

### the **OSTEOPOROSIS** report

Q3 2023

### **BHOF News & Updates**

### October 20th is World Osteoporosis Day



WORLD OSTEOPOROSIS DAY
OCTOBER 20

Join BHOF and organizations across the globe in raising awareness and sharing resources to promote better bone health! Show your support during the month of October, and ESPECIALLY on October 20, to get involved and spread the word! Download a user-friendly toolkit with everything you need to get

### In the News

Iris Apfel Has Turned 102 (Amo Mama, September 2023)

Osteoporosis management in primary care (The Nurse Practitioner, September 2023)

5 Best Fitness Tips for Men to Prevent Bone Loss After 60 (Eat This, Not That!, September 2023)

What You Should Know About Bone Health and Your Risk For Osteoporosis (Pittsburgh Magazine, August 2023)

Elderly Falls Aren't Accidents. Here's How to Prevent Them. (Hadassah Magazine, August 2023)

<u>Hydration and Bone Health</u> (The Three Tomatoes, August 2023)

How to Stop Muscle Cramps Fast, According to a Doctor (Arizona Daily Sun, August 2023)

Healthy Bones Celebrates 25
Years (West Essex Tribune of Livingston, August 2023)

<u>Is a Healthy Sex Life Possible</u> <u>Post-Osteoporosis Diagnosis?</u> information about osteoporosis, find support, and share on social media. You will also find a list of special events and sample fitness programs across the U.S. designed for people with low bone mass or osteoporosis.

### LEARN MORE

### Support the BHOF Be Bone Strong™ Team



The 2023 TCS New York City Marathon will take place on Sunday, November 5, and BHOF is excited to have been named an official charity partner. Osteoporosis is a major public health threat for an estimated 54 million Americans. Studies show that one in two women and up to one in four men over age 50 will break a bone due to osteoporosis in their lifetime. In the U.S., more than 2 million broken bones are caused by osteoporosis annually. Our Be Bone Strong™ team is working hard to raise much-needed funds to help BHOF improve patient care, support those who have broken bones due to osteoporosis, and educate the public about this chronic but preventable disease.



### **Advocacy**

Capitol Hill Briefing: Women's Bone Health Throughout the Lifespan

(Giddy, July 2023)

Is Your Medication Causing
Osteoporosis? (Happy Bones,
Happy Life Podcast, July 2023)

Weight-bearing Exercises can Improve Bone Health (MorningStar Living, July 2023)

### **Bone Talk Podcasts**



# Nourishing Your Bones with Vital Nutrients



On this episode of Bone Talk, BHOF CEO Claire Gill talks with Dr. Connie Weaver about vital nutrients that promote good bone health. Dr. Weaver is a Distinguished Research Professor at San Diego State University's School of Exercise and Nutritional Sciences. She has been involved in NIH and USDA funded-research studies of diet interventions for over 30 years, and has also been involved in creating guidelines for best practices in human nutrition research, programs for children, nutrient recommendations, and food policy guidance. Tune in to hear Dr. Weaver tell us about key



Please join us on Wednesday, October 25, from 12-1 pm ET for a Capitol Hill lunch briefing on the importance of women's bone health throughout the lifespan.

Speakers: Andrea F. Singer, MD, FACP, CCD, MedStar Georgetown University Hospital and Claire Gill, CEO, BHOF

Address: Rayburn House Office Building, Room 2060, 45 Independence Ave SW, Washington, DC 20515

### **RSVP NOW**

### CMS-1784-P Comments Letter



The Bone Health and Osteoporosis Foundation (BHOF) and the American Society for Bone and Mineral Research (ASBMR) were recently joined by leading national bone health, women's health, family caregiver, and aging patient advocacy organizations in submitting comments on a proposed rule updating and refining payment policies under the Physician Fee Schedule for calendar year 2024. Together, they asked that the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) recognize, prioritize, and address the

nutrients that are needed for bone health, foods that provide these necessary nutrients, substitutes for meat and dairy as sources of nutrients, and more. Click here to learn more and listen to this episode.

Maintaining
Independence with
Osteoporosis: Tips
and Insights from a
BoneFit-Certified
Physical Therapist



Joining us on this episode is Brittany Pabon, a Physical Therapist at Lee Health, **Outpatient Rehabilitation Services** at Cape Coral Hospital in Florida. Brittany is a BoneFit Trainer certified through BHOF. BoneFit is an evidence-based exercise training workshop designed for healthcare professionals and exercise specialists to provide training on the most appropriate, safe, and effective methods for working with people who have osteoporosis. Brittany tells us about how working with a physical therapist can help you maintain your independence with osteoporosis, when it might be time to see a physical therapist, and what an evaluation may look like. Click here to learn more and listen to this episode.

significant care gap in secondary prevention of osteoporotic fractures.

