



## Role of bone morphogenic protein in osteoporotic fracture a study done on rat models

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### Abstract

**Introduction:** Osteoporosis is a common health problem of elderly people and post menopausal female in whom aetiological withdrawal leads to further decrease in bone density. Low bone mass in osteoporotic bone makes the bone fragile and more susceptible to fracture. Bone morphogenic protein plays a critical role in it. It was initially discovered as a component of demineralised bone extracts that promote bone healing. Aim of this study was to determine the effect of single dose of bone morphogenic protein (BMP-7) Plus a collagen composite in fracture healing in osteoporotic rat models.

**Methods:** 40 Albino Female rat. Ovariectomy was done. After three months mid shaft fracture of femur on the left side was performed and the fracture was fixed with K-wire 1.6mm diameter. Rats were randomized into groups each group has (n=20). One group was given BMP-7+ collagen- I 68.77mg collagen-I. Collagen -I alone was used in other group (0.2ml) as control at the fracture site. Muscle and skin were then closed at the end of the procedure. Rats from each group were examined at day 12, 20 and 31 post surgery. X-ray film was taken in each rat in frontal projection.

**Observation:** Radiographs were examined to numerically describe the callus formed in both groups. Significant enhancement in callus formation and maturity was observed in the group treated with BMP-7 at all points of time. Bridging callus and fracture remodeling was visible in radiographs of BMP-7 treated group which indicates more active. Fracture healing in the presence of BMP-7 that in control group.

**Conclusion:** Osteoporosis is a growing health problem. It is characterized by a high risk of bone fracture and the healing process is also retarded. There are few treatment options available for osteoporosis. This study shows that BMP-7 increases healing potency in long bone fractures in experimental rat models. BMP-7 stimulates new bone formation, increases bone mineral density and enhances the strength of bone as compared to control.

**Keywords:** morphogenic protein, osteoporotic, fracture, osteoporosis

### Introduction

Osteoporosis is a common health problem of elderly people and post menopausal female in whom aetiological withdrawal leads to further decrease in bone density. Low bone mass in osteoporotic bone makes the bone fragile and more susceptible to fracture. Lack of oestrogen retards bone formation therefore the healing is also impaired. Fracture healing process in Osteoporosis should be enhanced and Bone morphogenic protein plays a critical role in it. It was initially discovered as a component of demineralised bone extracts that promote bone healing. Aim of this study was to determine the effect of single dose of bone morphogenic protein (BMP-7) Plus a collagen composite in fracture healing in osteoporotic rat models.

### Materials and Methods

Study was performed in the department of Pharmacology MGM Medical College Jamshedpur.

40 Albino Female rat. Ovariectomy was done. After three months mid shaft fracture of femur on the left side was performed and the fracture was fixed with K-wire 1.6mm diameter. Wire was passed in the retrograde manner in proximal fragment than into distal fragment. Rats were randomized into groups each group has (n=20). One group was

given BMP-7+ collagen- I 68.77mg collagen-I.

Collagen -I alone was used in other group (0.2ml) as control at the fracture site. Muscle and skin were then closed at the end of the procedure. The procedure was performed under inhalational anesthesia by using Halothane.

Rats from each group were examined at day 12, 20 and 31 post surgery.

X-ray film was taken in each rat in frontal projection. For better observation they were exposed for 60 Sec at 20kv. Three observers examined the film and the following tools were used by the observers independently.

Radiographs were graded in the following manners and the mean I standard error was calculated

**Grade I:** No callus visible

**Grade II:** Small amount of flabby callus present at bone ends.

**Grade III:** External bridging callus

**Grade IV:** Bridging callus with callus between bone ends.

These parameters were assigned points in following way:-

1. Visible callus on one side of fracture at one end-4
2. Bridging callus on one side -2
3. Callus between fracture fragments on one side-2
4. Evidence of remodeling of callus on one side-2

Points were added to get a score ranging from 0 to 10

### Observation & Discussion

Radiographs were examined to numerically describe the callus formed in both groups. Significant enhancement in callus formation and maturity was observed in the group treated with BMP-7 at all point of time. Bridging callus and fracture remodeling was visible in radiographs of BMP-7 treated group which indicates more active. Fracture healing in the presence of BMP-7 that in control group.

**Table 1**

Day	Treatment	Grade	Score
12	BMP-7	3.26 ± 0.35	6.24 ± 1.2
20	BMP-7	3.33 ± 0.35	7.27 ± 2.0
31	BMP-7	3.47 ± 0.28	7.99 ± 1.33

**Table 2**

Day	Treatment	Grade	Score
12	Control	1.04 ± 0.22	0.1 ± 0.23
20	Control	1.43 ± 0.4	1.3 ± 0.1
31	Control	1.7 ± 0.23	2.7 ± 1.27

All the results were reported as mean ± S.D Differences were significant in both groups P<0.05.

### Conclusion

Osteoporosis is a growing health problem. It is characterized by a high risk of bone fracture and the healing process is also retarded. There are few treatment options available for osteoporosis. This study shows that BMP-7 increases healing potency in long bone fractures in experimental rat models. BMP-7 stimulates new bone formation, increases bone mineral density and enhances the strength of bone as compared to control.

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