

## **About World Osteoporosis Day**

Every year on 20 October, World Osteoporosis Day marks the beginning of a year-long campaign dedicated to raising global awareness of the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of osteoporosis and related musculoskeletal diseases. Organized by the International Osteoporosis Foundation (IOF), World Osteoporosis Day launches campaigns and activities by national osteoporosis patient societies all across the world. Year by year the campaign draws increasing global media coverage.

In 2011, IOF launched the first dedicated website for World Osteoporosis Day [www.worldosteoporosisday.org](http://www.worldosteoporosisday.org) , updated annually to reflect the current campaign.

## **History of World Osteoporosis Day**

The first World Osteoporosis Day took place on 20 October 1996 under the direction of the United Kingdom's National Osteoporosis Society and supported by the European Commission. Since 1997, the day has been organized by IOF. In 1998 and 1999, the World Health Organization acted as co-sponsor of World Osteoporosis Day. Since 1999 World Osteoporosis Day campaigns have featured a specific theme:

2012: Secondary fracture prevention  
2011: Vitamin D, Calcium and Exercise  
2010: Signs and Symptoms of Spinal Fractures  
2009: Advocate for Policy Change  
2008: Advocate for Policy Change  
2007: Risk Factors  
2006: Nutrition  
2005: Exercise  
2004: Osteoporosis in Men  
2003: Quality of Life  
2002: Preventing a First Fracture  
2001: Bone Development in Youth  
2000: Building Bone Health  
1999: Early Detection