### **READ MORE**

### **Education**

### **Prevent Falls and Broken Bones**



No matter your age, it's never too early or too late to take steps to protect yourself from broken bones. Each year about a third of all persons over age 65 will fall. Many of these falls result in a broken bone, often the hip or wrist. Broken bones at any age can be painful, difficult to heal, and cause life-long challenges affecting your activities and independence. Fortunately, there are simple things you can do to prevent falls.

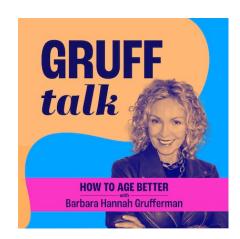
### **READ MORE**

#### Your Path to Good Bone Health



Your Path to Good Bone Health is a digital knowledge-

# Can bone loss be reversed? Let's discuss!



Low bone density or osteoporosis can wreak havoc with your bones, increasing your risk of fracturing if you fall. So, you want to do two things: 1) maintain or increase your bone density; and 2) practice balance and strength-training so you don't fall to begin with. In this episode of Gruff Talk, BHOF Trustee and host Barbara Hannah Grufferman talks with bone health expert and BHOF Ambassadors Leadership Council member Rebekah Rotstein about how to move to improve bone health, ways to increase bone density, the different kinds of tests that are available to assess bone health, and much more.

### **WATCH NOW**

Join the BHOF Online Community, Hosted by Inspire

roadmap that provides patients and care partners with the information they need to take control of their bone health, manage their osteoporosis, and prevent debilitating fractures. This first-of-its-kind tool is intended to help you learn about your bone health and make informed decisions with your healthcare provider.

BHOF is grateful to Amgen Inc. and UCB, Inc. for their support of this initiative.

#### **FIND MY PATH**

#### **Medication and Treatment**



The results of your bone density test, combined with all available clinical information, including your personal preference and previous experience with medications, can help with deciding to start, continue, or change medication to make your bones stronger and reduce the risk of breaking bones.

### **LEARN MORE**

### **Strong Bones & Me**



BHOF is proud to support the Global Healthy Living Foundation's new global initiative, *Strong Bones & Me*, to support people in better understanding their bone health and osteoporosis, including fractures,



BHOF works to ensure that everyone affected by osteoporosis has a place to turn for support. As a result, BHOF and Inspire partnered to create a safe and secure online osteoporosis support community. The BHOF Support Community offers a place to meet others, ask questions, and share information about osteoporosis and bone health online.

### **JOIN NOW**

# ALL IN THE FAMILY... My Husband and I Are on the Osteoporosis Journey Together



Years ago, Rika van Dam never imagined that she would one day be diagnosed with osteoporosis, let alone that she and her husband would both be diagnosed within two years of each other. She shares with us about their experiences and talks about how they have tried to see the positive side of doing this as a couple. She says, "we're hopeful about building better and stronger bones together."

prevention, and post-fracture care. This initiative aims to raise awareness, provide education, foster global collaboration, and provide an avenue for you to share your experiences.

### **LEARN MORE**

### **Nourish to Flourish: Lunchbox Edition**



Packing bone-healthy lunches doesn't have to be overwhelming. With a little advance planning and creativity peppered in, you and your family can enjoy deliciously satisfying meals that are good for your bones. Here are a few things to keep in mind as you start planning your menu:

- Make use of the weekend: Take a few hours and do all the chopping, roasting, and boiling you can ahead of time.
- Buy quality food storage containers:
   Containers of all sizes will be indispensable for compactly storing leftovers, prepped ingredients, sauces, and more.
- Stock up: Fill up your freezer with ingredients for various meals, such as peas, soups, berries, ground beef, seafood, and so on.
- Plan on a full belly: Creating a meal plan or grocery shopping shouldn't be done on an empty stomach.
- Involve the whole team: Including the entire family in your meal prep efforts and listening to their input will encourage them to be conscious of their eating habits.
- Cut yourself some slack: The best-laid plans often get off track, so don't worry if you don't always get things right. Practice and routine will win out eventually.

### **READ MORE**

### Voices of Osteoporosis: Stories of Hope and Inspiration



BHOF is currently collecting written stories as part of a support initiative called *Voices of Osteoporosis: Stories of Hope and Inspiration*. If you have experienced osteoporosis as a patient or caregiver, we invite you to share your story. Your story could inspire others to learn how to protect their ability to live their best life and stay bone strong. It can also be a source of comfort to hear from others who have dealt with similar experiences.

