Summary – Key Findings

Burden of Osteoporosis, Osteopenia and Associated Fractures in Western Australia

Poor Bone Health: 2012-2022

- By 2022, it is estimated there will be 677,800 older people in Western Australia with low bone mass, an increase of 45% from 2012.
- 567,000 adults in Western Australia aged 50 years and older (66%) have osteoporosis or osteopenia (poor bone health) in 2017.
- 467,000 adults in Western Australia aged 50 years and older (66%), had osteoporosis or osteopenia (poor bone health) in 2012.
- Among people in Western Australia aged 50 years and older, 14% had osteoporosis and 52% have osteopenia.
- Among people in Western Australia aged 70 years and older, 43% of women and 13% of men had osteoporosis (47,000 women and 11,000 men).

Fracture Impact: 2012-2022

- The total number of fractures over the ten year period 2013 to 2022 is projected to be 171,000.
- In 2022 it is expected there will be a 51% increase in the annual number of fractures (over 10 years) resulting in 20,470 fractures per annum.
- In 2022 there will be 56 fractures every day among older adults in Western Australia. Approximately one in six of these fractures will be a hip fracture.
- In 2017 there will be 46 fractures each day among older adults in Western Australia.

Cost Impact: 2012-2022

- The total direct costs of fractures over the ten years 2013 to 2022 will be $2.2 billion (2012$). These costs include ambulance services, hospitalisations and emergency and outpatient departments, rehabilitation, limited aged care and community services.
- In 2017 the total direct costs of osteoporosis and osteopenia in Western Australian adults aged 50 years and over will be $307 million of which $211 million (69%) relates to the treatment of fractures.
- In 2012 the total direct costs of osteoporosis and osteopenia in Western Australian adults aged 50 years and over, were almost $250 million of which $170 million (69%) relates to the treatment of fractures.
People in Western Australia over 50 estimated to have osteoporosis or osteopenia in 2022

68% 677,800
People in Western Australia over 50

Number of fractures due to osteoporosis and osteopenia

2022 20,470
2012 13,600


$2.2 billion total cost over 10 years