

# Metabolic Bone Disease

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*Molecular Endocrinology Group*

## **Hypercalcaemia**

**Hyperparathyroidism**

**Familial hypocalciuric hypercalcaemia**

**Humoral hypercalcaemia of malignancy**

**Local osteolytic hypercalcaemia**

## **Hypocalcaemia**

**Hypoparathyroidism**

**Pseudohypoparathyroidism**

**Vitamin D deficiency**

## **Hypo and Hyperphosphataemia**

**X-linked hypophosphatemic rickets**

**Chronic kidney disease - mineral bone disorder**

# Hypercalcaemia

# Hypercalcaemia

## Clinical features

**Most frequently asymptomatic**

### Renal

Polyuria/polydipsia, nephrocalcinosis/nephrolithiasis, renal failure

### Central CNS

Lethargy, fatigue and depression

Ataxia, psychosis confusion and coma

### Gastrointestinal

Dyspepsia/peptic ulceration, vomiting, constipation, pancreatitis

### Musculoskeletal

Proximal myopathy, hypotonia

### Cardiovascular

Hypertension, bradycardia, short QT

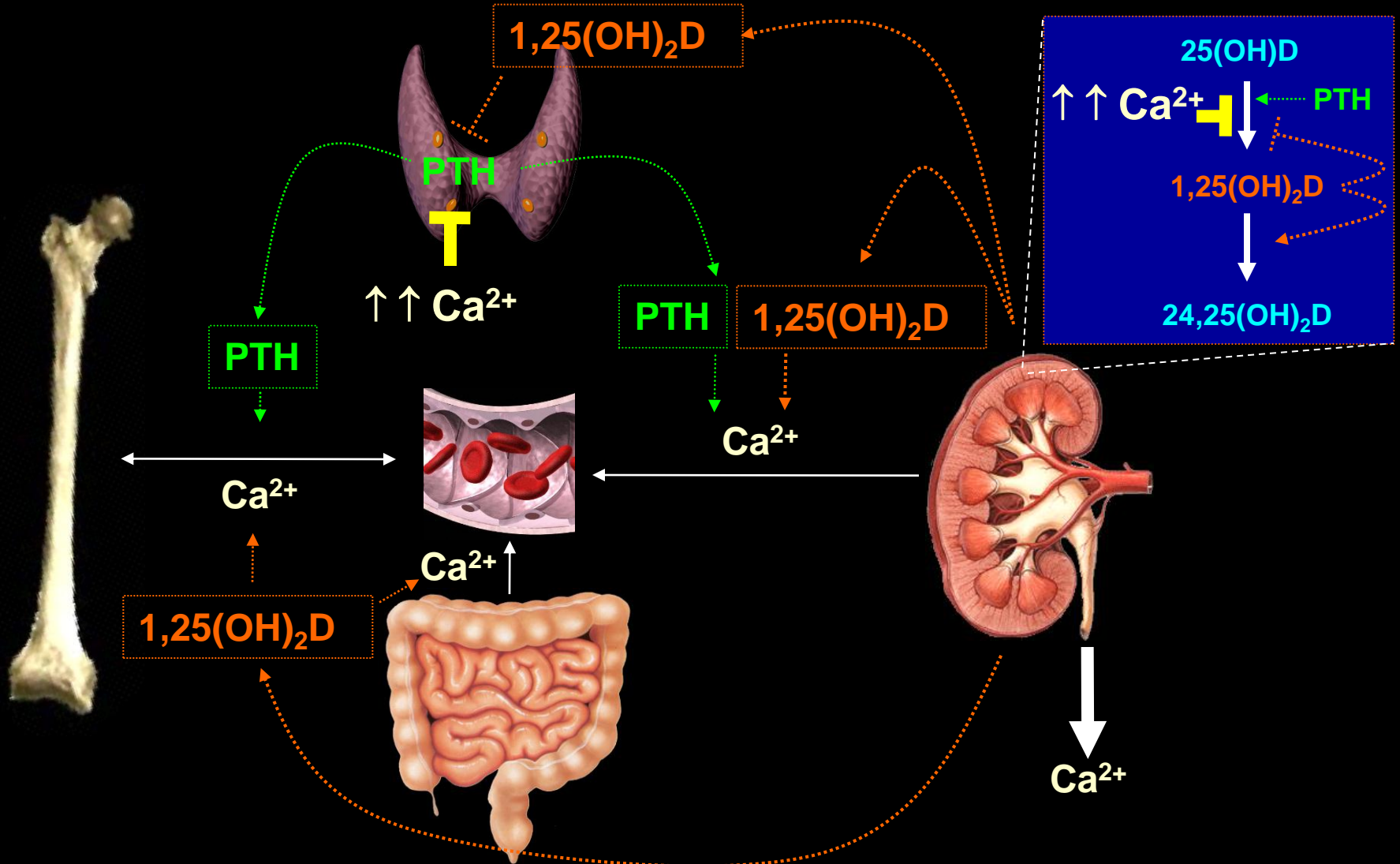
## Mechanisms

**Increased skeletal resorption (almost always involved)**

**Decreased renal excretion**

**Increased intestinal absorption**

# Physiological response to high calcium



High calcium suppresses PTH and inhibits  $1\alpha$ -hydroxylase activity  
Low PTH/ $1,25(\text{OH})_2\text{D}$  decreases renal resorption, skeletal resorption and Intestinal absorption

# Differential diagnosis of hypercalcaemia

Parathyroid disorders (common in outpatients)

Primary hyperparathyroidism (Incidence 1:1000, 20/100,000 cases per year)

**Autonomous PTH synthesis and release**

80% single parathyroid adenoma,  
15% multi glandular hyperplasia

**Rare familial forms**

MEN1 (Menin): Parathyroid, Pituitary and Pancreatic islet cell

FIHPT (Menin): Parathyroid

MEN2 (Ret): Medullary thyroid carcinoma, Parathyroid and  
Pheochromocytoma

HPT-JT (Hrpt2): Parathyroid adenoma and carcinoma, jaw fibromas  
Wilms tumour and uterine tumours

Familial hypocalciuric hypercalcaemia (FHH)

