
Risedronate OR
bisphosphonate therapy
(prescribers choice)

Med 16 weeks= alendronate OR risedronate

Current OP tx= alendronate
OR risedronate

P1NP checked at least 3 months after starting tx?

RESULTS – TX INITIATED BY FLS



n	77	
Oral BP + P1NP checked	18	23%
P1NP <35	6	33%
P1NP >35 + tx changed at 52 weeks	2	17%

RESULTS - ALREADY ON TX



n	110	
Oral BP + P1NP not checked + tx changed	16	15%
Oral BP + P1NP checked	54	49%
P1NP <35	19	35%
P1NP >35 + tx changed at 16 weeks	24	69%

LEARNING POINTS



01

P1NP check

12-23% of patients started on oral bisphosphonates have a P1NP test 6 months after starting



02

Low suppression

33-35% of patients on oral bisphosphonates have a P1NP <35



03

Treatment changes

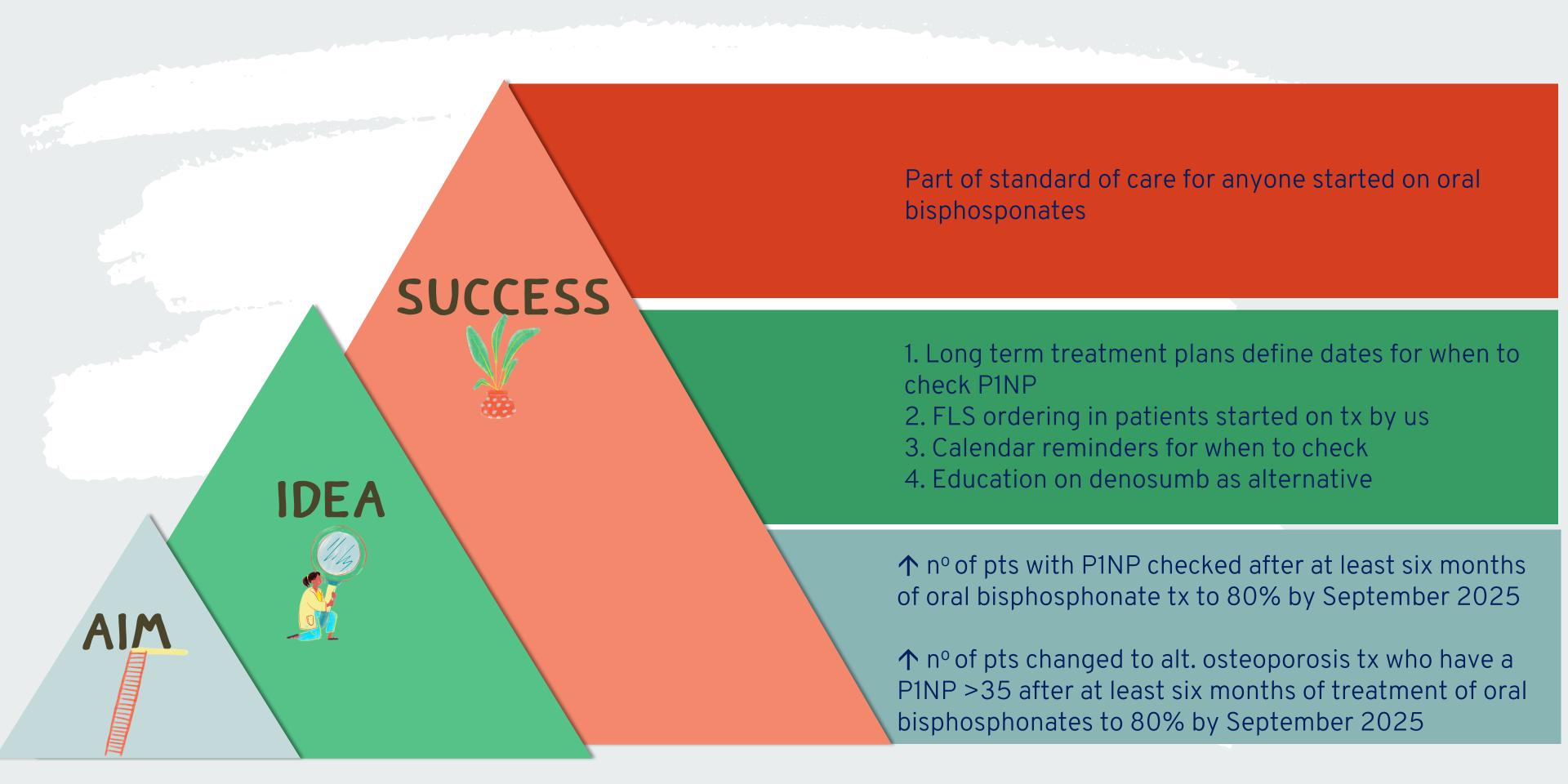
When we know P1NP isn't suppressed, tx has still not been altered



THE

PURPOSE

- 1. Increase P1NP ordered in patient started on oral bisphosphates
- 2. Increase switch to alternative treatment in patients who have a P1NP >35





MEASUREMENTS



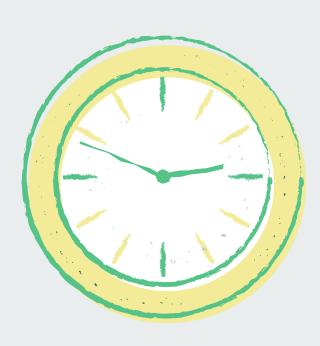
Outcome (aim)

- Number of P1NP's measured



Process (BTM)

- Number of P1NP's <35
- Number of P1NP's >35 therefore tx was changed



Balance (resources)

- -Number of P1NP's measured
 - Cost of P1NP
 - FLS time



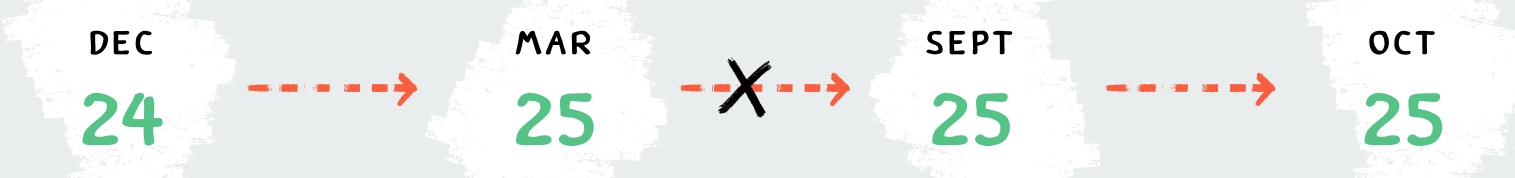
PROJECT TIMELINE

The project

PHASE 2

??- end or redesign

PHASE 4



PHASE 1

The audit

PHASE 3

Re-evaluation



MY LAST THOUGHTS

- 1. Whose responsibility is it to check P1NP?
- 2. What capacity does FLS have for this?
- 3. Should we be pushing ZA, if so how do we overcome barriers
- 4. What role is there for oral bisphosphonates
- 5. Risk of treatment failure should be highlighted to patients

TAKE HOME MESSAGES



POOR ABSORPTION

TEST P1NP

OFFER ALT WHEN ABLE

ACCESS TO ALT TX





THANK YOU

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