

1       **NUTRIENT INTAKES RELATED TO OSTEOPOROTIC FRACTURES IN MEN AND**  
2                   **WOMEN – THE *BRAZILIAN OSTEOPOROSIS STUDY* (BRAZOS)**

3       Marcelo M Pinheiro\*, MD, PhD <sup>1</sup>; Natielen J Schuch, MSc <sup>2</sup>; Patrícia S Genaro, MSc <sup>2</sup>;  
4       Rozana M Ciconelli, MD, PhD <sup>1,3</sup>; Marcos B Ferraz MD, PhD<sup>1,3</sup>; Lúgia A Martini, PhD <sup>2</sup>

5       <sup>1</sup> Rheumatology Division - Universidade Federal de São Paulo/ EPM

6       <sup>2</sup> Department of Nutrition – Faculdade de Saúde Pública, Universidade de São Paulo

7       <sup>3</sup> São Paulo Health Care Economics Center - Universidade Federal de São Paulo / EPM

8

9       **Running title:** Osteoporotic Fractures and Nutrient Intakes

10      **Address for correspondence and for reprints requests:**

11      \*Marcelo M Pinheiro, MD, PhD

12      Av. Dr. Altino Arantes, 669, apto 105

13      Vila Clementino, São Paulo – SP, Brazil

14      ZIP CODE 04042-033

15      Phone: 55-11-5576-4239; FAX: 55-11-5579-6665

16      email: [mpinheiro@uol.com.br](mailto:mpinheiro@uol.com.br)

17

18

19

20

21

## 1 **Abstract**

2 Background: Adequate nutrition plays an important role in bone mass accrual and  
3 maintenance and has been demonstrated as a significant tool for the prevention of  
4 fractures in individuals with osteoporosis. Objective: The aim of the present study was to  
5 evaluate bone health-related nutrients intake and its association with osteoporotic  
6 fractures in a representative sample of 2344 individuals aged 40 years or older in Brazil.  
7 Methods: In a transversal population-based study, a total of 2420 individuals over 40  
8 years old were evaluated from March to April 2006. Participants were men and women  
9 from all socio-economic classes and education levels living around the Brazilian territory  
10 Individuals responded a questionnaire including self reported fractures as well a 24-hour  
11 food recall. Nutrient intakes were evaluated by Nutrition Data System for Research  
12 software (NDSR, University of Minnesota, 2007). Low trauma fracture was defined as  
13 that resulting of a fall from standing height or less. Nutrient intakes adequacies were  
14 performed by using the DRI's proposed values. Statistical analysis comprises Oneway  
15 ANCOVA adjusted by age and use of nutritional supplements and multiple logistic  
16 regression. SAS software was used for statistical analysis. Results: Fractures was  
17 reported by 13% of men and 15% of women. Women with fractures presented  
18 significantly higher calcium, phosphorus and magnesium intakes. However, in all  
19 regions and socio-economical levels mean intakes of bone related nutrients were below  
20 the recommended levels. It was demonstrated that for every 100 mg/ phosphorus  
21 increase the risk of fractures by 9% (OR 1.09; IC95% 1.05-1.13,  $p < 0.001$ ). Conclusion:  
22 The results demonstrated inadequacies in bone related nutrients in our population as  
23 well that an increase in phosphorus intake is related to bone fractures.

24 **Keywords:** osteoporotic fractures, diet, nutrient intakes.

25 The questionnaire has been validated.  
26 The study alimentary habits based on recall of foods eaten  
27 the day before was used in several previous trials as NHANES  
28 III. We observed an insufficient intake of the nutrients  
29 related to bone health.

1 Female patients with fractures had an intake of calcium  
2 significantly higher than other groups. In fact, this  
3 finding must be related to habits changes after the event.  
4 The diagnosis of cognitive deficiencies was made accordingly  
5 investigator's opinion.  
6 We did not consider two individuals over 40 years in the  
7 same domicile to avoid selection bias.  
8 The body weight and height were measured by portable balance  
9 scale and a stadiometer.  
10 The difference in mean phosphorus intakes among groups is  
11 not great and are similar to calcium and magnesium. This  
12 likely reflects the pitfalls of observational research.  
13  
14

## 1 **Background**

2 Adequate nutrition plays an important role in bone mass accrual and maintenance  
3 and has been demonstrated as a significant tool for the prevention of fractures in  
4 individuals with osteoporosis. Not only calcium but also protein, phosphorus,  
5 magnesium, vitamin D and K intakes are important factors related to bone health (1, 2).

6 In adults, low calcium and vitamin D intakes may negatively impact on bone  
7 mass, through increased PTH secretion with consequent mobilization of calcium from the  
8 skeleton to the blood stream aiming to maintain its critical biological functions and  
9 mineral homeostasis. Moreover, several clinical trials have demonstrated that calcium  
10 supplementation can minimize secondary hyperparathyroidism, bone loss and the risk of  
11 fragility fractures (3, 5).

