## THE PROBLEM OF OSTEOPOROSIS AND ROLE OF THE MENOPAUSAL TRANSITION

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# **THE PROBLEM OF OSTEOPOROSIS**

- One of the most important diseases associated with aging
- Osteoporosis/low bone mass currently present in 44 million US women and men aged 50 and older
- One in 2 women and 1 in 5 men will experience an osteoporotic fracture during the course of aging
- Estimated annual cost to the US healthcare system of ~ \$17 billion (2001 dollars)
- By 2010, 52 million and by 2020, 61 million women and men will be affected

# Osteoporosis: Loss of Bone Mass and Structure

#### **Young Normal**



#### Osteoporotic



Courtesy of Ralph Mueller, Ph.D.

## LIFETIME RISK OF FRACTURE AT AGE 50 YEARS (%)

| White women        |      | White men |
|--------------------|------|-----------|
| Hip fracture       | 17.5 | 6.0       |
| Vertebral fracture | 15.6 | 5.0       |
| Forearm fracture   | 16.0 | 2.5       |
| Any of the 3       | 39.7 | 13.1      |

## INCIDENCE OF FRACTURES IN MEN VERSUS WOMEN



# PATTERN OF INVOLUTIONAL BONE LOSS



#### OVARIECTOMY INDUCES THE RAPID PHASE OF BONE LOSS AND THIS IS PREVENTED BY ESTROGEN REPLACEMENT



Cg132827-4A

#### EFFECT OF AGE AND MENOPAUSE ON TURNOVER % Increase Over Premenopausal Levels



Garnero et al. JBMR 11:337, 1996

### **WORKSHOP QUESTIONS**

- Role of female H-P-O axis hormones, their dynamic profiles, and their interactions in determining osteoporosis risk - Joel Finkelstein
- 2. Underlying biologic mechanisms by which bone is affected by female H-P-O axis hormones Stavros Manolagas
- 3. Role of environmental, behavioral, and lifestyle effects in modulating biologic mechanisms Deborah Kado
- 4. Important research questions/future directions Cliff Rosen