

Table 2. Prevalence of adverse effects.

	Alendronate N(%)	Etidronate N(%)	Risedronate N(%)
Patients treated	710	181	130
Adverse effects	179 (25.2) ^b	20 (11.1)	27 (20.8) ^b
permanent drug discontinuation (percentage of patients that used bisphosphonates)	149 (21.0) ^b	14 (7.7)	18 (13.8)
permanent drug discontinuation (percentage of patients that experienced AEs)	149 (83.2)	14 (70.0)	18 (66.7)
GI system AEs	149 (21.0) ^b	18 (9.9)	20 (15.4)
upper GI system AEs	134 (18.9) ^b	16 (8.8)	17 (13.1)
lower GI system AEs	15 (2.1)	2 (1.1)	3 (2.3)
Non-GI system AEs	30 (4.2)	2 (1.1)	7 (5.4)
History of GI system disease	95 (13.4)	54 (29.8) ^a	30 (23.1) ^a
AEs in patients with history of GI system disease	42 (44.2) ^b	11 (20.4)	12 (40.0)

AEs: adverse effects, GI: gastro-intestinal. Data are presented as absolute values (percentage). ^a $p < 0.05$ vs. alendronate, ^b $p < 0.05$ vs. etidronate (Mantel-Haenszel).