

Geriatric Endocrinology CALCIUM-PHOSPHATE

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Learning Objectives

- Hypercalcemia (causes, diagnosis and treatment)
- Primary *hyper*parathyroidism (PHPT) incl. complications and challenges

- <u>Hypo</u>parathyroidism (causes and treatment)
- Hypocalcemia

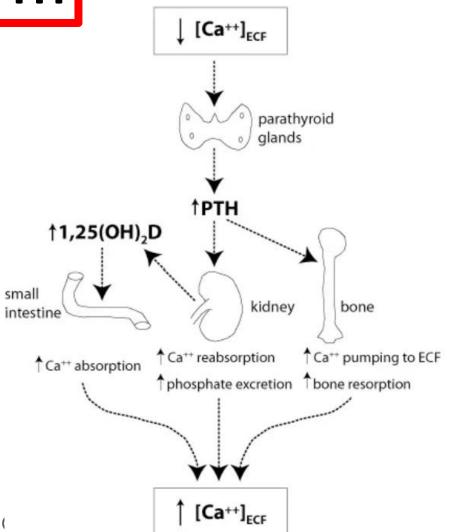
- Hypo-and hyperphosphatemia
- Tumor-induced osteomalacia

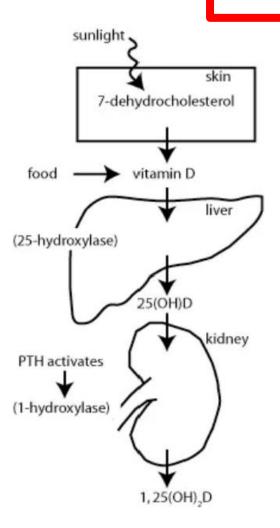


Pathophysiology



Vitamin D







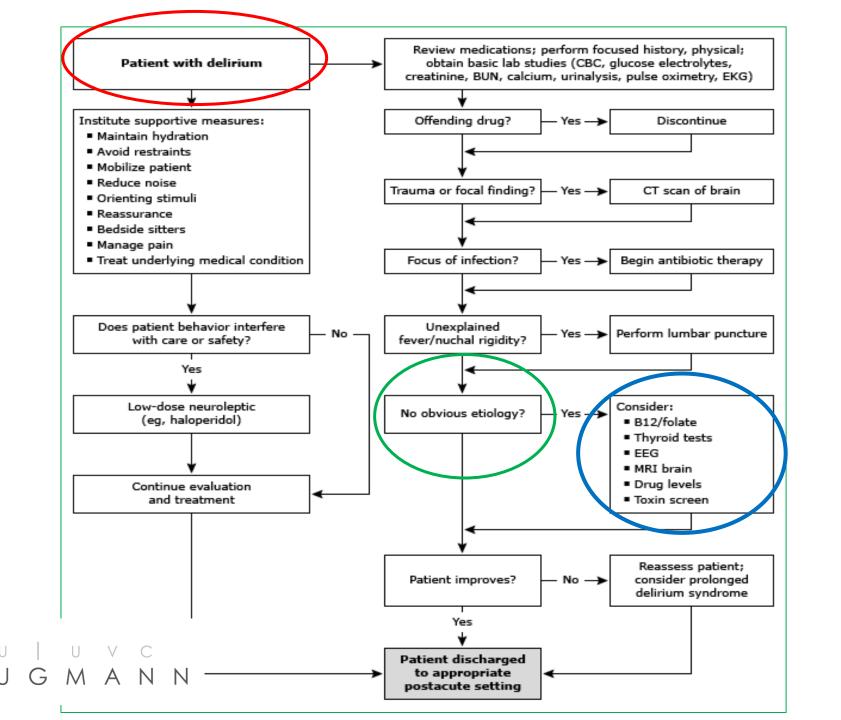
Case

- 84-yo patient ♀
- H in Geriatric dpt for asthenia, fatigue, difficulty walking, falls ...
- "Cognitive decline" according to her daughter

- Previous HX:
 - Breast cancer (tumorectomy), CVA (frontal ischemic, 2013),
 AHT, hypercholesterolemia, osteoporosis
- <u>Social</u>:
 - Lives alone (3rd floor with elevator)
 - 2 children whom she visits very often









Case – lab results

Calcium 3,75 mmol/L



Phosphate 0,72 mmol/L



• Mg²⁺ 0,60 mmol/L

Albumin 36 g/L

N 2,20-2,55

N 0,75-1,39

N 0,63-1,05

N 40-49

→ Calcemia of 3,8 mmol/L corrected for albumin

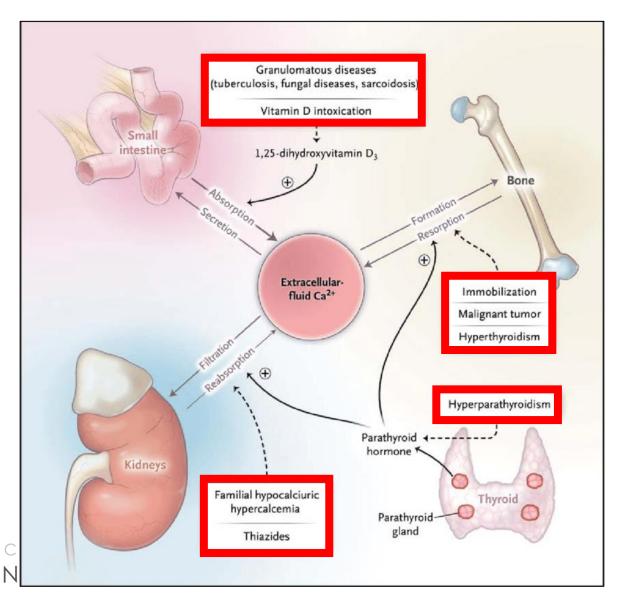


What to do next?