12 The relation between vitamin D and bone health is been well established. Vitamin  
13 D deficiency or abnormalities in its metabolism are associated with lower intestinal  
14 calcium absorption, increased PTH secretion and increased bone resorption (6). Until  
15 recently it was believed that vitamin D deficiency was uncommon in equatorial areas  
16 and lower latitude regions. However, several studies in the past decade have shown that  
17 vitamin D deficiency is broadly common and affects all the different continents, age  
18 groups and socio-economic classes (7, 9).

19 Magnesium is essential for the normal function of the parathyroid glands, vitamin  
20 D metabolism, and adequate sensitivity of target tissues to PTH and active vitamin D  
21 metabolite. There is some evidence showing that magnesium supplementation in

1 postmenopausal women seems to increase bone mineral density (BMD). On the other  
2 hand, there is no solid data on its effect on the reduction of fracture risk (10).

3 Recent studies have demonstrated that patients with osteoporosis have  
4 increased levels of biochemical markers of vitamin K deficiency (11). Such markers are  
5 associated with higher risk of fractures. It also seems that moderate supplementation  
6 doses of vitamin K are associated with better bone status (12).

7 Excessive intake of certain nutrients, such as protein, phosphorus and vitamin A,  
8 may have a negative impact on bone and mineral metabolism. Elevated protein and  
9 phosphorus intake is associated with higher renal loss of calcium, increased PTH  
10 secretion and higher bone resorption of calcium, phosphorus and magnesium (13, 14).  
11 Adequate intake of such nutrients has a fundamental role for bone homeostasis  
12 maintenance. Conversely, low protein intake is also deleterious for bone mass since  
13 protein intake is critical for the production and secretion of growth factors, especially  
14 growth hormone and insulin-like growth factor I (IGF-I), and for the synthesis of type I  
15 collagen and many other non-collagen proteins in the bone matrix (osteocalcin, bone  
16 sialoprotein and matrix Gla protein). It has been demonstrated the protein  
17 supplementation in undernourished elderly can increase IGF-I production (14). IGF-I  
18 effects on bone mass seem to be related to a stimulation of osteoblasts recruitment and  
19 differentiation. On the other hand, excessive vitamin A intake, especially through the use  
20 of supplements, is associated with higher bone resorption, bone formation inhibition and  
21 higher risk of fractures (15,16).

1 Epidemiological studies that evaluate nutrient intakes in individuals with or without  
2 fractures are scarce in the Brazilian population. In the present study, we investigate  
3 nutrient intake and its association with self-reported osteoporotic fractures in a  
4 representative sample of the Brazilian population over 40 years old.

5

## 6 **Patients and Methods**

### 7 Subjects

8 In a transversal population-based study, a total of 2420 individuals over 40 years  
9 old were evaluated from March to April 2006. Participants were men and women from all  
10 socio-economic classes and education levels living around the Brazilian territory (five  
11 geographic regions, 150 municipalities). Individuals were invited to participate in a  
12 quantitative survey to characterize clinical risk factors for fragility fractures. A structured  
13 questionnaire was especially designed for the present study based on literature  
14 review. The main parameters evaluated were: age, demographic, anthropometric  
15 and socio-economical data, general knowledge of osteoporosis, previous fall  
16 and circumstances of fall in the last year, medical history, previous fracture,  
17 gynecological and reproductive history, familial history of hip fracture after age 50  
18 years in first degree relatives, quality of life (SF-8), medication use and co-  
19 morbidities classified according to the ICD, International Classification of Diseases,  
20 10<sup>th</sup> revision. The survey consisted of home-applied personal interviews conducted by  
21 trained investigators.

1 Sample size was calculated by probabilistic analysis to represent the  
2 Brazilian urban and rural population. Calculations and study design were based on  
3 data from the last National Census (Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics,  
4 IBGE, 2000) and the National Survey of Domicile Sampling (PNAD, 2003).  
5 Domiciles were randomly selected and interviews were performed in week days and  
6 weekends, day or night, from March to April 2006, in order to maximize the chance  
7 of finding the target-individuals at home. The data were later weighed to reconstruct  
8 the distribution and the proportionality originally observed for the total Brazilian  
9 population. Sampling error was  $\pm 2.2\%$  with 95% confidence intervals.

10 Socioeconomic status classification used in the present study reflects the  
11 individual and household purchasing power and takes into account a list of assets as  
12 well as the educational level of the head of household. As described, patients are  
13 classified as A, B, C, D or E depending on their score. A status has the highest  
14 purchasing power and E the lowest. For the purposes of this study, A is considered  
15 upper class, B middle class and C, D and E lower class.

16 Osteoporotic or low energy fracture was defined as those associated with fall from  
17 standing height or less after age 50 years. Skeletal sites for fragility fractures were axial  
18 (ribs, lumbar and thoracic vertebrae) and peripheral bones (forearm, humerus and  
19 femur). Traumatic fractures and those occurring at sites not characteristic of bone  
20 fragility (face, skull, tibia, fibula and femoral diaphysis) were excluded from the  
21 analysis. Individuals experiencing 2 or more falls in the last 12 months were defined  
22 as chronic fallers.

