

# Risk of cardiac valve disorders associated with the use of biphosphonates (Cardiac valve disorders and biphosphonate use)

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**Last updated:** 31/03/2024

Study

Finalised

## Administrative details

### Contact details

#### Study institution contact

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Study contact

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#### Primary lead investigator

Miriam Sturkenboom

Primary lead investigator

#### PURI

<https://redirect.ema.europa.eu/resource/20749>

#### EU PAS number

EUPAS2616

#### Study ID

20749

#### DARWIN EU® study

No

## Study countries

Italy

Netherlands

United Kingdom

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## Study description

A signal of disproportionate reporting concerning the risk of cardiac valve calcification leading to cardiac valve insufficiency associated with the use of bisphosphonates was found in EudraVigilance. A similar association between bisphosphonate use and valvular and vascular calcification in women has also been previously described in a cohort study conducted in the United States (MESA study). The primary objective of this signal strengthening study is to confirm or refute the presence of a possible risk of cardiac valve disorders (all types of disorders, confirmed by cardiac imaging) in patients treated with bisphosphonates using EU longitudinal healthcare data from the EU-ADR Alliance. This signal strengthening study will determine the need for, and feasibility of conducting a traditional hypothesis testing study. Signal strengthening will be performed using the most recently updated demographic, clinical, and prescription data from six databases in three EU member states (Italy, Netherlands, the United Kingdom), pooled using a distributed network approach by generation of common input data followed by local aggregation through custom-built software, Jerboa©. Potential cases of cardiac valve disorders in the database network will be identified using database-specific coding algorithms. Exposure to bisphosphonates will be assessed with drug prescription/dispensing data using the World Health Organisation's (WHO) Anatomical Therapeutic Chemical (ATC) classification system. Several signal detection/strengthening methods will be employed to assess the association of cardiac valve disorder and use of bisphosphonates

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## Study status

Finalised

# Research institution and networks

## Institutions

**Erasmus Medical Centre Rotterdam**

**First published:** 01/02/2024

Last updated 01/02/2024

**Institution**

**Primary Care Research Institute Jordi Gol**

# The PHARMO Institute for Drug Outcomes Research (PHARMO Institute)

Netherlands

**First published:** 07/01/2022

Last updated

10/01/2022

Institution

Laboratory/Research/Testing facility

ENCePP partner

## Networks

### EU-ADR Alliance

**First published:** 01/02/2024

Last updated

01/02/2024

Network

## Study timelines

### Date when funding contract was signed

Planned:

02/12/2011

Actual:

02/12/2011

### Data collection

Planned:

11/06/2012

Actual:

18/06/2012

### Start date of data analysis

Planned:

18/06/2012

Actual:

22/06/2012

**Date of interim report, if expected**

Planned:

02/07/2012

Actual:

16/07/2013

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**Date of final study report**

Planned:

02/08/2012

Actual:

08/01/2014

## Sources of funding

- EMA

## Study protocol

[D1.b. Final Protocol signal strengthening \(BI\)\\_23May2012.pdf](#)(1.23 MB)

## Regulatory

**Was the study required by a regulatory body?**

Yes

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**Is the study required by a Risk Management Plan (RMP)?**

Not applicable

## Methodological aspects

### Study type

### Study type list

**Study topic:**

Disease /health condition

Human medicinal product

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**Study type:**

Non-interventional study

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**Scope of the study:**

Assessment of risk minimisation measure implementation or effectiveness

**Data collection methods:**

Secondary data collection

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**Main study objective:**

The primary objective of this study is to confirm, or refute, the existence of a statistical association of cardiac valve disorders (all types of disorders, confirmed by echocardiography, cardiac catheterisation, or other imaging modality) and use of bisphosphonate (for all indications), and eventua

## Study Design

**Non-interventional study design**

Case-control

Cohort

## Study drug and medical condition

**Anatomical Therapeutic Chemical (ATC) code**

100000097107

Bisphosphonates

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**Medical condition to be studied**

Cardiac valve disease

## Population studied

**Short description of the study population**

Patients treated with bisphosphonates who are registered in the databases participating in the study. All the subjects of any age with at least one year of data available in the database were included in the study.

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## Age groups

Term newborn infants (0 – 27 days)  
Infants and toddlers (28 days – 23 months)  
Children (2 to < 12 years)  
Adolescents (12 to < 18 years)  
Adults (18 to < 46 years)  
Adults (46 to < 65 years)  
Adults (65 to < 75 years)  
Adults (75 to < 85 years)  
Adults (85 years and over)

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## Estimated number of subjects

27000000

# Study design details

## Outcomes

Occurrence of any cardiac valve disorder

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## Data analysis plan

Through data mining techniques any association of individual bisphosphonates and each outcome definition will be explored and quantified. Various statistical methods have previously been evaluated for this purpose and in this study a combination of the best performing methods, enumerated below, will be applied to data pooled from all six databases. a. Incidence Rate Ratio (IRR) is calculated as the ratio between incidence rate during exposure to the drug compared to a background incidence rate. A Mantel-Haenszel test is used to test the differences between the incidence rates, typically correcting for age and sex. b. Longitudinal Gamma Poisson Shrinker (LGPS) is an adaptation of the GPS method, developed for use in spontaneous reporting databases, to longitudinal data. It applies Bayesian shrinkage to the IRR. c. Automated Matched Case Control Method. For every potential case identified, a predefined number of controls will be matched to the same age, sex, index date.

# Documents

## Results tables

[Executive Summary.pdf](#)(369.17 KB)

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## Data management

## ENCePP Seal

This study has been awarded the ENCePP seal



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**Conflicts of interest of investigators**

[ENCePPDoIForms\\_merged.pdf](#)(427.67 KB)

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**Composition of steering group and observers**

[Participants\\_Cardiac valve disorders and biphosphonate use.pdf](#)(188.04 KB)

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**Signed code of conduct**

[CoC Declaration 2616.pdf](#)(375.52 KB)

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**Signed code of conduct checklist**

[CoC Checklist 2616.pdf](#)(150.28 KB)

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**Signed checklist for study protocols**

[Study Protocols Checklist 2616.pdf](#)(241.69 KB)

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## Data sources

**Data source(s)**

THIN® (The Health Improvement Network®)

Drug claims information system

Health Search/IQVIA Health Longitudinal Patient Database

IPCI

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**Data sources (types)**

[Administrative data \(e.g. claims\)](#)

[Drug dispensing/prescription data](#)

[Electronic healthcare records \(EHR\)](#)

## Use of a Common Data Model (CDM)

**CDM mapping**

No

## Data quality specifications

**Check conformance**

Unknown

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**Check completeness**

Unknown

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**Check stability**

Unknown

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**Check logical consistency**

Unknown

## Data characterisation



**Data characterisation conducted**

Unknown