Treating osteoporosis with teriparatide: many unknowns?

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Authors' objectives
To summarize the available information on the use of teriparatide (rDNA origin) injections (Forteo(TM), manufactured by Eli Lilly and Company) to treat patients with osteoporosis who are at high risk for fracture.

Authors' conclusions
Because of the safety concerns and the lack of efficacy and effectiveness data, it is difficult to define teriparatide's role in the treatment of osteoporosis. This is compounded by the possible long-term antagonizing effect of bisphosphonates on teriparatide's bone-forming properties. Teriparatide may also be expensive.

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