1           The presence of cognition deficiencies (neurological diseases or senile dementia)  
2 that could impair the participant to give consistent and trustable answers and the  
3 presence of more than two individuals over 40 years old in the domicile was considered  
4 exclusion criteria in the study.

#### 5 Food Intake

6           Food intake was assessed by using 24-hour recalls (24R). Upon personal  
7 interviews, participants reported in details all the food and beverages consumed the day  
8 before, starting from the first food ingested after wakening until the last meal before  
9 going to bed and including food taken inside and outside the domicile. The 24R was  
10 applied at home and filled by an interviewer trained in the method by an experienced  
11 nutritionist. Consistence assessment and corrections were made in the applied  
12 questionnaires in order to ensure the accuracy of the notations reported.

13           Measurements of food and recipes were standardized according to an in house  
14 table of home measures. Food data were converted in the respective values of macro  
15 and micronutrients and analyzed using the software *Nutrition Data System for Research*  
16 (NDS-R. University of Minnesota), version 2005.

17           For nutrient intake evaluation only complete 24R records with energy intake  
18 between 400 and 5500 kcal/ day were considered. Results refer to a total of 2344  
19 individuals (693 men and 1651 women).

20           Mean intake for each nutrient was compared to the proposed *Dietary Reference*  
21 *Intakes* (DRIs) from the Medicine Institute [2, 17]., according to gender and age group.

1 All the nutrients were adjusted for energy according to Willet & Stampfer method (18).  
2 Energy intake from food was evaluated according to the recommendations from the  
3 Food and Agricultural Organization/WHO (2001) for gender, age group and physical  
4 activity levels (19).

5 All questionnaires were revised by an independent supervisor and underwent  
6 continuous process of criticism and consistency. Inconsistently filled questionnaires  
7 were returned for correction. About 25% of the questionnaires were verified *in loco*  
8 or *post hoc* by phone call.

#### 9 Anthropometrics

10 Body weight (kg) was measured (after removal of shoes and heavy outer  
11 clothing) using a balance beam scale. Height (m) was measured (after removal of  
12 shoes) using a stadiometer. Height and body weight were used to calculate body  
13 mass index (BMI, kg/ m<sup>2</sup>). Nutritional status was categorized according to WHO  
14 classification (1995) (20).

15 The study protocol was revised and approved by the UNIFESP/ EPM's Ethics and  
16 Research Committee.

#### 17 Statistical Analysis

18 Variables distribution was assessed by Kolmogorov-Smirnov's test. For  
19 comparison between male and female population, Mann-Whitney U test was used. Qui-  
20 square analysis was performed for categorical variables between individuals with and  
21 without fractures. To analyze differences between the groups among gender and

1 country regions, nutrients were adjusted for age and use of nutritional supplements and  
2 the Oneway ANCOVA test was performed.

3 In order to investigate the risk factors for fractures, the multiple logistic regression  
4 analysis was performed considering the presence of fractures as dependent variable.  
5 Nutrient intakes, age, weight, height and use of nutritional supplements were considered  
6 independent variables. All analysis were performed using the software SAS, version  
7 8.02 (SAS Institute Inc, 1999-2001, Cary, NC, USA). Significance level was set as  
8  $p < 0.05$ .

9

## 10 **Results**

11 Characteristics of the evaluated population are shown in Table 1. Men had weight  
12 and height significantly higher than women, while BMI did not differ between genders.  
13 According to FAO/WHO classification, men and women, on average, are pre-obese.  
14 About 57% of the individuals had BMI higher than  $25 \text{ kg/ m}^2$ .

15 Fragility fractures in Brazilian population is demonstrated in Table 2. Men and  
16 women had similar percentage of fractures, particularly in people with more than 70  
17 years old ( $p < 0.05$ ). As expected, fractures were significantly higher in people with  
18 osteoporosis (25% vs. 13%, osteoporosis vs. non osteoporosis respectively,  $p = 0.001$ ).

19 Energy and bone health-related nutrients intakes according to osteoporotic  
20 fractures and gender are shown in Table 3. Overall recommended energy intake from  
21 the diet for men and women are 1710 and 1240 kcal/ day, respectively. In our

1 population, men had energy intake lower than the recommended (about 100 kcal/day  
2 less) while women had values very close to the recommended amount. No significant  
3 differences regarding energy intake was observed between male and female with or  
4 without fractures.

5 Nutrients intake was adjusted for energy in order to determine the net intake of  
6 the nutrient without the effect of the energy. In this way, one can minimize higher  
7 nutrients intakes related to high energy dietary intake. After adjustments for energy, we  
8 observed significant differences between genders in terms of calcium, phosphorus and  
9 magnesium intakes. Women with fractures presented significantly higher calcium,  
10 phosphorus and magnesium intakes compared to females without fractures. No  
11 significant difference was observed between men with or without fractures.