**Loss of function mutations of calcium sensing receptor (CaSR)**

Alters calcium set point in parathyroid and kidney

# Differential diagnosis of hypercalcaemia

**Malignancy related (common in hospital inpatients)**

**Humoral hypercalcaemia of malignancy (HBM)**

PTHrP secretion by tumour

Excess  $1,25(\text{OH})_2\text{D}$  from lymphoma

Ectopic PTH (very rare)

**Local osteolytic hypercalcaemia (LOH)**

Widespread local bone resorption

(myeloma, lymphoma or leukemia deposits)

**Other causes**

**Granulomatous diseases**

Macrophage synthesis of  $1,25(\text{OH})_2\text{D}$

(TB, sarcoid, inflammatory bowel disease)

**Endocrine diseases**

Thyrotoxicosis, Addison's and Pheochromocytoma

**Iatrogenic**

25-OHD intoxication, Thiazides, Lithium

# Investigations

Corrected Ca <sup>2+</sup>	2.1-2.60mmol/l
PO <sub>4</sub> <sup>3-</sup>	0.8-1.4mmol/l
Mg <sup>2+</sup>	0.7-1.00mmol/l
Alkaline phosphatase	30-130 IU/L
Creatinine	60-110μmol/l
PTH	1.1-6.8pmol/l
25-OHD	25-120nmol/l
Urinary Ca <sup>2+</sup>	0-7.5mmol/24h

Calcium is bound to serum proteins

Corrected calcium = Total serum calcium + 0.1 x ((40 - serum albumin)/4)



# Primary hyperparathyroidism

**Aetiology (Parathyroid adenoma or hyperplasia)**

**80% single parathyroid adenoma,  
15% multi glandular hyperplasia**

**Biochemistry**

**$\uparrow\text{Ca}^{2+}$ ,  $\downarrow\text{PO}_4^{3-}$ ,  $\uparrow\text{ALP}$ ,  $\uparrow\text{PTH}$**

**Calcium/creatinine clearance ratio  $>0.01$  (Cre in mmol/l !!)**

**(Urinary  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  x Serum Creatinine)**

**(Serum  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  x Urinary Creatinine)**

**Imaging**

**Renal Ultrasound (Nephrolithiasis, Nephrocalcinosis)**

**DXA scan (Decreased bone mineral density)**

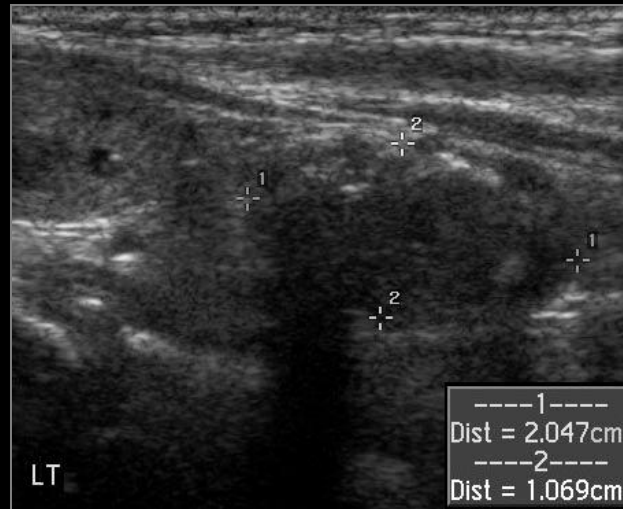
**Localisation of parathyroid adenoma**

**Neck Ultrasound**

**Parathyroid scan (Technecium-99 Sestamibi with SPECT)**

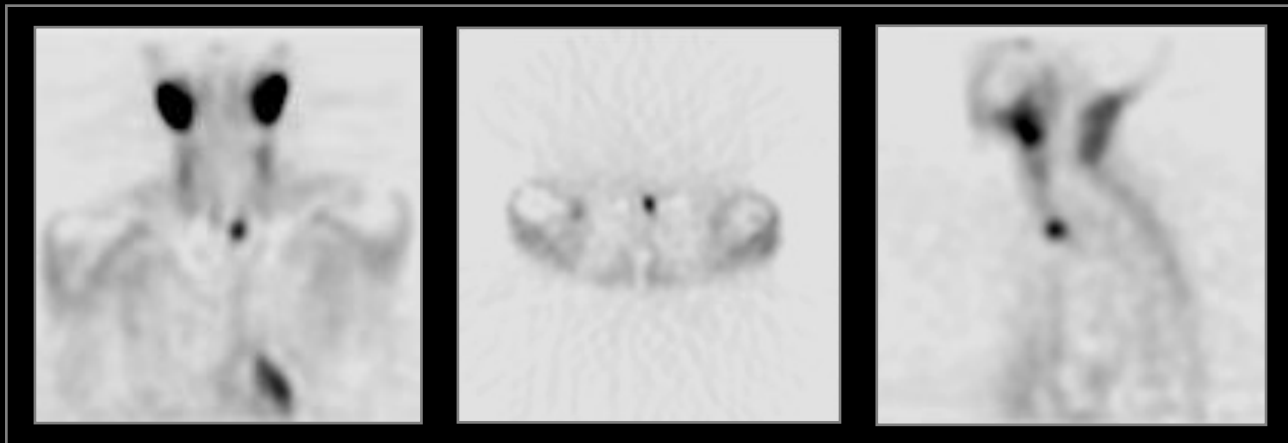
# Parathyroid localisation

## Neck Ultrasound



**Left inferior 2.0x1.0cm parathyroid adenoma**

## Tc99 MIBI with SPECT



**left Inferior parathyroid adenoma**

# Treatment of 1<sup>o</sup>HPT

## Indications for treatment of asymptomatic 1<sup>o</sup>HPT

<b>Ca<sup>2+</sup></b>	<b>&gt;2.85mmol/l (vitamin D deficiency)</b>
<b>(uCa)</b>	<b>&gt;10mmol/d?</b>
<b>Creatinine clearance</b>	<b>&lt;60ml/min</b>
<b>BMD</b>	<b>T score &lt;-2.5 or fracture</b>
<b>Age</b>	<b>&lt;50y</b>