### **LEARN MORE**

### **Patient Registry**



The Healthy Bones, Build Them for Life® Patient Registry surveys patients and caregivers about how osteoporosis and low bone density

### **READ MORE**

### Learn How to Eat Healthy With MyPlate



BHOF is proud to be a USDA National Strategic
Partner supporting MyPlate.gov, which offers tips and
resources that support a healthy diet. Take the
MyPlate Quiz for a quick self-assessment. MyPlate
Kitchen serves up recipes with nutrition-focused
search filters, such as Get More Calcium, as well as
recipe videos and other helpful resources. The
Healthy Eating on a Budget section provides useful
information for creating a shopping plan, shopping
smart, and preparing healthy meals to stretch food
dollars while making wise decisions about what to eat.

### **LEARN MORE**

### **Connect with BHOF**

Stay Committed to Your Fitness Goals: Join BHOF's Steps to Strong Bones™ Monthly Program Held Virtually on Zoom impact their lives. The information is collected anonymously, combined, and analyzed by BHOF to map out the patient journey and show what patients need and want most. Sharing your experience with osteoporosis will guide and enhance the educational and awareness programs we offer, lead to better care and research about the disease, and help improve the bone health of future generations.

### **LEARN MORE**

### **BHOF Partners**

#### **HealthWell Foundation**



### HEALTHWELL FOUNDATION®

The HealthWell Foundation is a leading independent non-profit dedicated to improving access to health care for America's underinsured. When health insurance is not enough, the foundation fills the gap by assisting with copays, premiums, deductibles, and out-ofpocket expenses. In 2022, HealthWell awarded more than \$896 million in grants through their Disease Funds, and since 2004 they have helped more than 822,000 patients afford essential treatments and medications. Click here to sign up for email or text alerts to receive instant notifications of HealthWell's diverse portfolio of disease funds in real-time, including the Post-Menopausal Osteoporosis - Medicare Access Fund.

Medical Fitness Network



The Steps to Strong Bones™ monthly program is designed to help you stay motivated and committed to your fitness goals. To help keep you on track and motivated, BHOF typically hosts these monthly Zoom meetings at 12 pm ET on the first Monday of every month. If you'd like to participate (just once or more), click below to sign-up and we'll be sure to send you the link to the Zoom meeting every month. Join when you can!

### **SIGN UP NOW**

### Find an Osteoporosis Support Group in Your Area or Start One of Your Own



Support groups provide a way to learn more about osteoporosis and how to manage the disease directly from those in similar situations. They provide an opportunity to openly share information, feelings, and goals with peers to help you continue living a healthy, active, and independent life with osteoporosis. To find an in-person or virtual support group that meets your needs, visit the <a href="Building Strength Together® support group page">Building Strength Together® support group page</a>. We encourage interested clinicians and patients to start a BHOF Support Group in your area to meet the needs of your community. Please contact <a href="Lindsey West">Lindsey West</a>, <a href="Chief Program Officer">Chief Program Officer</a> to learn how BHOF can help.



BHOF and the MedFit Network have partnered to provide a free online directory to connect those with osteoporosis to qualified fitness professionals.

www.medfitnetwork.org

#### **Menopause Cheat Sheet**



Bone Health Ambassador, BHOF trustee and award-winning author, Barbara Hannah Grufferman, is founder and editor of Menopause Cheat Sheet, a weekly newsletter for women 45+ which delivers science-backed information about menopause and healthy aging, featuring a monthly spotlight on bone health and osteoporosis. Subscribe to Menopause Cheat Sheet here.

#### NeedyMeds



For almost 25 years, national nonprofit NeedyMeds has been helping patients meet their healthcare costs including, but not limited to, medications. NeedyMeds offers assistance for free and anonymously through their website (NeedyMeds.org) and helpline (1-800-503-6897). However you decide to reach out to NeedyMeds, be sure you do! They're there to help.

#### **PAN** Foundation



### **LEARN MORE**

### **Bone Buddies Virtual Support Group: October Schedule**



Join the Bone Buddies Online Virtual Support Group this October! Sessions cover topics ranging from diet, exercise, treatment, and more! Group meetings are a fun, relaxing way to learn new information about bone health and managing osteoporosis. It can also be a great way to meet others who are dealing with low bone density.

provides educational resources to osteoporosis patients who request support from PAN for medical expenses.

BHOF is an Alliance Partner of the

Patient Access Network (PAN) which

www.panfoundation.org

### **LEARN MORE**

