

Letter of Introduction

Welcome!

This Slide Kit has been developed to facilitate the understanding and teaching of the Fracture Risk Assessment Tool (FRAX[®]) for interested clinicians and healthcare professionals.

The CD-ROM contain the most relevant data linked to the development of FRAX[®], with commentaries highlighting the key messages to convey when speaking about fracture risk. The designed slides are there for you to use and can be easily inserted into your own presentations.

FRAX[®] is a simple web-tool that integrates clinical information in a quantitative manner to predict a 10-year probability of major osteoporotic fracture for both women and men in different countries. It is a practical tool derived from a series of meta-analyses using the primary data from population-based cohorts that have identified several clinical risk factors for fracture. The performance characteristics of clinical risk factors have been validated in independent, population-based prospectively studied cohorts with over a million person-years of observation.

The ultimate aim of the clinician in the management of osteoporosis should be to reduce the risk of fractures. Treatment decisions must be made through good clinical judgment and through improved identification of patients at high risk. At a primary health care level, FRAX[®] will assist in the better targeting of women and men in need of intervention and in the improved allocation of limited healthcare resources towards patients most likely to benefit from treatment.

We hope you find this Slide Kit a useful resource,

Prof. John Kanis

Professor Emeritus in Metabolic Bone Diseases, *University of Sheffield (UK)*
Director of *WHO Collaborating Centre for Metabolic Bone Diseases*
President of the *International Osteoporosis Foundation*

Dr. Eugene McCloskey

Reader in Adult Bone Disease, *University of Sheffield (UK)*
Member of the Committee of Scientific Advisors (CSA) of the *International Osteoporosis Foundation*

Dr. Nansa Burlet

Science Manager, *International Osteoporosis Foundation*

Dr. Denys Wahl

CSA Coordinator, *International Osteoporosis Foundation*