## Treatment

**Open or minimally invasive parathyroidectomy**

**Complications of surgery (1%)**

**Hypoparathyroidism**

**Recurrent laryngeal nerve palsy**

## Patients who are not candidates for surgery

**Medical follow up and high fluid intake (usually stable)**

**Bisphosphonates (reduce osteoclastic bone resorption)**

**Cinacalcet CaSR (calcimimetic) (reduce PTH secretion)**

# Familial hypocalciuric hypercalcaemia

## Familial hypocalciuric hypercalcaemia (FHH)

Autosomal dominant (2% hypercalcaemia)

Heterozygous loss of function mutations of *CASR*

Increase in parathyroid gland calcium set-point

Mild enlargement of parathyroids

## Presentation

Asymptomatic

Life long moderate  $\uparrow\text{Ca}^{2+}$  ,

$\rightarrow\downarrow\text{PO}_4^{3-}$ ,  $\uparrow\rightarrow\text{Mg}^+$ ,  $\rightarrow\text{ALP}$ ,  $\uparrow\rightarrow\text{PTH}$

Calcium/creatinine clearance ratio  $<0.01$

Check  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  in family members

## Management

Compatible with normal life in almost all cases

*CASR* mutational analysis rarely required

**SURGERY is NOT REQUIRED !**

# Humoral hypercalcaemia of malignancy

## Aetiology of HHM

80% are due to PTHrP secretion by HHM associated tumour  
Lung, oesophagus, breast, renal and cervical most common

## Presentation

Rapid onset severe symptoms of hypercalcaemia  
Frequently life threatening  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  ( $>4\text{mmol/l}$ )  
Identify tumour by clinical examination?

## Investigations

$\uparrow\uparrow \text{Ca}^{2+}$ ,  $\downarrow \text{PO}_4^{3-}$ ,  $\uparrow \text{ALP}$ , undetectable PTH,  $\uparrow \text{PTHrP}$

## Imaging

CT scanning to identify tumour  
Bone scan to identify skeletal metastasis

## Management

Increase  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  clearance with IV fluids and loop diuretics  
Reduce osteoclastic resorption with iv bisphosphonates  
Identify and remove tumour but very poor prognosis

# Hypocalcaemia

# Hypocalcaemia

## Clinical features

May be asymptomatic especially if mild or of gradual onset

### Musculoskeletal

Fatigue, cramps, paresthesia, tetany, stridor and laryngospasm

Carpopedal spasm, Chvostek's and Trousseau's signs

### CNS (Basal ganglia calcification and subcapsular cataracts)

Twitching and generalised seizures

Mental retardation, depression, coma

### Cardiovascular

Prolonged QT interval

Congestive cardiac failure

## Mechanism

PTH deficiency or PTH resistance (rare)

Vitamin D deficiency or Vitamin D resistance (very rare)

## Investigation

Ca<sup>2+</sup>, PO<sub>4</sub><sup>3-</sup>, Alk Phos, Mg<sup>2+</sup>, Cre, PTH and 25OHD

(Thyroid function, LH/FSH, E2, testosterone)

(Skull and hand radiographs)

# Hypoparathyroidism

(PTH deficiency)

## Hypoparathyroidism

↓Ca<sup>2+</sup>, ↑PO<sub>4</sub><sup>3-</sup>, ↓ or undetectable PTH

## Aetiology

Surgical removal or parathyroid irradiation

Autoimmune destruction (APECED)

Failure of parathyroid developmental (DiGeorge syndrome)

Magnesium deficiency (Impaired PTH synthesis and release)

Rare familial conditions (PTH mutations, CASR activating mutations)



# Hypoparathyroidism

(PTH deficiency)

## Acute treatment

Tetany requires IV calcium gluconate, careful observation for stridor  
Oral calcium and  $1\alpha$ -OHD (Increases intestinal calcium absorption)  
(Not 25-OHD since PTH required for  $1\alpha$ -hydroxylation)

## Chronic treatment

Oral calcium and  $1\alpha$ -OHD

$\text{Ca}^{2+}$  should be maintained at the lower limit of normal 2.0mmol/l  
(Without PTH's hypocalciuric effect risk of renal calcification)  
(Intermittent PTH injections are also beginning to be used)

Lifelong follow up is required

# Pseudohypoparathyroidism

(Renal PTH resistance)

## Pseudohypoparathyroidism

Heterozygous mutations effecting *GNAS* locus

Encodes  $G\alpha_s$  protein involved in G-protein coupled receptor signalling  
(PTH, TSH, FSH/LH, GHRH, Glucagon etc)

Both *GNAS* alleles are expressed in most tissues

Only maternal allele is imprinted and expressed in proximal renal tubule

Actions of PTH in PCT are mediated by  $G\alpha_s$

If maternal *GNAS* allele is mutated no functional  $G\alpha_s$  is expressed in PCT  
Renal PTH resistance impaired  $Ca^{2+}$  resorption and  $PO_4^{3-}$  excretion

Normal skeletal and neural development requires 2 functional *GNAS* alleles

Mutation of either *GNAS* allele: Albrights Hereditary Osteodystrophy

With time TSH, FSH/LH and GHRH signalling may also be impaired

Primary hypothyroidism, hypogonadism and GH deficiency

# Albright Hereditary Osteodystrophy AHO



**Short, obese, round face  
Mild mental retardation**



**Brachydactyly with short 4th and 5th  
metacarpals and metatarsals  
Subcutaneous ossification**



# **Vitamin D Deficiency**

# Current guidance on vitamin D

## Dietary intake and synthesised by skin

Average dietary intake 200 IU/d

Minimal erythemal dose of sunlight  $\equiv$  25,000 IU ergocalciferol

In UK for 6 months there is no appropriate UV light (290-315nm)

## Dietary sources

Eggs, Butter and Oily fish (salmon, herring, mackerel and tuna)

## Current Government guidelines for daily requirement

<50y                      200IU/d

50-70                      400IU/d

>70                      600IU/d (Elderly make 70% less in skin)

## Risk factors for deficiency

Ethnic origin South Asian and Afro-Caribbean

Diet (elderly, care home residents, vegan)

