

# Endodontic Implications of Medication-Related Osteonecrosis of the Jaw

## AAE GUIDELINE

In 2010 and 2018, the AAE published a position statement on Endodontic Implications of Bisphosphonate-Associated Osteonecrosis of the Jaws, concluding that “it would appear prudent to consider all patients taking bisphosphonates to be at some risk of ONJ.”

The AAE continues to reaffirm this and provides the following updated information:

In 2022, the American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons published a new position paper, Medication-Related Osteonecrosis of the Jaw—2022 Update. This new update sets out to add revisions to the pathogenesis and management strategies and highlights the current research status available.

With respect to the risk of ONJ associated with endodontic procedures, the report indicates that, in the absence of supporting data, the risk of “other dentoalveolar operations such as dental implant placement and endodontic or periodontal procedures is unknown.” The report further emphasizes that clinicians should regard all patients receiving bisphosphonate therapy as having some degree of ONJ risk. The AAE therefore advises endodontists to be thoroughly familiar with the AAOMS recommendations for the diagnosis, prevention, and management of patients who have been treated with antiresorptive or antiangiogenic agents.

For endodontic practice, particular emphasis should be placed on the prescreening and routine surveillance as the report states that ‘there is a robust level of support for early screening and initiation of appropriate dental care prior to the initiation of antiresorptive therapy.’

**Distribution Information** AAE members may reprint this position statement for distribution to patients or referring dentists.

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