- A 25-OH Vitamin D
- B iPTH
- C 1,25-dihydroxy Vitamin D
- **D** Thyroid ultrasound
- E Bone scan
- F Combination of the above



Causes of hypercalcemia

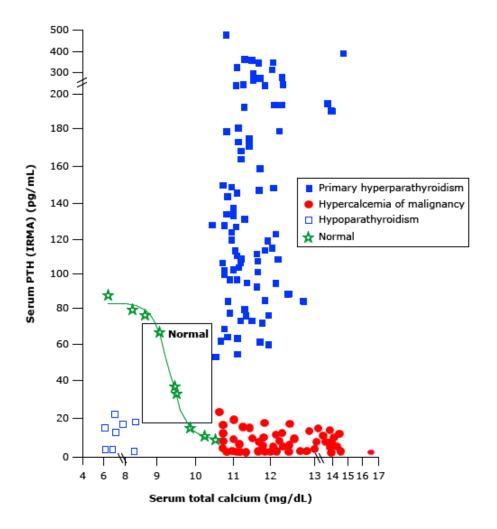


Causes of hypercalcemia

80-90% either PHPT or malignancy

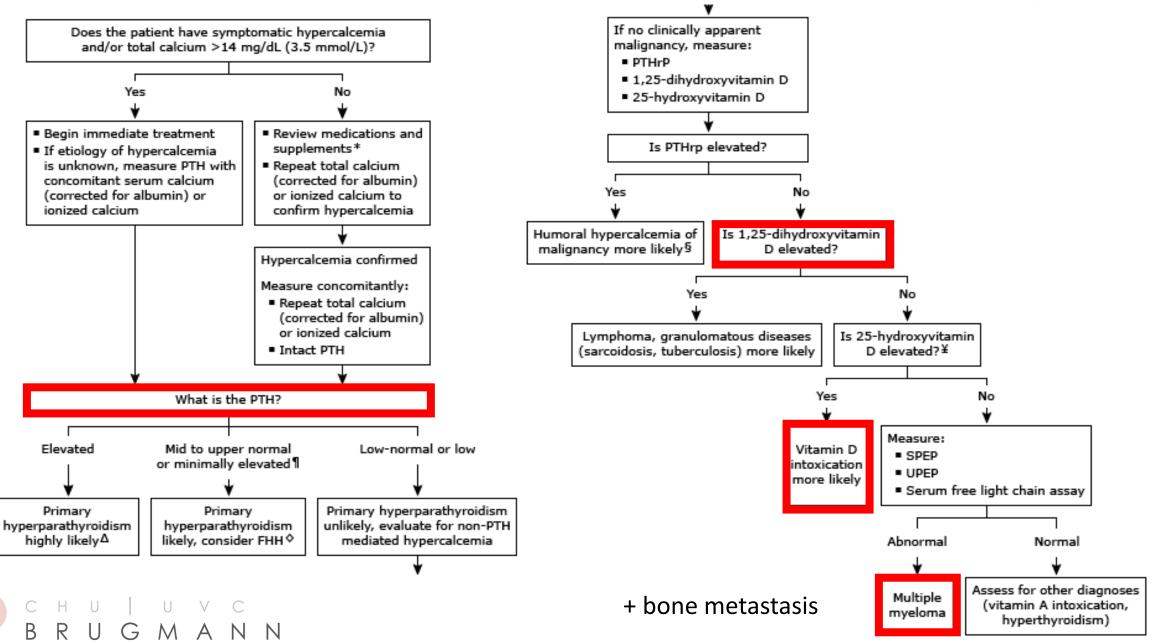


Serum parathyroid hormone (PTH) concentrations in hypercalcemia and hypocalcemia









Case

Calcium 3,75 mmol/L



Phosphate 0,72 mmol/L



• Mg²⁺ 0,60 mmol/L

Albumin 36 g/L

• PTH 133 ng/L 🥕

25-OH Vitamine D 39,6 mcg/L

N 2,20-2,55

N 0,75-1,39

N 0,63-1,05

N 40-49

N < 49

N 30-80

→ PTH-related hypercalcemia





PARAT: An ESE Educational programme on Parathyroid **Disorders**

<u>Managing Parathyrold Disorders: Primary Hyperparathyroldism</u>

of Endocrinology

This guide summarizes the 13 primary hyperparathyroidism (PHPT) consensus recommendations published within "European Expert Consensus on Practical Management of Specific Aspects of Parathyroid Disorders in Adults and in Pregnancy". European Journal of Endocrinology 186 (2) February 2022'. Please access the article for full disclosure.

How do we differentially diagnose familial hypercalcemic hypocalciuria (FHH)?

Calcium creatinine clearance ratio (CCCR) < 0.01 is a screening tool for FHH, but the 'cut-off' is of limited clinical value due to low diagnostic sensitivity and specificity.

A positive family history is a key feature of FHH. Historic calcium values are important to exclude progressive hypercalcemia as in primary hyperparathyroidism (PHPT). PTH levels >2-fold above upper limit of normal are suggestive of PHPT.

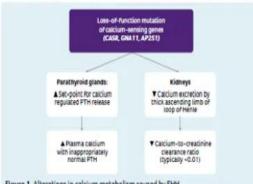


Figure 1. Alterations in calcium metabolism caused by FHH

Genetic testing is recommended for all patients with suspected FHH, but negative genetic testing does not exclude FHH, and ongoing follow-up of mutation negative patients is recommended.

What is normocalcemic primary hyperparathyroidism (PHPT)?

Normocalcemic PHPT is characterised by persistently (>3 months) increased PTH levels in the setting of consistently normal total, albuminadjusted and / or free ionized serum calcium. Normocalcemic PHPT is a diagnosis of exclusion.



What are the causes of hyperparathyroidism with normal calcium that should be excluded before considering a diagnosis of normocalcemic PHPT?

