

Osteoporosis may predispose to **vertebral compression fractures** which occur in 30–50% of patients on prolonged **glucocorticoids**. **Steroid**-induced bone loss may be reversed with cyclical administration of **etidronate** ¹⁾ in 4 cycles of 400 mg/d ✕ 14 days followed by 76 days of oral calcium supplements of 500 mg/d (not proven to a reduced rate of **vertebral fractures**).

¹⁾

Struys A, Snelder AA, Mulder H. Cyclical Etidronate Reverses Bone Loss of the Spine and Proximal Femur in Patients With Established Corticosteroid- Induced Osteoporosis. Am J Med. 1995; 99:235–242

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Last update: **2024/06/07 02:57**

