

Table 4. Time of adverse effect presentation.

	Alendronate	Etidronate	Risedronate
	N(%)	N(%)	N(%)
Patients treated	710	181	130
Patients with AEs	179 (25.2) ^b	20 (11.1)	27 (20.8) ^b
Duration of drug administration months (range)	6-78	6-54	6-24
Onset of AEs post initiation			
within first week	38 (21.2) ^b	12 (60.0)	10 (37.0)
within first month	69 (38.5)	14 (70.0) ^a	17 (63.0) ^a
2-6 months	102 (57.0)	0 (0.0)	23 (85.2)
during the 1st year	125 (69.8)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)
at the end of the 1st year	16 (8.9)	4 (20.0)	3 (11.1)
during the 2nd year	28 (15.6)	2 (10.0)	1 (3.7)
during the 3rd year	7 (3.9)	-	-
during the 4th year	2 (1.1)	-	-
during the 5th year	1 (0.6)	-	-

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).