Secondary causes of hyperparathyroidism include medications, hypercalciuria, hypovitaminosis D, renal insufficiency, malabsorption syndromes, phosphate metabolism disorders or low dietary calcium

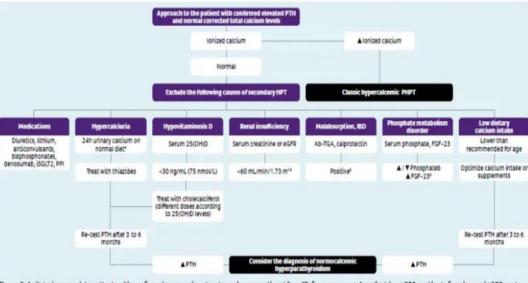


Figure 2. A clinical approach to patients with confirmed normocalcemic primary hyperparathyroidism. "Reference range >4 mg/kg/ day, >250 mg/day in females, and >300 mg/ day in males. "Evaluate for these disorders and manage as appropriate. 25(OH) D. serum 25-hydroxyvitamin D. Ab-TGA, anti-tissue transglutaminase antibodies; eGFR, estimated glomerular filtration rate; FGF-23, fibroblast growth factor-23; HPT, hyperparathyroidism; IBD, inflammatory bowel disease; iSGLT2, sodium-glucose cotransporter-2 inhibitors; PHPT, primary hyperparathyroidism; PPI, proton pump inhibitors; PTH, parathyroid hormone.

Cause of secondary hyperparathyroidism	Proposed intervention thresholds	Comments
Vitamin D deficiency	Aim for 25(OH)D concentrations of 30 ng/mL (75 nmol/L) to avoid secondary hyperparathyroidism	Re-test PTH when vitamin D replete. PTH concentrations may remain elevated for $6-12$ months and optimization of calcium intake is mandatory
Low-dietary calcium intake	1200 mg/day for postmenopausal women 1000 mg/day for men 51–70 years and 1200 mg/ day for older men	Evaluate calcium intake using a dietary questionnaire. Patients should increase calcium intake or use calcium supplements
Hypercalciuria due to renal abnormalities	Urinary calcium excretion > 250 mg/24 h (6.25 mmol/24 h) in females, > 300 mg/24 h (7.5 mmol/24 h) in males, or > 4 mg/kg/24 h (0.1 mmol/kg/24 h)	'Thiazide challenge' test (administer hydrochlorothiazide 25 mg twice a day for 2 weeks; check PTH levels prior to starting thiazide and after 2 weeks of therapy). PTH normalization supports renal secondary causes of PHPT
Renal insufficiency	eGFR <60 mL/min/1.73 m ²	As kidney function declines, 1a-hydroxylation activity decreases and, consequently, active vitamin D levels fall, calcium levels decline, and PTH levels increase
Gastrointestinal disorders associated with calcium malabsorption	Celiac disease, inflammatory bowel disease, and bariatric surgery	$\label{thm:measure} \textit{Measure anti-tissue transglutaminase antibodies} \ \text{and fecal cal protectin to consider celiac disease} \ \text{and inflammatory bowel disease, respectively}$
1000 mg/day for men 51–70 years and 1200 mg/ day for older men Treatment with bisphosphonates or denosumab can not be parathyroid glands in the context of inhibited be long time after discontinuation. Denosumab discontin		Non-thiazide diuretics can increase PTH levels (if possible, discontinue and reevaluate PTH). Lithium therapy can raise PTH levels (decision to withdraw from therapy is difficult and should be made by a psychiatrist). Treatment with bisphosphonates or denosumab can raise PTH levels as a result of positive calcium signaling to the parathyroid glands in the context of rinhibited bone resorption. Bisphosphonate effects may last for a long time after discontinuation. Denosumab discontinuation should be avoided to prevent excessive bone loss Recent studies showed that SGLT2 inhibitors have complex interactions with bone metabolism, including an increase in PTH
Phosphate metabolism disorders	Hyperphosphatemia and FGF-23-mediated hypophosphatemia are both associated with secondary hyperparathyroidism	Extracellular phosphate regulation involves changes in PTH levels. Both high and low phosphate levels may be associated with secondary hyperparathyroidism

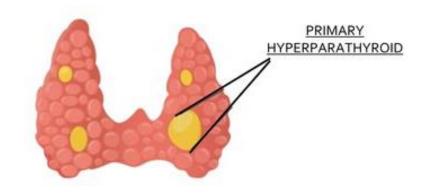
25(OHID, 25-hydroxy/tamin D: eGFR, estimated glomerular filtration rate: FGF-23, fibroblast growth factor 23; PTH, parathyroid hormone; SGLT2 inhibitors, sodium-glucose cotransporter-2 inhibitors.

Primary hyperparathyroidism

- Third most common endocrine disorder
- Incompletely regulated, chronic, excessive secretion of parathyroid hormone (PTH)
- Hypercalcemia with <u>elevated PTH</u>

• Causes:

- Single benign adenoma (85%)
- Multiglandular disease (15%)
- Parathyroid carcinoma (1%)





Primary hyperparathyroidism

Historically,

disease of bones, stones, and groans...



= skeletal disorder resulting in a loss of bone mass, a weakening of the bones as their calcified supporting structures are replaced with fibrous tissue (peritrabecular fibrosis), and the formation of cyst-like tumors in and around the bone

= osteitis fibrosa, osteodystrophia fibrosa, and von Recklinghausen's disease of bone



Osteitis fibrosa cystica



- Excess <u>osteoclast</u> activity, such as PHPT
- A form of <u>osteitis fibrosa cystica</u>
- Not a <u>neoplasm</u>, but rather simply a mass.
- Most commonly affects the maxilla and mandible, though any bone may be affected
- Radiolucent on x-ray



Brown tumor



Symptomatic PHPT



Asymptomatic PHPT



Normocalcemic PHPT (routine screening)

The disease did not change, we did!



Primary hyperparathyroidism

- $3x > in \$?; incidence **increases with age**
- 80% initially lack symptoms
 - nephrolithiasis
 - kidney dysfunction
 - gastrointestinal upset
 - neuropsychiatric effects
- PHPT accelerates bone turnover -> fragility fractures



Treatment of (severe) hypercalcemia

- IV hydration
- IV hydration
- IV hydration



Treatment of (severe) hypercalcemia

- IV hydration
- + Diuretics (avoid fluid overload)
- Calcitonin (early use, tachyphylaxis)
- Antiresorptives (Pam, IV Zol, Dmab)
- Corticosteroids (1a-hydroxylase)
- Dialysis in extreme hyperCa²⁺ or in CKD



Case

Recurrent hypercalcemia 1 month after discharge

* Calcium 3,19 mmol/L N 2,20-2,55



Start Mimpara (Cinacalcet) 60mg daily

Two weeks later ...

