What is already known on this topic

Multiple myeloma is an important differential diagnosis in patients with suspected osteoporosis as it affects patients of the same age and often causes bone fragility.

Monoclonal gamopathy of undetermined significance is a benign disorder, but patients should be monitored for progression to malignancy.

What this study adds

One in 20 patients presenting with osteoporosis have an M component in serum.

Multiple myeloma is 75 times more common in patients with osteoporosis.

Measurement of M component in serum may be particularly important in patients with fragility fractures.

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Corrections and clarifications

Short cuts: What’s new in the other general journals

We lost a decade somehow when, in the 12 March issue, we cited the reference to the last item (“Review supports more optimistic view of phase I trials in adults with cancer”) in this section (BMJ 2005;330:561-2). The article about risks and benefits of phase I oncology trials was of course published this year, not in 1995. The correct reference is therefore: New England Journal of Medicine 2005;352:895-904.

Cognitive behaviour therapy for adolescents with chronic fatigue syndrome: randomised controlled trial

In the paper by Maja Stulmeiner and colleagues the drop-out rate from treatment in the group allocated to immediate cognitive behaviour therapy was given as 19% (BMJ 2005;330:14-7, 1 January). This should have been 17% (6/35). Also, in the footnote to table 4 (full version only) the cut-off score on the fatigue was given as ≥35.7. As the paper indicates that patients were considered to be improved if the score was <35.7, reflecting less fatigue, the cut off in the footnote would be better presented as <35.7 to match the presentation in the text.

Contributors: See bmj.com

References


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