UV exposure (northern latitudes, pigmented skin, dress, sun screens)

## 400IU/d supplements recommended for

Infants, pregnant and lactating women, at risk ethnic groups and >65y

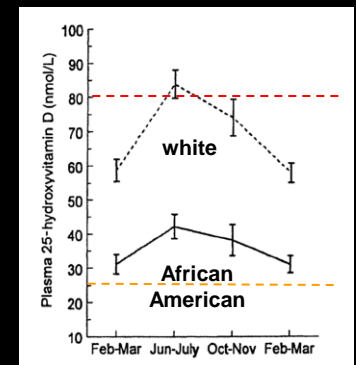
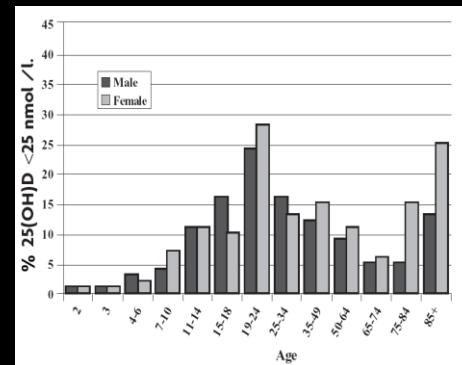
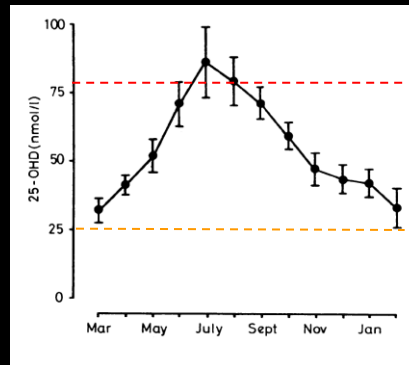
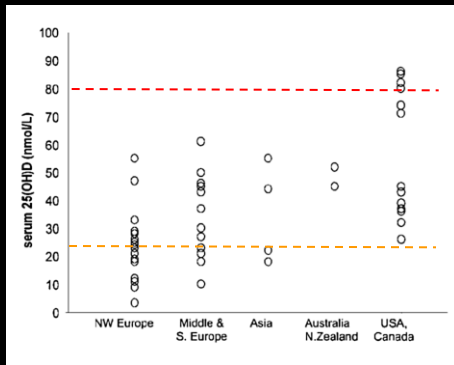
## Maximum recommended daily dose 2000 IU

Vitamin D supplementation is the most commonly used medication in the world and is worth \$1000 million per annum

# Vitamin D normal range?

Pro-hormone 25-OHD levels are an indicator of vitamin D status  
But what should be the normal range for 25-OHD

Varies with latitude, season, age, ethnic origin and adiposity



25-OHD<sub>3</sub> of <25nM have previously been considered suboptimal (DoH 1998)  
Many now suggest that 25-OHD<sub>3</sub> should be 40nM or even >75-80nM

