## Bone mineral density in premenopausal women with systemic lupus erythematosus

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The aim of this work was to ev aluafe; bohe mineral density (BMD) In premenopausal female patients with SLE and to assess the influence ofbles and use of corticosteroids. We analysed only the disease related variagremenopausal SLE patients to eliminate the confounding effect of menopause on bone loss . This study was carred out on forty pre-menopausal patients withhematosus (SLE) attending the out patient clinic or systemic lupus erytwere admitted to the inpatient unit of the Rheumatology De artment of PBertha University Hospitals . All Patients fulfilled the revised criteria for classification of SLE ofCollege of Rheumatology (Tan el a1.,1982). All Patients the American geir ages ranged from 18 to 44 years with a mean of 24.6 were females . Th+ 4.4 years . Their disease duration ranged from 6 months to 13 years with a mean of  $8.8 \pm 3.4$  years . Also , 20 healthy control subjectsany relevant disease were included in the study. All apparently free fromears with a mean ofwere females and their ages ranged from 19 to 39 y25.8 + 5 yearsExclusion Criteria included patients with impaired renal functione >1.3mg/d1), pregnancy or hyperthyroidism, transient (serum creatininamenorrhea lasting >2 months , and any medication known to affect bonelements andmetabolism, with the excepation of calcium suppcorticosteroids (i.e., anticoagulants, barbiturates, calcitanin, thiazides, estrogenic hormones).