BACKGROUND

- Osteoporosis is one of the major geriatric health disorders.
- Inadequate persistence in osteoporosis therapy may fail to reach the optimal outcomes and yield the extra cost.
- Major research is needed to quantify the association between persistence and the incidence of fracture among patients with osteoporosis in Taiwan.

METHODS

- Study Design: A retrospective cross-sectional study using the National Health Insurance Research Database in Taiwan from 2003 to 2005 was conducted.
- Data Source: National Health Insurance Research Database contains information for the population (23,006,000 people approximately covered by the National Health Insurance in Taiwan).

RESULTS

- A total of 126,812 patients were eligible for our analysis.
- Table 1 provides the summary of baseline characteristics for the included patients. The most common prescription among the included patients was adenosine.
- Kaplan-Meier curves (Figures 1 and 2) and life tables (Figure 3) demonstrate the remaining proportions of different times points. A stair-step proportion (13.0%) stepped out during the 6-month follow-up.
- The Cox proportional regression was used to evaluate the covariates associated with non-persistence in Table 2. Patients who live in the region that had lower urbanization level and patients who had 1–2 gastrointestinal adverse events within 1 year before index prescription were much likely to terminate the treatment.
- There were inverse relationships between patient’s persistence and their relative risk of hospital fracture incidence (See Figure 4).

CONCLUSIONS

- The present study observes the treatment persistence of osteoporosis users assesses its impact on the risk of fracture among women in Taiwan.
- The Cox proportional regression was used to measure the incidence rate of fracture within 3 years after osteoporosis treatment.
- Statistical analyses were conducted in SAS 9.2.

REFERENCE