Vitamin D deficiency

Vitamin D insufficiency

Vitamin D sufficiency

Vitamin D toxicity

<25nM

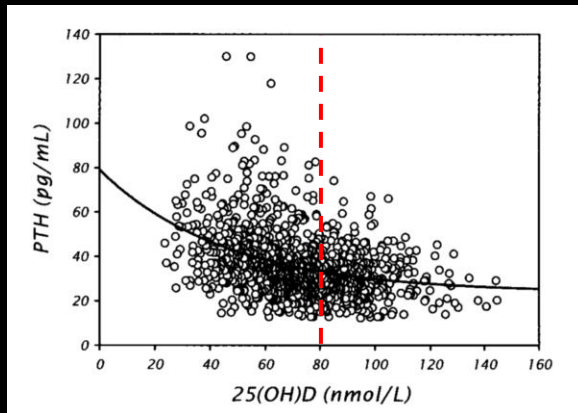
25-80nM

80-200nM

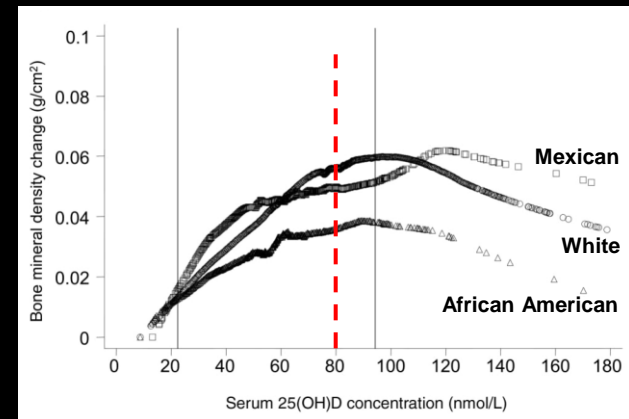
>200nM

# Maintenance of vitamin D >80nM?

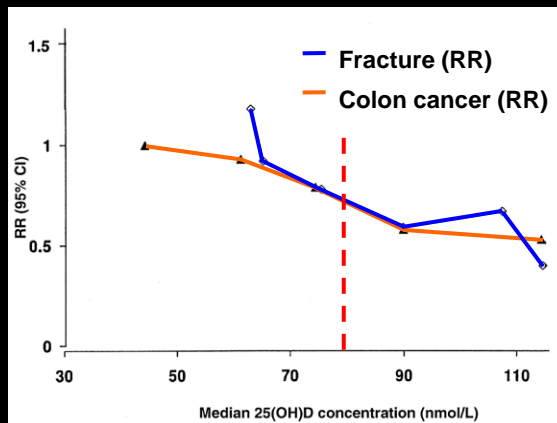
## Maximum PTH suppression



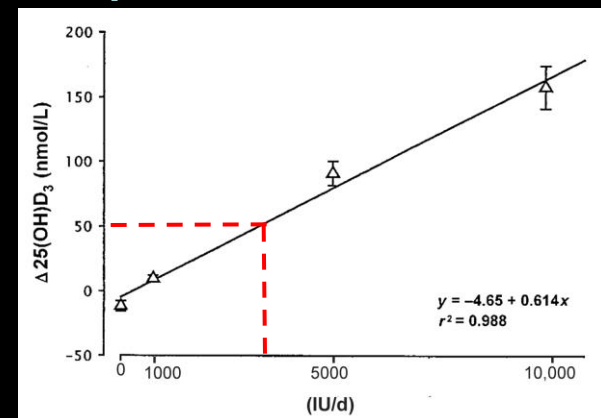
## Peak BMD at 80-100mM



## Reduces # and cancer risk

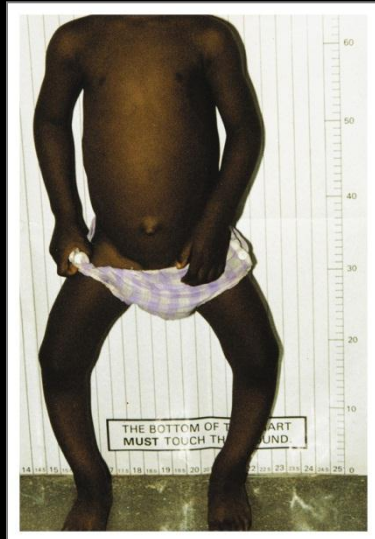


## To maintain 25-OHD >80nM requires 3,000 - 4,000 IU/d



# Vitamin D deficiency in childhood

(low 25-OHD, low  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ , low  $\text{PO}_4^{3-}$  and high PTH)



## Rickets

Hypocalcaemia and hypophosphataemia during growth

## Growth plate

Apoptosis of growth plate chondrocytes requires phosphate (Caspase 9)

(Failure of apoptosis results in gross disorganisation of the growth plates impaired growth and deformity)

## Cortical bone

Failure of mineralisation of newly formed osteoid due to low  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  and  $\text{PO}_4^{3-}$   
(Bowing of long bones)

## Rachitic rosary in ribs

Bone pain, muscle weakness, poor mobility  
May have tetany and seizures



Normal



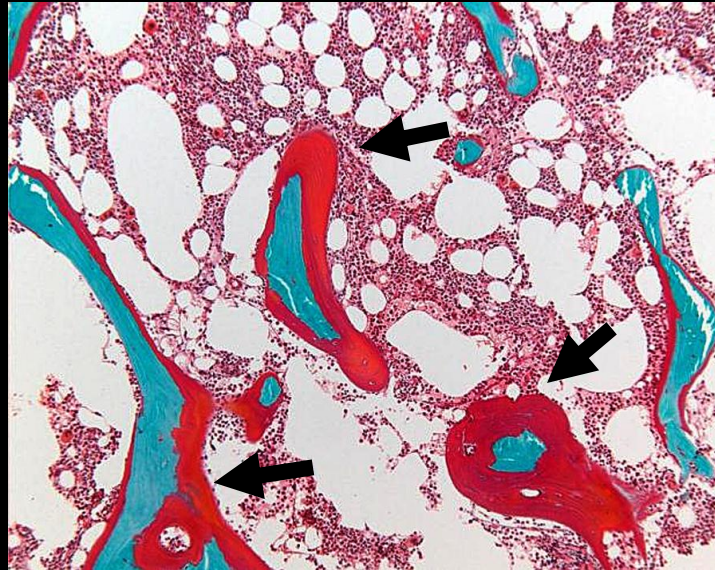
Rickets



# Vitamin D deficiency in adults

(low 25-OHD, low  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ , low  $\text{PO}_4^{3-}$  and high PTH)