- * Calcium 3,78 mmol/L
- * Albumin 45 g/L
- * PTH 209 ng/L

N 2,20-2,55

N 40-49

N < 49



Case

Treatment regimen:

- IV hydration
- Calcitonin
- Cinacalcet (Mimpara) 60 mg daily
- Bisphosphonate

However, no clinical nor biological response ...



Parathyroidectomy

Surgery
 — most effective & only curative treatment for PHPT

Types:

- Unilateral parathyroid exploration (single parathyroid adenoma)
- Bilateral parathyroid exploration (multigland disease, intraoperative parathyroid hormone (IOPTH) monitoring unavailable)



Parathyroidectomy in elderly patients

Safe, effective, feasible & beneficial

Complications in the elderly:

- Conversion to bilateral exploration, multiglandular disease
- Some studies respiratory infections, cardiac problems
- Other studies similar complications to general population
- Longer length of stay



Scintigraphy MIBI-Tc99m





Case

- Localization of an adenoma
- Lack of response to medical treatment
- Clinical deterioration of the patient

parathyroidectomy

Post-op follow up:

- Normalization of serum calcemia and iPTH
- Rapid clinical recovery



Q10-13 Parathyroidectomy (PTX)

Q12 What causes hypocalcemia after PTX?

 Postoperative hypocalcemia can be related to hypoparathyroidism (inappropriate low PTH in relation to calcium concentration), accompanied by a high phosphate concentration.





Q10-13 Parathyroidectomy (PTX)

Hungry Bone Syndrome (HBS)

- HBS: Massive transfer of calcium to bone is characterized by normal or high PTH, low phosphate, and magnesium.
- = sudden withdrawal of PTH
- > increased osteoblast-mediated bone formation
- bone uptake of calcium, phosphate and magnesium





Table 2 Potential risk factors for hungry bone syndrome.

Potential risk factors for hungry bone syndrome	Explanation
High preoperative PTH level	Sudden removal of the effect of high circulating levels of PTH on osteoclastic resorption leads to increased influx of calcium into hone (new remodeling sites) (94)
Large volume (weight and mass) of parathyroid adenoma	Docitive correlation between DTU levels and valume of adenoma (02, 05)
High prosperative calcium levels	Explained as increased solsium recorption from hone and solsium reabsorption from report tubules in case of preoperatively elevated DTH levels (OF)
Radiological evidence of PHPT related	Drown tumors, multiple fractures, esteitis fibresa cystica as an effect of long lasting high- circulating lovels of DTH on the ekoleton (01, 04)
Significantly elevated alkaline phosphatase	turnever (01, 04)
concentrations	1,25(OH) ₂ D with postoperative increased skeletal calcium requirements (95)

 $^{1,25(}OH)_2D$, 1,25-dihydroxyvitamin D; 25(OH)D, 25-hydroxyvitamin D; HBS, hungry bone syndrome; PHPT, primary hyperparathyroidism; PTH, parathyroid hormone.



Challenges in PHPT

- DDx with familial hypocalciuric hypercalcemia (FHH)
- Normocalcemic PHPT DDx secondary HPT
- Optimal management of recurrence/persistence after surgery
- Syndromes (MEN-1, MEN-2, ...)





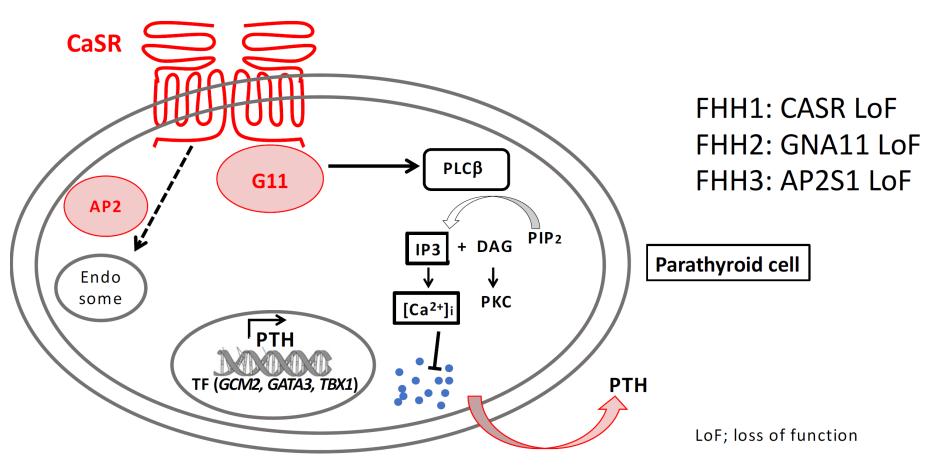
DDx Familial hypocalciuric hypercalcemia (FHH)

- = <u>autosomal dominant</u> disorder of CaSR
- Positive family history
- Non-progressive elevation of calcium
- Normal or mildly raised PTH
- Low urinary calcium excretion <0,01
- Does not require surgical intervention





