Pediatric PPI Use and Fractures

Nathan R. Fleishman
*Children's Mercy Hospital*, nrfleishman@cmh.edu

Troy Richardson
*Children's Mercy Hospital*, trichardson@cmh.edu

Thomas M. Attard
*Children's Mercy Hospital*, tmattard@cmh.edu

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Pediatric PPI Use and Fractures

Nathan Fleishman, MD¹; Troy Richardson PhD ²; Thomas M. Attard, MD¹;

¹ Children's Mercy Kansas City, Dept of Pediatric Gastroenterology; ² Children's Hospital Association

BACKGROUND

• Proton pump inhibitors (PPI) are one of the most widely prescribed classes of medications
• Increasing reports of safety concerns regarding PPI use including the risk of fracture
• Limited studies examining risk among pediatric patients

STUDY AIMS

• Compare rate of fracture among pediatric patients exposed to PPI to rate among patients without exposure
• Determine if fracture location differs among children exposed to PPI

METHODS

• Retrospective propensity-matched analysis using Pediatric Health Information Systems database
• Initial encounters for patients 6 months to 15.5 years between 06/01/2011 to 12/31/2015
• Patients evaluated over 2-year period for encounter resulting from fracture
• Extensive exclusion criteria of conditions and medications which could increase the risk of fracture were applied

FINDINGS

• 32,001 encounters with documented PPI use were propensity matched to the same number of encounters with no PPI documented
• Statistically significant higher rate of fractures among the PPI exposed group (1.4% vs 1.2%, p = 0.019)
• Adjusting for remaining differences in sex, race, encounter type, payer, and resource intensity after matching, this remained statistically significant (p = 0.017 OR (95% CI) of 1.2 (1.0,1.4)
• PPI cohort more likely to suffer from lower extremity, rib, and spinal fractures (p = 0.01)
• No relationship between fracture risk and individual PPIs (p = 0.205)

CONCLUSIONS

• There may be an increased risk of fracture among otherwise healthy pediatric patients taking PPI
• Serious consideration of fracture risk should be considered prior to prescribing PPI to pediatric patients
• Future studies examining mechanism of PPI effects on bone health are needed

RESOURCES

• Vestergaard P, Rejnmark L, Mosekilde L. Proton pump inhibitors, histamine H2 receptor antagonists, and other antacid medications and the risk of fracture. Calcif Tissue Int. 2006;79(2):76-83

CONTACT INFORMATION

• nrfleishman@cmh.edu