12 According to daily recommendations for calcium (1000-1200 mg), vitamin D (5-15  
13 µg), magnesium (350 mg for men and 265 mg for women), vitamin K (120 mg for men  
14 and 90 mg for women) and vitamin A (625 µg RAE for men and 500 µg RAE for women)  
15 (DRIs, 1997-2001), mean intake of our population with or without fractures was below  
16 the recommended amounts. Total protein (56 g/ day for men and 46 g/ day for women)  
17 and phosphorus (780 mg/ day for men and 580 mg/ day for women) intakes were close  
18 to the recommended quantities.

19 Energy-adjusted intakes of nutrients for the population according to the  
20 geographic regions in Brazil are shown in Table 4. No significant difference was  
21 observed for vitamin K intake among the five geographic regions. However, significant  
22 differences were observed for protein, calcium, phosphorus, magnesium, vitamin D and

1 A intakes among the different regions. People with fractures living in the North region  
2 had higher intakes of calcium, phosphorus, magnesium and vitamin D. Individuals living  
3 in the Northeast presented higher protein intake while the highest vitamin A intake was  
4 seen for Central residents.

5 Individuals in the higher classes (A and B) did not present significantly higher  
6 nutrient intakes compared to individuals in the lower socio-economic classes (C, D and  
7 E). However, individuals in the C, D and E classes with fractures presented significantly  
8 higher phosphorus intakes compared to individuals at same class without fractures  
9 (Class C: 774 vs 740 mg/d; Class D+E: 756 vs 722 mg/d, with vs without fractures  
10 respectively,  $p < 0.05$ ).

11 In the logistic analysis for fractures, age higher than 60 years old and higher  
12 phosphorus intake were considered as relevant risk factors. Individuals with more than  
13 60 years old had 45% more risk of fracture and for every 100 mg/ phosphorus intake  
14 there is a 9% increase the risk of fracture.

## 15 **Discussion**

16 In the present study we detected important inadequacies for the intake of bone  
17 health-related nutrients as calcium and vitamin D in the Brazilian population.  
18 Furthermore, for every 100 mg of phosphorus intake the risk of fractures increases by  
19 9%.

20 The potential adverse effects of higher phosphorus intake on bone metabolism  
21 has been investigated by several authors in the last decades (13,14,21). It has been  
22 demonstrated that a high phosphorus diet produces hormonal changes of mild

1 hyperparathyroidism, lowering calcitriol concentrations thus disrupting calcium  
2 homeostasis.

3 In 1996 Calvo & Park, reviewed the literature regarding the bone effects of high  
4 phosphorus diet in animals and humans. Studies with high phosphorus content in  
5 animals from different species, demonstrated increased bone resorption, reduced bone  
6 formation as well reduced bone mineral content. In humans such effect was not  
7 observed, even more the secondary hyperparathyroidism theory was also observed with  
8 a low calcium diet (3), leading to the assumption that the high phosphorus/ low calcium  
9 diet was more prone to induce loss of bone mineral density.

10 However, the Food and Nutrition Board questioned the calcium/ phosphorus  
11 concept. It has been demonstrated that the ingested ratio must consider the differing  
12 absorption efficiencies, mainly in elderly, when calcium absorption drops more sharply  
13 than does phosphorus absorption (2). In fact, Heaney and Recker (1987) in a calcium  
14 kinetic study demonstrated that increasing phosphorus intake from 1.1 to 2.3 g showed  
15 no effect on bone turnover (22).

16 Additionally, studies investigating the relationship between nutrient intakes and  
17 bone metabolism did not demonstrated that phosphorus *per se* induced bone loss (2, 3,  
18 23). By the other hand, low calcium intake has been demonstrated to contribute to bone  
19 fracture.

20 Evaluating the effects of diet and fracture risk in a prospective study in 34.696  
21 British women and men, Key *et al* 2007, demonstrated that the fracture risk was  
22 significantly higher among women with a calcium intake lower than 525 mg/ d (23).

1 Calcium plays a fundamental role in global and bone health and has recently  
2 received significant attention in terms of public health policies to ensure its adequate  
3 intake. Calcium intake lower than the recommended amounts required for good bone  
4 health has been observed in all age groups around the world, even in developed  
5 countries (5).

6 Calcium intake in our sample was, on average, about one third of the  
7 recommended amount for gender and age group. Alarmingly, about 99% of the  
8 population had calcium intake lower than the recommended (1200 mg/ day). Similar  
9 results have also been observed in 20 to 60 years old individuals residing in the São  
10 Paulo state, Brazil, where the authors found a energy-adjusted intake of calcium of 448  
11 mg/ day (24).

