

Denosumab

[Den-OZ-you-mab]
Prolia®

<http://Rheuminfo.com>
your rheumatology resource

How to use this medication

What is it



Denosumab is a medication used to treat thinning of the bones (called osteoporosis).

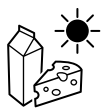
Take it every six (6) months by injection



Denosumab is given once every 6 months by an injection. The normal dose is 60 mg. Your doctor or a nurse can give it.

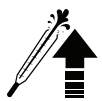
What you need to do

Take calcium & vitamin D



To help build your bones you should take calcium & vitamin D while taking denosumab. Your doctor will tell you the right amount of calcium and vitamin D for you.

Tell your doctor if you have an infection



Denosumab can make it harder for you to fight infections. It is best to seek medical attention if you have a fever or think you have an infection. Phone your doctor for advice.

Don't get pregnant or breastfeed



Do not take denosumab if you are pregnant or plan to become pregnant.

Pain in the jaw



Medicines like denosumab have been associated with a very rare problem with the jaw (osteonecrosis). This problem has been seen after dental work. Let your doctor know if you develop sudden pain in the jaw.

Bone mineral density (BMD) testing



Your doctor will monitor your response to denosumab by testing your BMD. This is usually done every 1 to 3 years. Talk to your doctor.

Side effects & important facts

Rash



Denosumab can cause a rash, itching, or dry skin. Let your doctor know if you develop a rash while taking denosumab.

Muscle & bone pain



Denosumab can cause bone, muscle, or joint pain.

Low calcium

Ca
calcium

Denosumab can lower the calcium in the blood. This is very rare. Tell your doctor if you develop:

- Tingling in the hands, feet, or around your mouth
- Muscle cramps or twitching
- Muscle weakness

When should I call my doctor

Please call if you need to stop



- If you feel sick and want to stop
- If you are concerned about any side effects
- If you want to or have already stopped the medicine

Other reasons to call your doctor:



Tingling in hands, feet or around mouth



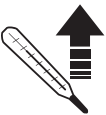
Pregnant or Planning Pregnancy



New severe pain in the jaw



Muscle cramps, pain, or weakness



Fever or think you have an infection

Other important information

Stopping denosumab



You can simply stop taking denosumab. Please let your doctor know if you decide to stop the medication.