

Table 5. Adverse effects from the gastro-intestinal system.

	Alendronate N(%)	Etidronate N(%)	Risedronate N(%)
Patients with AEs	179 (25.2)	20 (11.1)	27 (20.8)
GI system AEs	149	18	20
Upper GI system AEs	134 (74.9)	16 (80.0)	17 (63.0)
esophageal disease: gastroesophageal reflux, esophagitis	44 (32.8)	5 (31.3)	7 (41.2)
gastric disease: gastritis, ulcer, epigastric pain	81 (60.5)	11 (68.7)	8 (47.1)
non-specific GI disease: nausea, vomiting	8 (6.0)	0 (0.0)	2 (11.7)
upper GI hemorrhage	1 (1.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)
Lower GI system AEs	15 (8.4)	2 (10.0)	3 (11.1)
flatulence, abdominal pain	7 (46.6)	0 (0.0)	2 (66.7)
constipation	4 (26.7)	1 (50.0)	0 (0.0)
diarrhea	4 (26.7)	0 (0.0)	1 (33.3)
ulcerative colitis	0 (0.0)	1 (50.0)	0 (0.0)

AEs: adverse effects, GI: gastro-intestinal. Data are presented as absolute values (percentage).