Mineralised osteoid  
in green



non-mineralisation  
osteoid in red

## Osteomalacia

May result in hypocalcaemic symptoms

But often absent as inevitably chronic deficiency

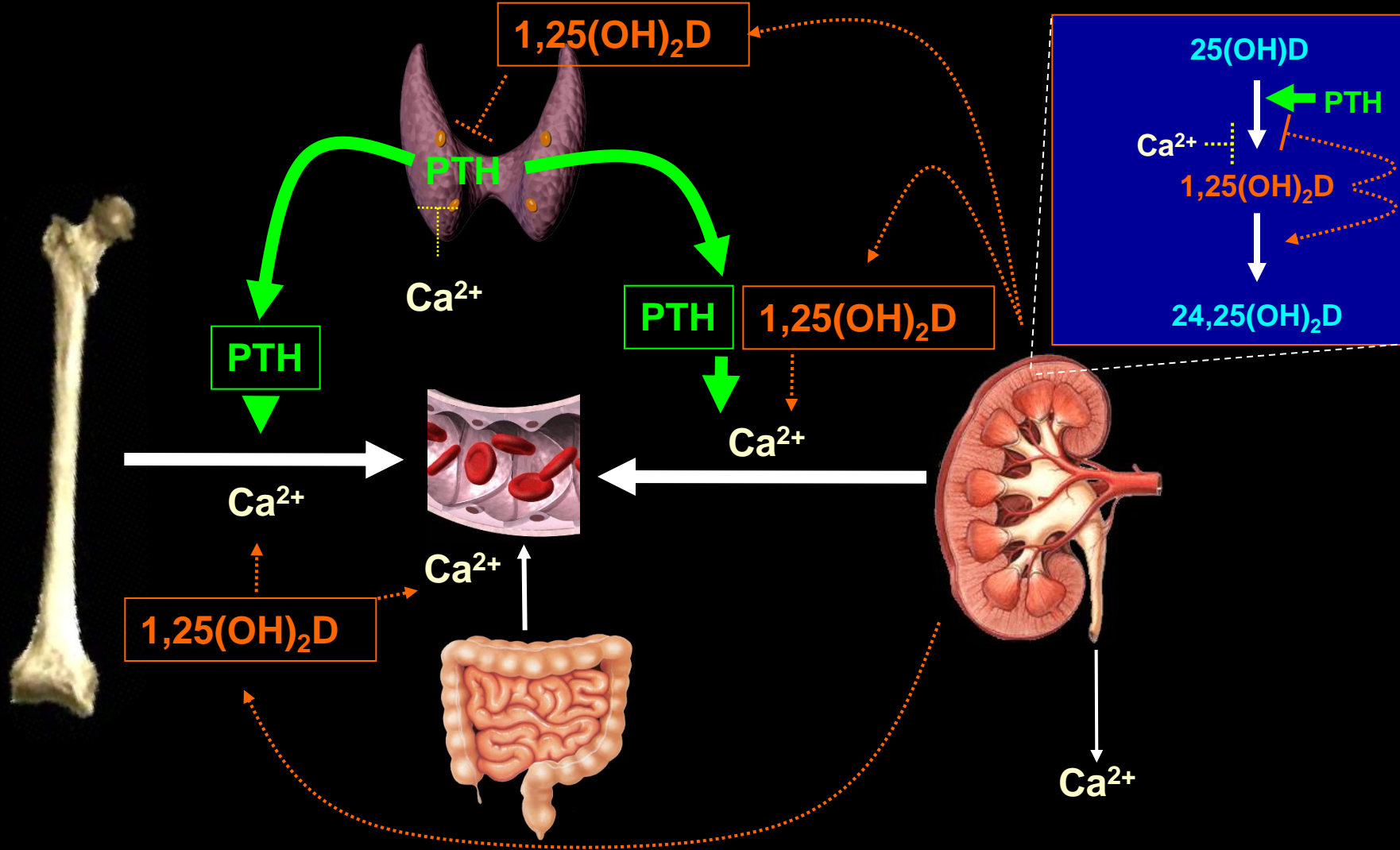
Bone pain, proximal muscle weakness

Difficulty standing and walking

Reduced osteoid mineralisation

Increased fracture risk

# Vitamin D deficiency and calcium

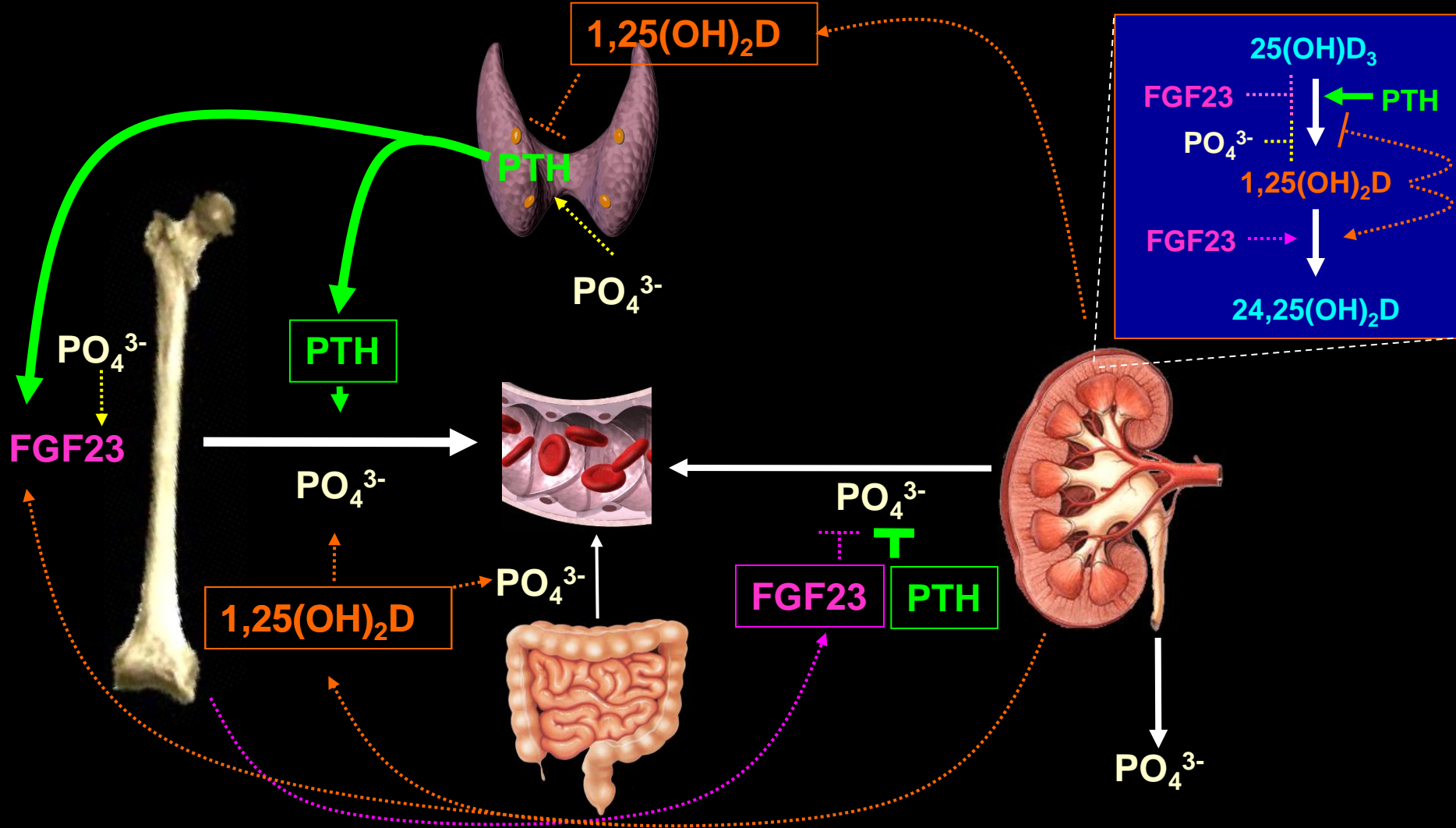


Low  $1,25(\text{OH})_2\text{D}$  reduces intestinal absorption of  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$

Low  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  and  $1,25(\text{OH})_2\text{D}$  increases PTH synthesis and secretion

High PTH increases  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  resorption from bone and kidney and  $1\alpha$ -hydroxylase activity

# Vitamin D deficiency and phosphate



Low  $1,25(OH)_2D$  reduces intestinal absorption of  $PO_4^{3-}$   
 Low  $1,25(OH)_2D$  and  $PO_4^{3-}$  inhibits FGF23 synthesis increasing renal  $PO_4^{3-}$  resorption  
 High PTH increases  $PO_4^{3-}$  resorption from bone  
 High PTH, low FGF23 and low  $PO_4^{3-}$  all increase  $1\alpha$ -hydroxylase activity