12 Vitamin D deficiency is also associated with increased risk of osteoporosis and  
13 fragility fractures. The main source of 25(OH)D<sub>3</sub> is exposure to sunlight which depends  
14 upon the latitude, season, skin pigmentation, gender, age, clothing and use of  
15 sunscreen. Dietary sources of vitamin D are scarce but have become especially relevant  
16 given the common current behavior of avoiding sunlight exposure to prevent skin  
17 cancer. Inadequate vitamin D intake has been reported in many populations. Mean  
18 vitamin D intake for men and women in the USA and UK are 8.12 and 7.33 µg, and 4.2  
19 and 3.7 µg, respectively (25). The higher vitamin D intake in the American population  
20 might be related to a strong policy for food fortification. Even with fortified food and with  
21 an intake mainly based on alimentary sources such as fish, Norwegian men and women  
22 have daily intake of vitamin D of only 6.8 and 5.9 µg, respectively. In Japan, the scenario  
23 is not much different and Japanese women have mean daily intake of vitamin D of 7.1

1    μg (26). Some studies have shown that nutritional interventions directed to achieve  
2   adequate vitamin D intake can have a positive impact on bone health. Nakamura *et al*  
3   (26) have demonstrated that the consumption of fish (four times per week) was  
4   positively associated with 25(OH)D<sub>3</sub> serum levels. Trivedi *et al* (27) in a prospective  
5   randomized double-blind placebo-controlled trial observed that quadrimestral  
6   supplementation with vitamin D 800 IU or 20 μg was associated with a 33% reduction in  
7   fracture risk in the elderly.

8           In BRAZOS, mean vitamin D intake was about one quarter of the recommended  
9   for gender and age group. Similarly to calcium intake, most of our sample (99.3%) had  
10   vitamin D intakes lower than the recommended amount. Given the pivotal roles these  
11   nutrients play on mineral homeostasis, we believe that urgent measures need to be  
12   taken in order to optimize bone health in our population. Simple and low cost changes  
13   would be helpful in this scenario: educational programs aiming to increase the intake of  
14   these nutrients from alimentary sources, use of fortified food and supplements and  
15   optimized exposure to sunlight whenever possible and safe.

16           Magnesium intake was also inadequate in our population. Mean magnesium  
17   intake was low yet close to the recommended amount. Only 20% of the participants  
18   reached the DRI for this nutrient. Similar results have been reported in NHANES III and  
19   also in the *Framingham Osteoporosis Study* (28). In postmenopausal women, there is a  
20   positive significant association between magnesium intake and lumbar spine and femur  
21   BMD (29). Magnesium intake has also been associated with BMD changes in pre-  
22   menopausal women receiving calcium supplementation (30). It is important to point out  
23   that the observed inadequacy of magnesium intake in great part of our population does

1 not necessarily translate into nutritional deficiency. Indeed, the assessment of  
2 magnesium nutritional status requires also measurements of its serum levels in order to  
3 better define inadequacy.

4 A similar approach is also needed to evaluate the results concerning vitamins A  
5 and K. Serum levels measurements are more sensitive and accurate to determine the  
6 presence of deficiency of these vitamins. In the BRAZOS population, the intake of  
7 vitamins A and K were below the recommendation for great part of the sample. Half of  
8 the individuals had vitamin A intakes below the recommended amount. Most of the  
9 participants (80%) also had vitamin K intakes under the recommendation for gender and  
10 age group.

11 The importance of adequate vitamin K intake and the maintenance of its serum  
12 levels on bone density and risk of fractures has been demonstrated in several studies.  
13 Lower vitamin K serum levels are associated with higher risk of fragility fractures (11,  
14 31). Excessive vitamin A intake seems to be related to higher bone resorption and  
15 inhibition of bone formation with consequent higher risk of fractures (15, 16). In our  
16 population a small percentage of individuals had vitamin A intakes higher than the  
17 recommended. As vitamin A serum levels were not measured neither were bone  
18 markers assessed to evaluate potential toxic effects, we can not assure that those  
19 individuals are at higher risk for bone disease. Moreover, the higher vitamin A intake  
20 observed might be related to the ingestion of food rich in vitamin A only in the particular  
21 day of the interview.

1           In spite of the insufficient intake of most of the micronutrients studied, most of the  
2 population had adequate intake of protein. Similar results were reported in the  
3 *Framingham Osteoporosis Study*, where the authors observed a 30% inadequacy rate  
4 for protein intake (32). Low protein intake has a negative effect on bone health and is  
5 associated with lower femur BMD measurements (13, 32).

6           Some limitations of the present study need to be pointed out, especially regarding  
7 the method used to evaluate food intake (24-hour recall). One could not assure that food  
8 consumed at one day reflects accurately the usual intake of the individual and so our  
9 results must be interpreted with caution. To confirm nutritional inadequacy and properly  
10 address fortification/ supplementation policies, dietary records including more days are  
11 needed as well as biochemical markers to assess the nutrients bioavailability and their  
12 real adequacy. Besides, we did not perform bone mass measurements. However,  
13 recently the fragility fractures are defined as the best outcome to evaluate bone health.

14           Other important point is that lower than recommended values, a significantly  
15 higher intake of calcium, phosphorus and magnesium was observed in women with  
16 fragility fractures. Such observation could indicate that improvement on dietary habits  
17 could minimize osteoporotic fractures in Brazilian population. In epidemiology this  
18 phenomenon is described as reverse epidemiology.