FHH mechanism





Q2-3-4 Normocalcemic PHPT

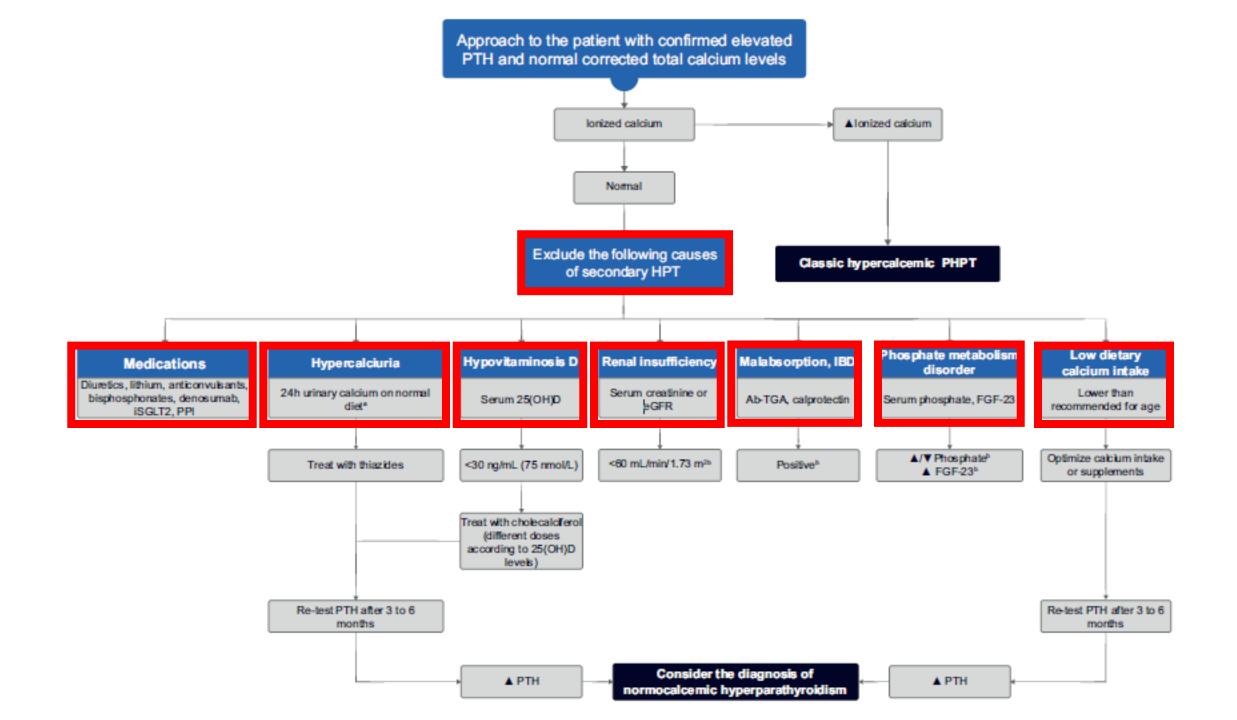
Q2 What is normocalcemic PHPT?

- Normocalcemic PHPT is a biochemical signature of persistently (>3 months) increased PTH levels in the setting of consistently normal calcium concentrations.
- Normocalcemic PHPT represents a diagnosis of exclusion and can only be considered following a careful evaluation of causes of secondary

Is it secondary hyperparathyroidism?





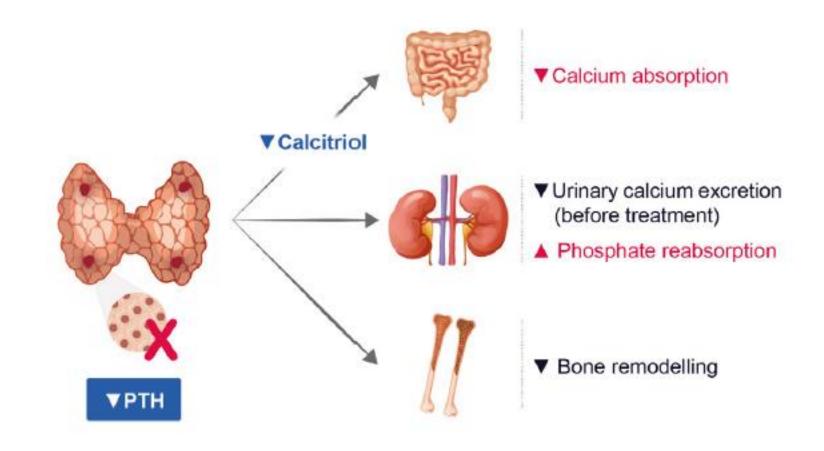


*Hypo*parathyroidism

- Orphan disease
- Hypocalcemia (symptomatic or asymptomatic) with insufficient PTH secretion

- Causes :
 - Neck surgery (75%): chronic if > 6 months after surgery
 - Genetic, auto-immune, infiltrative, Mg²⁺





Treatment of chronic HypoPT

0,5-2 mcg/day of alfacalcidiol once a day

OR

0,5-1 mcg/day of calcitriol (Rocaltrol®) twice a day

- Calcium supplements if dietary intake is insufficient
- 25(OH)D >20ng/ml



Treatment of chronic HypoPT

Calcium levels:

Lower part or slightly below the <u>lower limit</u> of the reference range, without symptoms of hypocalcemia



Treatment of chronic HypoPT

- Problems:
 - Hypercalcemia
 - Hypercalciuria



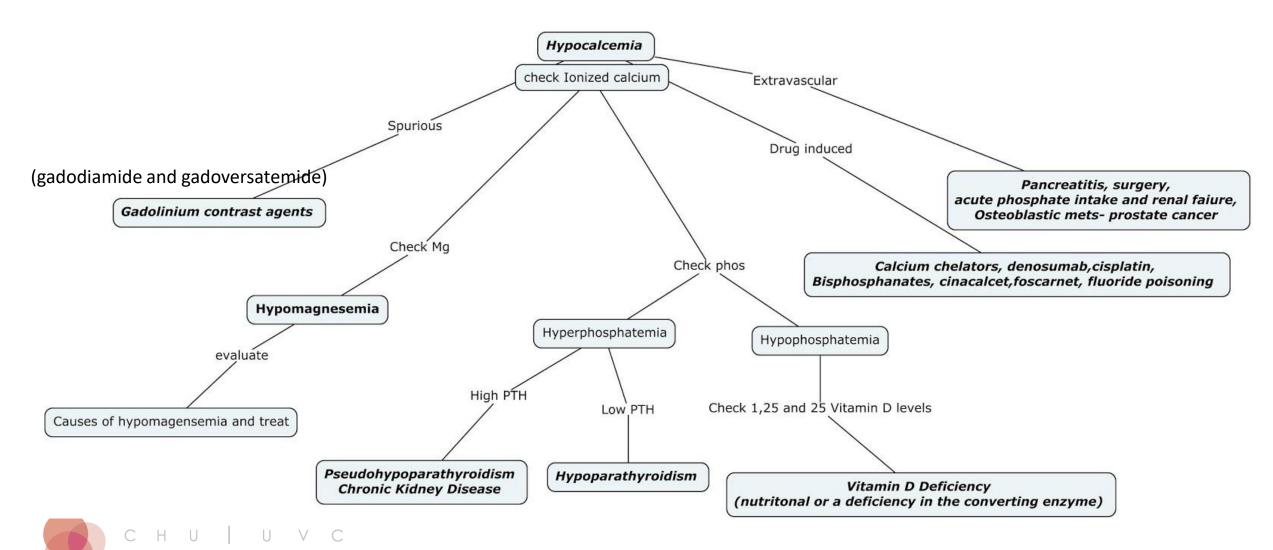
Table 5 (Imaging in hypoparathyroidism.

