According to the International Osteoporosis Foundation, osteoporosis causes more than 8.9 million fractures annually, resulting in an osteoporotic fracture every 3 seconds. Studies suggest that in the United States approximately one in two women and up to one in four men age 50 and older will break a bone due to osteoporosis.

This program provides an overview of osteoporosis and the various agents available for its prevention and treatment. Participants will explore essential patient management strategies. Special emphasis will be given to dental patients taking bisphosphonates and other anti-resorptive medications.

**Learning Objectives:**

- Describe bone metabolism and the pathophysiology of osteoporosis.
- Identify the various agents used in the prevention and treatment of osteoporosis, including their adverse reactions and dental considerations.
- Describe the role of anti-resorptive medications, including oral bisphosphonates, in the treatment of osteoporosis.
- Examine the pathophysiology of medication-associated osteonecrosis and treatment guidelines for patients receiving anti-resorptive medication therapy.

**Suggested Audience:**
Dentist, Dental Hygienist, Full Team

**Suggested Format:**
Partial Day; Lecture, Workshop, Keynote

**“Bad to the Bone”**

**Osteoporosis: Its Treatment and the Link to Osteonecrosis**

Much misinformation exists about osteoporosis and the dental effects of the medications used in its prevention and treatment.