19           In summary, our results demonstrated that independently on the geographic  
20 region or the socio-economic status in Brazilian men and women an increase in  
21 phosphorus intake was significantly related to bone fractures. Furthermore, a lower  
22 intake of calcium and vitamin D was observed in our population. Health professional

1 dealing with this population ought to be aware of this situation and search for means of  
2 minimizing or neutralizing the negative effects of nutritional inadequacy on bone health.

### 3 **Competing interests**

4  
5 The author declare that they have no competing interests  
6

### 7 **Authors contribution**

8 MMP and LAM– were responsible for the study design, statistical analysis e paper  
9 elaboration; NOJ performed all the nutrient calculation and participated in paper  
10 elaboration; PSG participated in the nutrient calculation an results discussion. RMC and  
11 MBF was responsible for the study design and paper elaboration  
12

### 13 **Acknowledgements**

14 This study was funded by a grant from Wyeth Healthcare Consumer.  
15

### 16 **References**

- 17 1. Nieves JW. **Osteoporosis: the role of micronutrients.** *Am J Clin Nutr* 1991, **81**:  
18 1232S-1239S.
- 19 2. Institute of Medicine. *Dietary references intakes. Calcium, phosphorus, magnesium,*  
20 *vitamin D, and fluoride.* Washington, D.C.: National Academy Press, 1997.
- 21 3. Dawson-Hughes B: **Calcium supplementation and bone mass: a review of**  
22 **controlled clinical trials.** *Am J Clin Nutr* 1991, **54**(Suppl 1): S274-S280.
- 23 4. Reid IR, Ames RW, Evans MC, Gamble GD, Sharpe SJ: **Long-term effects of**  
24 **calcium supplementation on bone loss and fractures in postmenopausal**  
25 **women: a randomized controlled trial.** *Am J Med* 1995, **98**(4):331-335.

- 1 5. Heaney RP: **Calcium Intakes and Disease Prevention.** *Arq Bras Endocrino Metab*  
2 2006, **50**(4):685-693.
- 3 6. Holick MF: **Sunlight and vitamin D for bone health and prevention of**  
4 **autoimmune diseases, cancers, and cardiovascular disease.** *Am J Clin Nutr*  
5 2004, **80**(suppl):1678S-88S.
- 6 7. Vieth R, Bischoff-Ferrari H, Boucher BJ, Dawson-Hughes B, Garland CF, Heaney RP,  
7 Holick MF, Hollis BW, Lamberg-Allardet C, McGrath JJ, Norman AW, Scragg R,  
8 Whiting SJ, Willet WC, Zittermann A: **The urgent need to recommend an intake of**  
9 **vitamin D that is effective.** *Am J Clin Nutr* 2007, **85**:849-51.
- 10 8. Saraiva GL, Cendoroglo MS, Ramos LR, Araújo LMQ, Vieira JGH, Maeda SS, Borba  
11 VZC, Kunii I, Hayashi LF, Lazaretti-Castro M: **Prevalência da deficiência,**  
12 **insuficiência de vitamina D e hiperparatireoidismo secundário em idosos**  
13 **institucionalizados e moradores de comunidades da cidade de São Paulo.** *Arq*  
14 *Bras Endocrinol Metab* 2007, **51**(3):437-442.
- 15 9. Genaro PS, Pereira GAP, Pinheiro MM, Szejnfeld VL, Martini LA **Suboptimal vitamin**  
16 **D status is related to high sodium intake.** *Int J Vit and Nutr Res.* 2007. **6**: 376-381
- 17 10. Martini LA. **Magnesium supplementation and bone turnover.** *Nut Rev* 1999,  
18 **57**:227-229.
- 19 11. Booth SL, Broe KE, Gagnon DR, Tucker KL, Hannan MT, Mclean RR, Dawson-  
20 Hughes B, Wilson PW, Cupples LA, and Kiel DP: **Vitamin k and bone mineral**  
21 **density in women and men.** *Am J Clin Nutr* 2003, **77**:512-516.
- 22 12. Knapen MH, Schurgers LJ, Vermeer C: **Vitamin K 2 supplementation improves**  
23 **hip bone geometry and bone strength indices in postmenopausal women.**  
24 *Osteoporos Int* 2007, **18**(7):963-972.