Organ	Looking for	Interval	Comments
Kidney	Nephrolithiasis, nephrocalcinosis	At diagnosis; As clinically indicated; Every 5 years	Ultrasound + no radiation - highly operator-dependent Non-contrast renal CT
			+ accurate - accumulation of radiation exposure Sensitivity of CT vs ultrasound in nephrocalcinosis detection uncertain
Brain	Intracerebral calcifications	As clinically indicated	Non-contrast CT MRI (only special MRIs usable for this assessment). Sensitivity of even specialized MRI for detection of calcifications uncertain
Bone	Changes in bone density/quality, vertebral fx	As clinically indicated	+ cheap + low radiation + Vertebral fracture assessment (VFA) X-ray spine and VFA
Eyes	Cataract	At diagnosis; As clinically indicated	+ detection of unknown vertebral fracture Ophthalmologist check in non-surgical patients

CT, computed tomography; DXA, dual-energy X-ray absorptiometry; HypoPT, chronic hypoparathyroidism; MRI, magnetic resonance imaging; Fx, fractures.



Hypocalcemia



Denosumab and hemodialysis

JAMA | Original Investigation

Severe Hypocalcemia With Denosumab Among Older Female Dialysis-Dependent Patients

Steven T. Bird, PhD, PharmD; Elizabeth R. Smith, BS; Kate Gelperin, MD, MPH; Tae Hyun Jung, PhD; Aliza Thompson, MD; Rekha Kambhampati, MD; Hai Lyu, MS; Henu Zhao, PhD; Yueqin Zhao, PhD; Yunfan Zhu, MA; Olivia Easley, MD; Ali Niak, MD; Michael Wernecke, BA; Yoganand Chillarige, MPA; Marina Zemskova, MD; Jeffrey A. Kelman, MD; David J. Graham, MD, MPH

Figure 1. Total Albumin-Corrected Serum Calcium Levels 6 Months Before and After Initiation of Denosumab or Oral Bisphosphonate Treatment

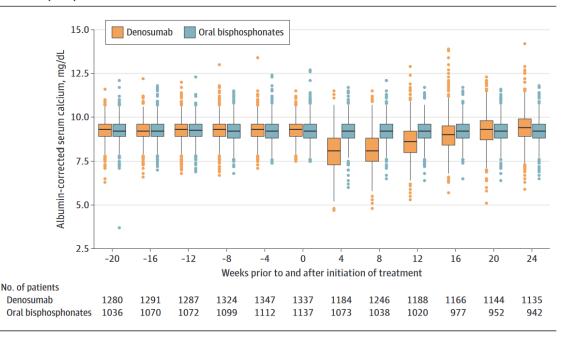
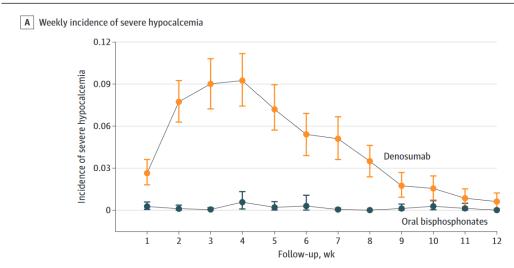
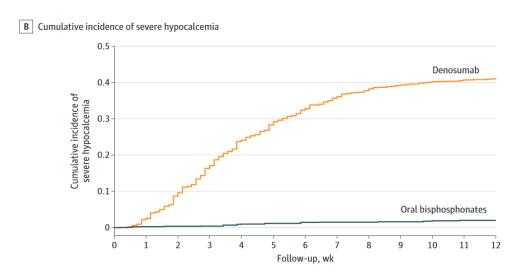


Figure 2. Severe Hypocalcemia Incidence Among Patients Treated With Denosumab and Oral Bisphosphonato





Phosphate metabolism

Essential for many biological functions

- energy production (component of ATP)
- cellular signaling
- structural roles in nucleic acids and membranes

Distribution and Storage

- 85% in bones and teeth as hydroxyapatite
- 15% in extracellular fluids and soft tissues
- Critical for structural rigidity and metabolic functions



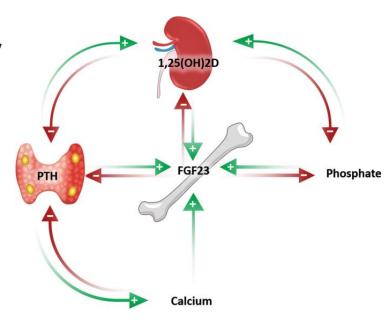
Phosphate regulation

Parathyroid Hormone (PTH)

- master regulator of both calcium (Ca2+) and phosphate (Pi) homeostasis
 - → ↑ blood Ca2+ + ↑ Pi renal excretion
 - \rightarrow ↑ FGF23 secretion from bone & ↑ synthesis of calcitriol in the kidney
 - → Since PTH action releases Pi from bone & stimulation of intestinal Ca2+ and Pi absorption enhances the Pi load

PTH compensates by ↑ phosphaturia (downregulation of renal Pitransporters – 85% of Pi reabsorption in proximal tubules)



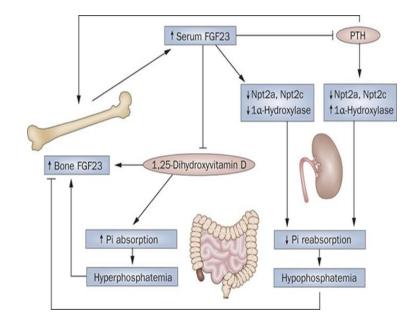


Phosphate regulation

Fibroblast Growth Factor 23 (FGF23)

