

**OSTEOPOROSIS GRAVE CON APLASTAMIENTOS VERTEBRALES  
EN DERMATOMIOSITIS JUVENIL.  
EFECTO DEL TRATAMIENTO CON ALENDRONATO ORAL**

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**Resumen** Los glucocorticoides son usados comúnmente para el tratamiento de enfermedades inflamatorias, autoinmunes, enfermedades malignas, y en la prevención de rechazo de órganos trasplantados. Un efecto secundario frecuente del tratamiento prolongado es la pérdida de masa ósea que se produce por varios mecanismos y es causa de osteoporosis y fracturas vertebrales. El tratamiento con disfosfonatos ha sido propuesto para esta situación. Presentamos un caso clínico de osteoporosis grave en una niña con dermatomiositis juvenil, que respondió favorablemente al tratamiento con disfosfonatos orales.

**Palabras claves:** osteoporosis, dermatomiositis juvenil, alendronato

**Abstract** **Severe osteoporosis with vertebral crushes in juvenile dermatomyositis. Effect of oral alendronate therapy.** Glucocorticoids are used for the treatment of inflammatory and autoimmune diseases, cancer, and in prevention of organ rejects. A frequent secondary effect of longterm treatment with corticoids is the loss of bone mass, caused by several mechanisms: decrease in the intestinal calcium absorption, increase of the renal calcium excretion at the distal renal tubule, suppressive effect on the osteoblast and also in apoptosis of osteoclasts, inhibition in local production of IGF I (Insulin-like growth factor) and IGFBPs (binding IGF I proteins necessary for bone metabolism), and decrease on osteocalcin production. Longterm treatment with corticoids is associated with osteoporosis and vertebral fractures. To improve this condition, treatment with bisphosphonates has been proposed. We present here a clinical case of a girl with dermatomyositis and severe osteoporosis with vertebral crushes, who responded well to oral bisphosphonate treatment.

**Key words:** osteoporosis, juvenile dermatomyositis, alendronate