# Differential diagnosis of vitamin D deficiency

## Nutritional

Diet, UV exposure

## Malabsorption

Coeliac, Crohns, gastric/duodenal surgery, pancreatitis

## Impaired vitamin D metabolism

Liver disease (reduced 25-hydroxylase activity)

Renal disease (reduced  $1\alpha$ -hydroxylase activity)

## Increased metabolism

Phenytoin and phenbarbital, rifampicin

## Treatment

Treatment dose until 25-OHD is  $>50\text{nM}$

Intra muscular injection 300,000 IU of 25-OHD<sub>2</sub> every 3 months

Oral supplementation 40,000 IU 25-OHD<sub>3</sub> per week for 8 weeks

# Vitamin D Resistance

(Very rare)

## Vitamin D-dependent Rickets, Type I (Ligand deficiency)

**Autosomal recessive:** mutation of  $1\alpha$ -hydroxylase (CYP27B1)

Rickets, growth retardation

$\downarrow\downarrow\text{Ca}^{2+}$ ,  $\downarrow\downarrow\text{PO}_4^{3-}$ ,  $\uparrow\text{PTH}$ ,  $\uparrow 25\text{-OHD}$  and  $\downarrow\downarrow 1,25(\text{OH})_2\text{D}$

**Rx Physiological  $1,25(\text{OH})_2\text{D}_3$**

**High dose calcium also cures the rickets**

## Vitamin D-dependent Rickets, Type II (Receptor deficiency)

**Autosomal recessive:** inactivating mutation of Vitamin D receptor

Rickets, growth retardation and alopecia

$\downarrow\downarrow\text{Ca}^{2+}$ ,  $\downarrow\downarrow\text{PO}_4^{3-}$ ,  $\uparrow\text{PTH}$ ,  $\rightarrow 25\text{-OHD}$  and  $\uparrow 1,25(\text{OH})_2\text{D}$

**Rx high dose calcium cures the rickets**

# Hypophosphataemia

# Hypophosphatemia

## Hypophosphatemia

↓ $\text{PO}_4^{3-}$  is common especially in alcoholics and septic patients

Severe in chronic alcoholics, refeeding syndrome, DKA and critical illness

## Clinical features

Irritability, confusion seizures, coma

Haemolysis and thrombocytopenia

Muscle weakness, myopathy, rhabdomyolysis, cardiomyopathy

Hypercalciuria and hypermagnesuria, glycosuria

Impaired gluconeogenesis, Insulin resistance and hypoparathyroidism

Metabolic acidosis

## Mechanism (mild hypophosphatemia in vitamin D deficiency)

Redistribution of  $\text{PO}_4^{3-}$  into cells

Increased synthesis of phosphorylated carbohydrates

Increased renal excretion

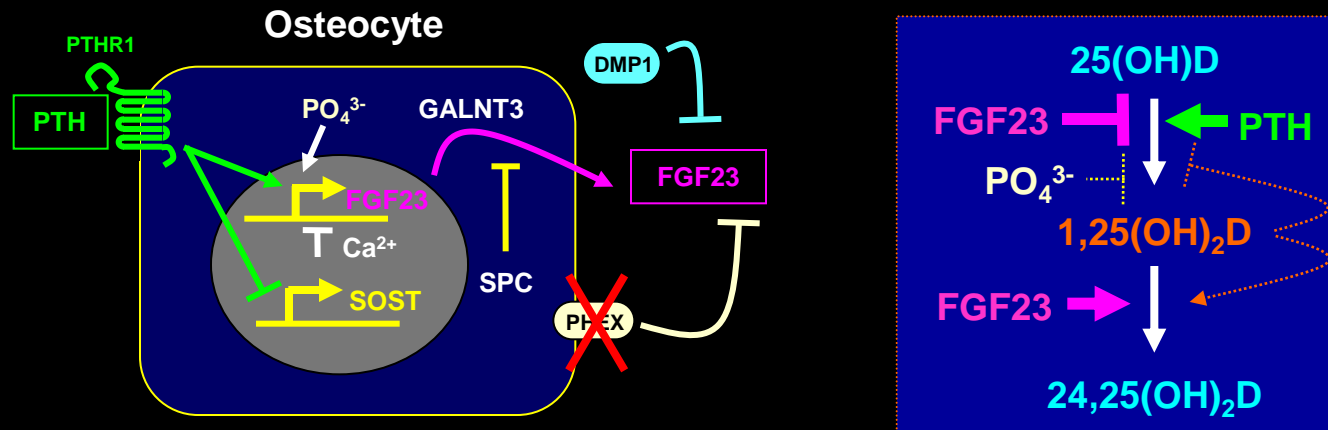
↑PTH, ↑FGF23, ↑KLOTHO

Decreased intestinal absorption

Aluminium/magnesium antacids, chronic diarrhoea

# X-linked hypophosphatemic rickets

Incidence 1:20,000



**PHEX: metalloendopeptidase**  
negatively regulates FGF23 signalling

**X-linked hypophosphatemic rickets (XLH) (Enhanced FGF23 signalling)**

**X-linked dominant: inactivating mutation of PHEX**

**Growth retardation, rickets and osteomalacia**

**Defective vitamin D metabolism and  $\text{PO}_4^{3-}$  resorption**

**$\rightarrow \text{Ca}^{2+}$ ,  $\downarrow\downarrow \text{PO}_4^{3-}$ ,  $\uparrow \text{PTH}$ ,  $\downarrow 1,25(\text{OH})_2\text{D}$**

