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## Please sound off on the following issue.

An important clinical question has arisen in a recent study\*1 of the effects of calcitonin-salmon nasal spray on the trabecular microarchitecture of the bone. The study also examines the use of MRI technology to observe trabecular changes. The study showed that calcitonin-salmon improved or preserved trabecular microarchitecture. Paradoxically, however, this improved trabecular microarchitecture occurred in the absence of a corresponding significant increase in BMD. This prompts the following speculation:

Improving trabecular microarchitecture is as important for strengthening bone as is improving BMD.

Somewhat agree

Strongly agree

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| Of equivalent importance Osomewhat disagree Ostrongly disagree                                |   |
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\*A 2-year prospective trial (Qualitative Evaluation of Salmon Calcitonin Therapy [QUEST] study) of 91 postmenopausal osteoporotic women using a unique noninvasive MRI technique to assess trabecular microarchitecture of the radius, hip, and os calcis in patients receiving 200 IU calcitonin-salmon nasal spray or placebo, with calcium daily. Study was performed with another commercially available calcitonin-salmon nasal spray.

**Reference: 1.** Chesnut CH, Majumdar S, Newitt DC, et al. Effects of salmon calcitonin on trabecular microarchitecture as determined by magnetic resonance imaging: results from the QUEST study. *J Bone Miner Res.* 2005:20:1548-1561.

