

Editor's Note

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The first research article by Ambrose et al. was carried out to determine both safety and the efficacy of oral dosing rats with fullerene C_{60} [$c(Po_3H_2)_2$]₂ at two different doses. This is *in vivo* study and a rat model of osteoporosis was chosen. The study has demonstrated for the first time, that orally administered C_{60} bis (bisphosphonate) test compound, $C_{60}[c(po_3H_2)_2]_2$ can be used safely in a rat model of osteoporosis. In addition, the test compound reduced the bone density loss that is usually seen after ovariectomies [1].

Li et al. studied the polymorphism in osteoprotegrin gene with risk of osteoporosis and urinary calcium level in Chinese population [2]. The study suggests that the genotype of rs1032128 in the OPG gene may play an important role in osteoporosis development of males and influence the calcium balance in all geriatrics and that urinary calcium level to predict osteoporosis if combined with genotypes of OPG SNPrs1032128 at least in some local Chinese geriatrics in Shanghai [3].

Kawaguchi introduced his recent mouse genetics studies attempting to elucidate molecular mechanism underlying the bone and cartilage disorders. They have attempted to confirm the reproducibility of the mouse finding in human using human gene polymorphism or clinical biochemical studies. The trials based on the present study are being practically planned for clinical application [4].

Kawamura et al. [5] examine pre-injury factors that influence the outcome of patients with hip fracture. They investigated pre-injury factors, including the Barthel index (BI), and performed logistic regression analysis to identify factors that affect the outcome (home discharge or transfer) of patients with hip fracture. Logistic regression analysis identified the pre-injury BI and age as significant factors. Patients with low pre-injury BI scores (<85) and older age (>79) will more likely require transfer to a regional hospital via a fully co-operative care pathway [6,7].

Liao investigated the effects of different grip spans of young adults in an effort to achieve maximum hand grip strength (HGS) and grip control strength (GCS) using a hand dynamometer and explore the correlation between hand size and grip span to optimize outcomes. They evaluated the HGS and GCS of Taiwanese individuals in a "free" posture to identify the optimal grip span and improve occupational therapy interventions. The finding of this study could offer the data for tool handle design by ergonomic and occupational therapy staff members [8].

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