- 1 13. Heaney RP: **Protein and calcium: antagonists or synergist?** *Am J Clin Nutr* 2002,  
2 75(4):609-610.
- 3 14. Schurch MA, Rizzoli R, Slosman D, Vadas L, Vergnaud P, Bonjour JP: **Protein**  
4 **supplements increase serum insulin-like growth factor-I level and attenuate**  
5 **proximal femur bone loss in patients with recent hip fracture. A randomized,**  
6 **double-blind, placebo-controlled trial.** *Ann Intern Med* 1998, **128**(10):801-809.
- 7 15. Lim LS, Harnack LJ, Lazovich D, Folsom AR: **Vitamin A intake and the risk of hip**  
8 **fracture in postmenopausal women: the Iowa Women's Health Study.**  
9 *Osteoporos Int* 2004, **15**(7):552-559.
- 10 16. Melhus H, Michaëlsson K, Kindmark A *et al.*: **Excessive dietary intake of vitamin**  
11 **A is associated with reduced bone mineral density and increased risk for hip**  
12 **fracture.** *Ann Intern Med* 1998, **129**:770-778.
- 13 17. Institute of Medicine. *Dietary references intakes for energy, carbohydrate, fiber, fatty*  
14 *acids, cholesterol, protein, and amino acids (macronutrients).* Washington, D.C.:  
15 National Academy Press, 2002.
- 16 18. Willet WC, Stampfer M: Implications **of total energy intake for epidemiological**  
17 **analyses.** *In Nutritional epidemiology.* New York, NY: Oxford University Press;  
18 1998: 273-301.
- 19 19. FAO/OMS. Human energy requirements. Report of a joint FAO/WHO/UNU Expert  
20 Consultation. FAO. Food and nutrition technical report series. n.1, 2001. Geneva.
- 21 20. World Health Organization. Physical Status: the use and interpretation of  
22 anthropometry. Report. Geneva.(WHO); 1995 Technical report series, 854.
- 23 21. Calvo MS, Park YK: **Changing phosphorus content of the U.S. diet: potential for**  
24 **adverse effects on bone.** *The Journal of Nutrition* 1996, **126**:1168S – 1180S.

- 1 22. Heaney RP, Recker RR: **Calcium supplements: Anion Effects**. *Bone Miner* 1987,  
2 2: 433-439.
- 3
- 4 23. Key TJ, Appleby PN, Spencer EA, Roddam AW, Neale RE, Allen NE: **Calcium, diet  
5 and fracture risk: a prospective study of 1898 incident fractures among 34696  
6 British women and men**. *Public Health Nutrition* 2007, **10**(11):1314-1320.
- 7 24. Bueno MB, Martini LA, Galvão CL, Fisberg RM: **Dietary calcium intake and  
8 nutritional state: an epidemiological view**. *Nutrition*. DOI:  
9 10.1016/j.nut.2008.05.020
- 10 25. Calvo MS, Whiting SJ, Barton CN: **Vitamin D Intake: A Global Perspective of  
11 Current Status**. *J Nutr* 2005, **135**(2):310-316.
- 12 26. Nakamura K, Nashimoto M, Okuda Y, Ota T, Yamamoto M: **Fish as a major source  
13 of vitamins D in the Japanese diet**. *Nutrition* 2002, **18**(5):415-416.
- 14 27. Trivedi DP, Doll R, Khaw KT: **Effect of four monthly oral vitamin D<sub>3</sub>  
15 (cholecalciferol) supplementation on fractures and mortality in men and  
16 women living in the community: randomized double blind controlled trial**. *BMJ*,  
17 2003, **326**(7387): 469-75.
- 18 28. Tucker KL, Hannan MT, Chen H, Cupples LA, Wilson PW, Kiel DP: **Potassium,  
19 magnesium, and fruit and vegetable intakes are associated with greater bone  
20 mineral density in elderly men and women**. *Am J Clin Nutr* 1999, **71**:142-151.
- 21 29. New SA, Robins SP, Campbell MK, Martin JC, Garton MJ, Bolton-Smith C, Brubb  
22 DA, Lee SJ, Reid DM: **Dietary influences on bone mass and bone metabolism:  
23 further evidence of a positive link between fruit and vegetable consumption  
24 and bone health?** *Am J Clin Nutr* 2000, **71**:142-151.

- 1 30. Houtkooper LB, Ritenbaugh C, Aickin M, Lohman TG, Going SB, Weber JL,  
2 Greaves KA, Boyden TW, Pamerter RW, Hall MC: **Nutrients, body composition,**  
3 **and exercise are relates to change in bone mineral density in premenopausal**  
4 **women.** *J Nut* 1995, **125**:1229-1237.
- 5 31. Feskanich D, Weber P, Willet WC, Rockett H, Booth SL, Colditz GA: **Vitamin K**  
6 **intake and hip fractures in women: a prospective study.** *Am J Clin Nutr* 1999,  
7 **69**(1): 74-79.
- 8 32. Hannan MT, Tucker KL, Dawson-Hughes B, Cupples LA, Felson DT, Kiel DP:  
9 **Effect of dietary protein on bone loss in elderly men and women: the**  
10 **Framingham Osteoporosis Study.** *J Bone Miner Res* 2000, **15**(12):2504-12.

11

1 Table 1. Characteristics of Brazilian population according to gender.

	<b>Men (n=693)</b>	<b>Women (n=1651)</b>	<b>Total (n=2344)</b>
<b>Age (years)</b>	56 (40-98) <sup>a</sup>	59 (40-102) *	58 (40-102)
<b>Body Mass Index (kg/ m<sup>2</sup>)</b>	25.8 (14.7-46.1)	25.7 (12.7-51.2)	25.7 (12.7-51.2)
<b>Weight (kg)</b>	72.0 (40-130)	63.7 (30-125) *	66 (30-130)
<b>Height (m)</b>	1.66 (1.40-2.00)	1.57 (1.20-1.83) *	1.60 (1.20-2.00)

2 <sup>a</sup> Median (minimum-maximum) \*p< 0.001 men vs. women, Mann-Whitney Test.