- Physiologically, produced mainly by osteocytes, but in diseased organs, it can be secreted by different cell
- Stimulated upon increased Pi intake
- acts primarily on the kidneys to stimulate renal clearance of Pi
- reduces circulating calcitriol (which stimulates Pi absorption in the kidney)

Increase in Pi \rightarrow production of FGF23 by osteocytes \rightarrow stimulates Pi renal clearance + reduces absorption (by \downarrow calcitriol)





Causes of hyperphosphatemia

Acute pr
Endoge

Acute phosphate load

enous

Cell lysis (tumor lysis syndrome, rhabdomyolysis)

Exogenous

Phosphate-containing medications (laxatives, fosphenytoin)

Intestinal uptake (vitamin D toxicity)



Lactic or ketoacidosis

Decreased renal clearance

Reduced glomerular filtration rate

Acute kidney injury

Chronic kidney disease

Increased tubular reabsorption

Hypoparathyroidism or pseudohypoparathyroidism

Acromegaly

Bisphosphonates

Cinacalcet

Vitamin D toxicity (also increases intestinal absorption)

Familial tumoral calcinosis

Fibroblast growth factor receptor inhibitors

Pseudohyperphosphatemia

Endogenous

Hyperglobulinemia (multiple myeloma, Waldenström macroglobulinemia)

Hyperlipidemia

Hemolysis

Hyperbilirubinemia

Exogenous

Medications (amphotericin B, heparin, tissue plasminogen activator)



Hyperphosphatemia

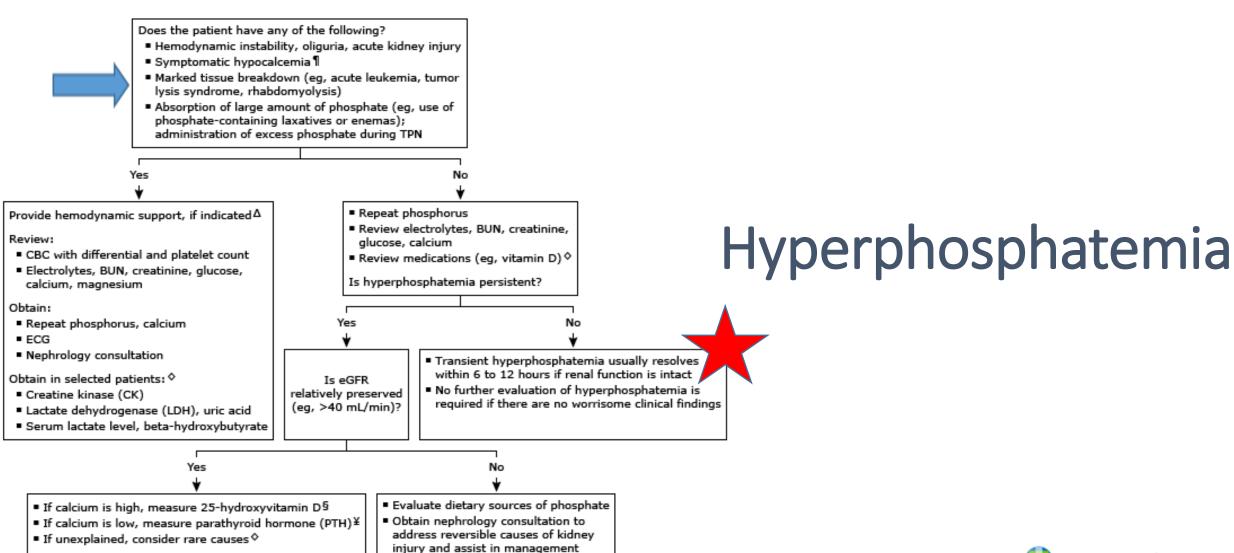


Hyperphosphatemia symptoms

- Symptoms related to Hypocalcemia (excess blood Pi binds to Ca2+)
 - Muscle cramps and spasms
 - Tetany
 - Perioral numbness or tingling
 - Seizures
- Calcification in Soft Tissues
 - Joint pain and stiffness calcifications in joints
- Vascular calcifications -> increase in risk of cardiovascular disease
- Renal Symptoms

 - Nephrocalcinosis: calcification in the kidney → impair kidney function
 Renal failure → high Pi levels → worsen kidney function in preexisting kidney disease
- Bone Pain
 - Secondary to osteomalacia or renal osteodystrophy in CKD patients







UpToDate[®]

Treatment of hyperphosphatemia

- Treatment of underlying disorder!
- No treatment is usually needed in the setting of <u>normal renal</u> function as hyperPi is self-resolving
- Limiting dietary phosphate intake (by reducing protein intake)
- blocking intestinal phosphate absorption with <u>phosphate binders</u> (mild persistent asymptomatic hyperPi in the setting of mild to moderate renal failure)
 - calcium carbonate, calcium acetate, and sevelamer (Renvela)
- **Hemodialysis** may be required for severe hyperPi with symptomatic hypoCa2+



Major causes of hypophosphatemia



Internal redistribution

Increased insulin secretion, particularly during refeeding

Acute respiratory alkalosis

Hungry bone syndrome



Inadequate intake

Inhibition of phosphate absorption (eg, antacids, phosphate binders, niacin)

