

Acid Reflux

World Health Mall, Inc. finds that this disorder is the result of fungus that has migrated upward into the stomach which has now diluted the hydrochloric acid secreted to digest proteins.

The diluted or muted hydrochloric acid signal to the muscle valve at the top of the stomach is so weak the valve stays open allowing acid to move upwards towards the mouth. This action is misunderstood as too much acid.

Acid Reflux Drugs May Up Fractures

Medications Called Proton-Pump Inhibitors May Weaken Bones, Study Shows

By [Daniel DeNoon](#)
WebMD Medical News

Reviewed By [Brunilda Nazario, MD](#)
on Tuesday, December 26, 2006

Dec. 26, 2006 – [Proton-pump inhibitors](#) -- the popular drugs that fight stomach acid -- increase the risk of hip fractures, a U.S. study shows.

The drugs are [Aciphex](#), [Nexium](#), [Prevacid](#), [Prilosec](#) (called Losec in Europe), and Protonix. The drugs shut down the chemical "pump" needed by stomach cells to make acid. They are very effective for treating GERD (gastrointestinal reflux disease).

That makes the acid-fighting drugs very popular. Together they rang up nearly \$13 billion in U.S. sales in 2005 -- a year in which American doctors wrote more than 95 million prescriptions for the drugs. Prilosec is now available over the counter.

Now a new study shows that when taken long term the drugs may have a side effect: hip fracture. People over age 50 who take the drugs for more than one year have a 44% increased risk of breaking a hip, find University of Pennsylvania researchers Yu-Xiao Yang, MD, and colleagues.

Taking proton-pump inhibitors at higher doses -- and for longer periods -- dramatically increases the risk. Long-term, high-dose use of the drugs ups the risk of hip fracture by 245%.

"Proton-pump inhibitor therapy is associated with a significantly higher risk of hip fractures, with the highest risk seen among those receiving high-dose proton-pump-inhibitor therapy," Yang and colleagues conclude.

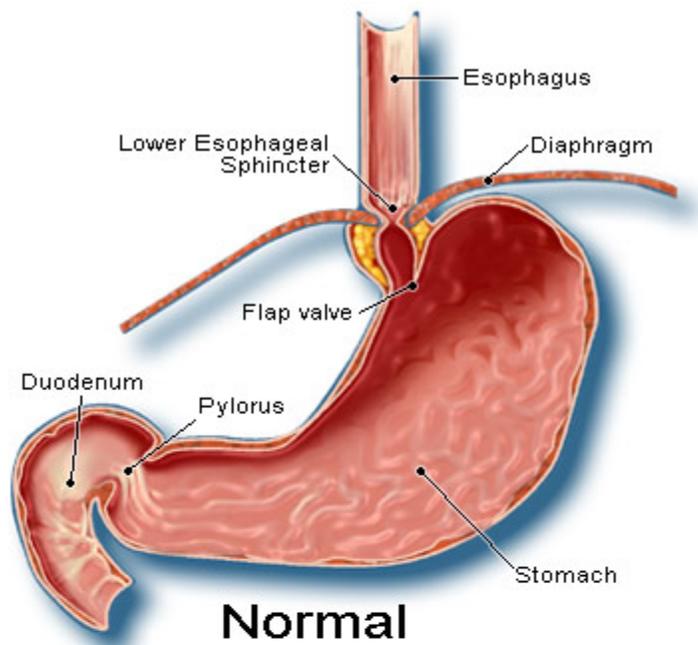
The findings appear in the Dec. 27 issue of *The Journal of the American Medical Association*.

Proton Pump Inhibitors and Calcium

Yang and colleagues analyzed medical records on patients treated in the U.K. between 1987 and 2003. The study included 13,556 patients with hip fractures and 135,386 patients without fractures.

After controlling for all variables -- including a diagnosis of [GERD](#) -- hip fractures were strongly associated with use of proton-pump inhibitors.

STOMACH BELOW



© MedicineNet, Inc.