3

4

- 1 Table 2. Presence of fragility fracture in Brazilian population, according to gender, age,  
2 nutritional supplements use and presence of osteoporosis.

		Fragility Fractures	
		No	Yes
<b>Gender</b>	Male	603 (87%)	89 (13%)
	Female	1353 (84%)	241 (15%)
<b>Age (years)</b>	40 - 49	638 (88%)	88 (12%)
	50 - 59	397 (88%)	56 (12%)
	60 - 69	359 (85%)	62 (15%)
	70 - 79	411 (82%)	88 (18%) *
	≥ 80	153 (81%)	36 (19%) *
<b>Osteoporosis</b>	No	1809 (87%)	280 (13%)
	Yes	150 (75%)	50 (25%) *

---

\* p< 0.001

3  
4

1 Table 3. Energy and micronutrient intakes in Brazilian population, according to presence of  
 2 fractures and gender.  
 3

Daily Intake	Fragility Fractures			
	No		Yes	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
<b>Energy (kcal)</b>	1331 <sup>a</sup>	1197	1199	1331
	(610 – 3098)	(427 - 3565)	(405-5128)	(610-3098)
<b>Protein (g)</b>	62	59	66	60
	(51-73)	(49-68)	(50-76)	(53-71)
<b>Calcium (mg)</b>	359	372	382	414*
	(255-503)	(276-518)	(263-545)	(296-591)
<b>Phosphorus (mg)</b>	737	730	760	772*
	(632-871)	(640-848)	(665-882)	(662-934)
<b>Magnesium (mg)</b>	201	189	244	196*
	(161-245)	(158-223)	(159-244)	(164-235)
<b>Vitamin D (µg)</b>	1.8	1.9	1.6	2.2
	(0.8-2.9)	(1.1-3.2)	(0.9-3.1)	(1.2-3.6)
<b>Vitamin K (µg)</b>	41	43	42	39
	(29-64)	(34-74)	(29-75)	(31-71)
<b>Vitamin A (µg REA)</b>	131	138	212	231
	(18-265)	(68-257)	(116-335)	(141-376)

4 <sup>a</sup> median (minimum-maximum). REA: retinol equivalent activity. \*Oneway ANCOVA,  
 5 adjusted for age and use of nutritional supplements, p <0.05 male vs female with fracture  
 6

1 Table 4. Micronutrient intakes in Brazilian population, according to country regions and presence  
 2 of fractures.  
 3

Fractures	South		Southeast		Central		Northeast		North	
	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes
Micronutrient										
<b>Protein</b>	60 <sup>a</sup>	61	59	60	59	61	58	64*	62	60
<b>(g/d)</b>	52-71	53-73	49-69	53-72	50-70	53-75	48-69	55-70	50-71	50-83
<b>Calcium</b>	396	410	387	396	364	473*	339	371	325	454*
<b>(mg/d)</b>	288-565	303-585	294-513	290-555	271-513	340-669	250-518	250-511	239-481	310-678
<b>Phosphorus</b>	787	754	730	765	725	863*	721	742	741	821*
<b>(mg/d)</b>	659-869	665-831	645-848	653-900	645-823	695-998	612-878	662-882	611-877	670-1089
<b>Magnesium</b>	182	186	198	191	197	209	190	193	178	213*
<b>(mg/d)</b>	160-219	164-210	167-230	163-223	163-242	175-252	150-234	153-230	138-236	164-281
<b>Vitamin D</b>	2.1	2.2	1.8	1.8	1.7	2.2	1.9	1.8	2.1	3.6*
<b>(µg/d)</b>	1.1-3.3	1.3-3.6	0.0-2.8	0.7-3.0	0.9-2.8	1.1-4.0	1.0-3.2	1.1-3.0	1.1-3.5	1.4-5.3
<b>Vitamin K</b>	46	43	47	44	45	40	35	33	36	37
<b>(µg/d)</b>	35-101	36-80	36-83	35-81	33-69	32-73	24-46	27-44	26-55	24-72
<b>Vitamin A</b>	254	250	198	199	160	242*	167	169	159	188
<b>(µg REA/d)</b>	142-375	168-368	116-338	128-361	43-284	155-354	56-307	85-272	67-264	82-399

4 <sup>a</sup> median (minium-maximun) \* p<0.05 Oneway ANCOVA whitin groups, adjusted for age and  
 5 nutritional supplement. REA: retinol equivalent activity.  
 6  
 7  
 8

1 Table 5. Final multiple logistic regression model for fragility fractures in Brazilian men and  
2 women.  
3

<b>Variable</b>		<b>P value</b>	<b>Odds Ratio</b>	<b>IC 95%</b>
<b>Age</b>	< 60 years	---	---	---
	≥ 60 years	0.002	1.45	1.14 – 1.83
<b>Phosphorus intake</b>	Every 100 mg	<0.001	1.09	1.04 – 1.13

4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17