Steatorrhea and chronic diarrhea

Vitamin D deficiency or resistance

Increased urinary excretion

Primary and secondary hyperparathyroidism

Vitamin D deficiency or resistance

Hereditary hypophosphatemic rickets

Oncogenic osteomalacia

Fanconi syndrome

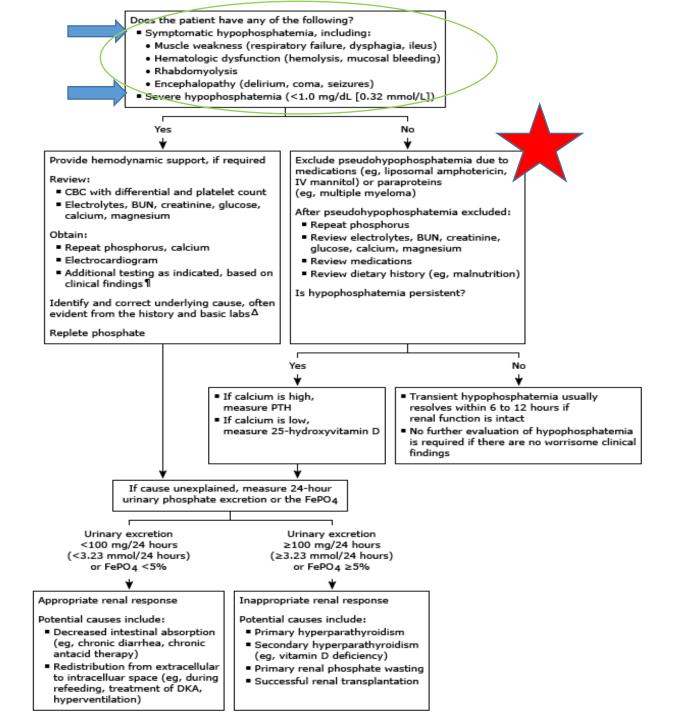
Other - acetazolamide, tenofovir, IV iron, chemotherapeutic agents

Removal by kidney replacement therapies



Hypophosphatemia





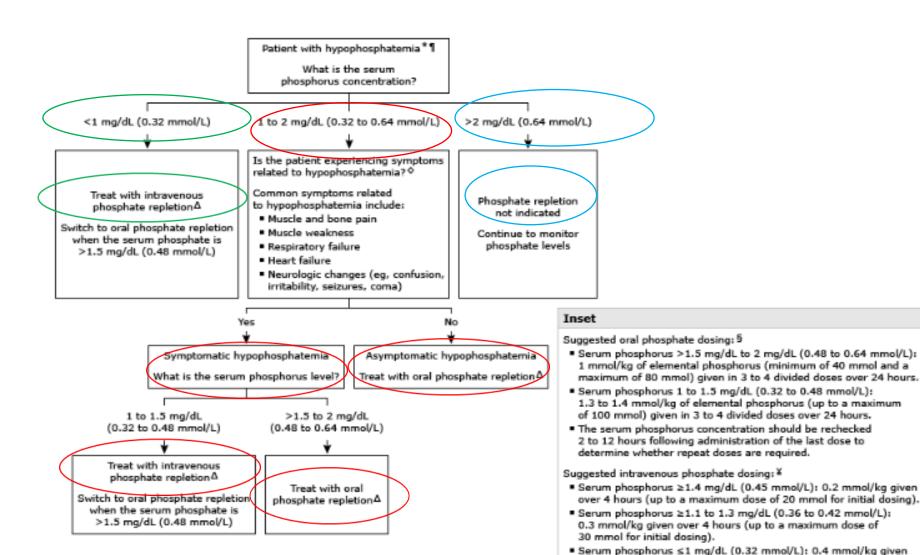


Hypophosphatemia



Hypophosphatemia





over 6 hours (up to a maximum dose of 50 mmol for initial dosing).

The serum phosphorus concentration should be monitored every

6 hours when intravenous phosphate is given.



Tumor-induced osteomalacia

- rare paraneoplastic sd
- characterized by bone pain, fractures and muscle weakness
- caused by tumoral overproduction of fibroblast growth factor 23 (FGF23) \rightarrow acts at the proximal renal tubule $\rightarrow \downarrow$ Pi reabsorption \rightarrow hypophosphatemia & osteomalacia
- small, benign mesenchymal tumors found in bone or soft tissue, anywhere in the body
- Locating the tumor is critical → complete removal is curative
- If the tumor is not localized, or surgical resection is not possible
- \rightarrow phosphate and active vitamin D supplementation (successful in healing the osteomalacia & \downarrow symptoms)





Case - Imaging

Head CT: absence of hemorrhage, mass effect, hydrocephalus

History of tumorectomy of left breast > induration left breast
 US of L&R breasts: sequellar appearance, no suspicious lesion

• Bone scintigraphy: no hyperfixation suspicious of bone metastasis



Indications for parathyroidectomy

- Symptomatic
- Asymptomatic
 - Age < 50 years
 - Serum calcium level >1 mg/dL above URL
 - Skeletal involvement
 - Fracture by VFA or vertebral X-ray, or bone mineral density (BMD) by T-score ≤ -2.5 at any site
 - Renal involvement
 - eGFR or creatinine clearance <60 mL/min
 - Nephrocalcinosis or nephrolithiasis by X-ray, ultrasound, or other imaging modality
 - Hypercalciuria (eg, >250 mg/day in women; >300 mg/day in men)
 - Patient preference



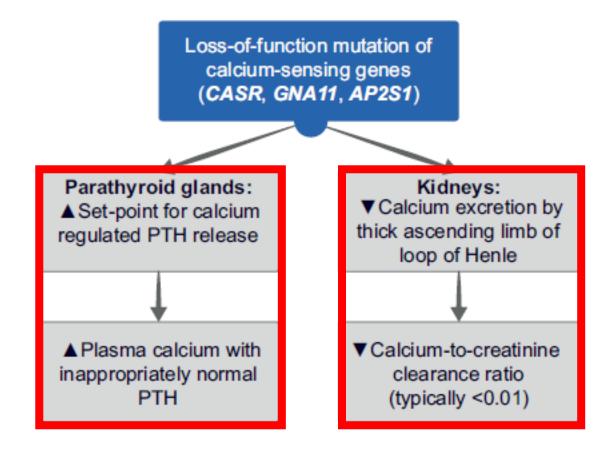


Figure 1

Alterations in calcium metabolism caused by familial hypocalciuric hypercalcemia (FHH). Hypercalcemia arises due to an increase in the parathyroid set-point for parathyroid hormone (PTH) release and possibly also from decreased renal calcium excretion (11, 12). Alterations in bone metabolism are not usually observed in FHH (13).