**Rx  $1,25(\text{OH})_2\text{D}_3$  and phosphate supplements cures the rickets**



# Hyperphosphataemia

# Hyperphosphataemia

## Mechanism

**Redistribution of  $\text{PO}_4^{3-}$  out of cells**

Rhabdomyolysis, tumour lysis syndrome, trauma

**Decreased renal excretion**

Renal failure

Hypoparathyroidism

Pseudohypoparathyroidism

Impaired FGF23 signalling

**Increased intestinal absorption**

phosphate laxatives and enemas

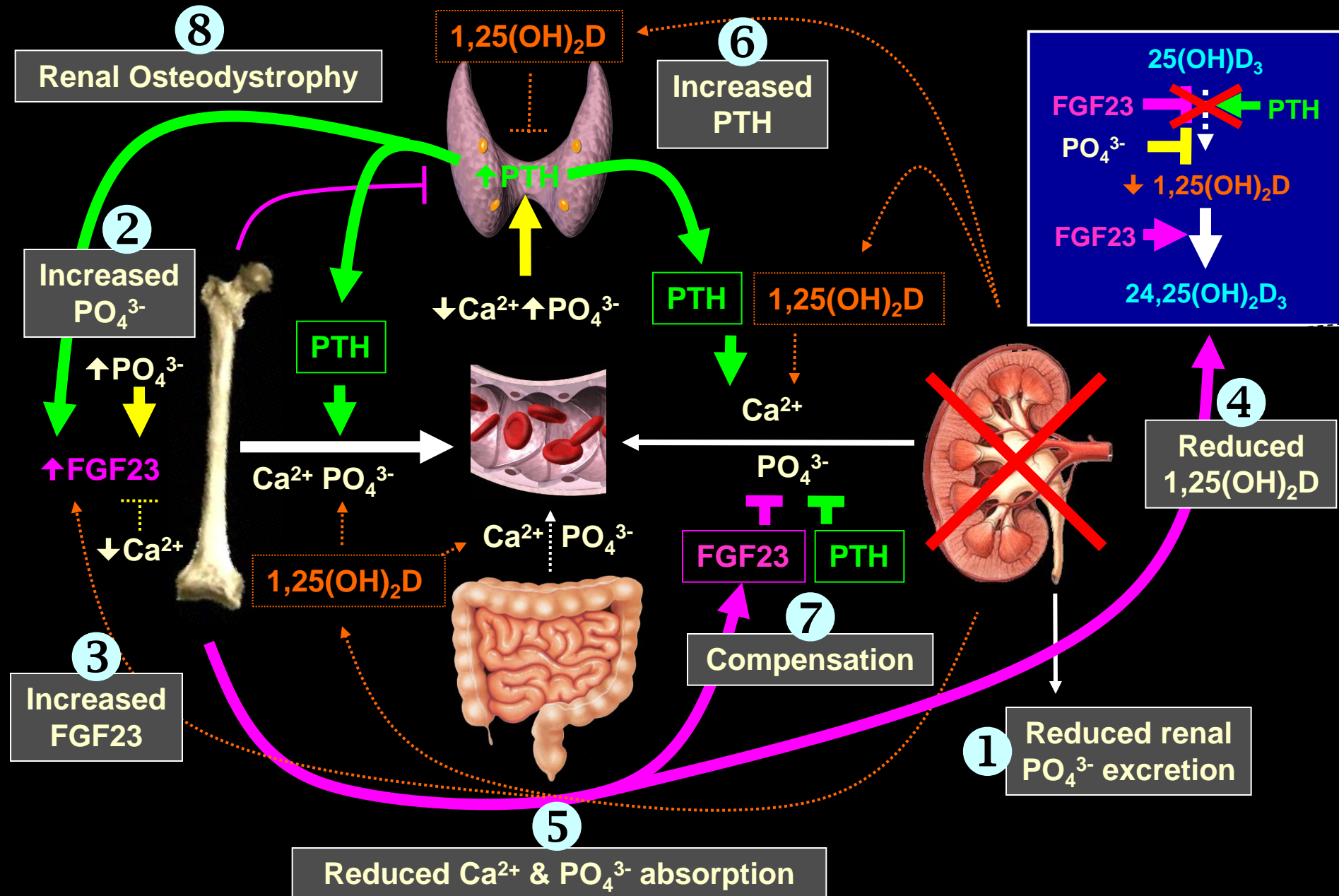
# Phosphate homeostasis in CKD

Highest FGF23 levels are found in end stage CKD (100-1000x)

Early CKD (GFR<90): Nephron loss results in reduced filtered  $\text{PO}_4^{3-}$   
Increased FGF23 stimulates urinary  $\text{PO}_4^{3-}$  excretion  
Reduced  $1,25(\text{OH})_2\text{D}$  increases PTH which stimulates  $\text{PO}_4^{3-}$  excretion  
FGF23 compensation prevents hyperphosphataemia

End stage CKD: Failure of compensation  
Hyperphosphataemia despite extremely high FGF23 levels  
FGF23 levels correlate with  
BMD, LVH, vascular calcification, CKD progression and mortality

# Chronic Kidney Disease



# Prevention and treatment of CKD

Treat once  $\uparrow\text{PO}_4^{3-}$ ,  $\downarrow 1,25(\text{OH})_2\text{D}$

(CKD stage 3 Cr/Clearance  $<60\text{ml/min/1.73m}^2$ )

Oral phosphate binders

(reduce  $\text{PO}_4^{3-}$  absorption from gut)

Calcitriol ( $1,25(\text{OH})_2\text{D}_3$ )

(reduces PTH and improves mineralisation)

# References

## General

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## Vitamin D

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**Bouillon R et al (2008) Vitamin D and human health: lessons from vitamin D receptor null mice. Endocr Rev. 29:726-76.**

## FGF23

**Razzaque MS, Lanske B. (2007) The emerging role of the fibroblast growth factor-23-klotho axis in renal regulation of phosphate homeostasis. J Endocrinol. 194:1-10.**

# Learning objectives

1. Describe the common causes of hypocalcaemia.
2. Describe the signs and symptoms of hypocalcaemia
3. Describe the common causes of hypercalcaemia.
4. Describe the signs and symptoms of hypercalcaemia
5. Describe the investigation and management of 1<sup>o</sup>HPT
6. Describe the causes of hypercalcaemia and undetectable PTH
7. Describe the signs and symptoms of vitamin D deficiency in children
8. Describe the signs and symptoms of vitamin D deficiency in adults
9. Describe the investigation and management of vitamin D deficiency
10. Describe how chronic renal failure affects FGF23, 1,25(OH)<sub>2</sub>D and PTH
11. Explain why 1,25(OH)<sub>2</sub>D is used in treatment of chronic renal failure