

**PARTNERSHIP ORGANISATIONS INVOLVED
IN THE BJD WITHIN AUSTRALIA ARE:**

Arthritis Australia

(including State/Territory Offices)

Australia and New Zealand

Bone and Mineral Society

Australia and New Zealand

Society of Biomechanics

Australian Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine

Australian Musculoskeletal Imaging Group

Australian Orthopaedic Association

Australian Physiotherapy Association

Australian Rheumatology Association

Chiropractors' Association of Australia

Department of Health and Ageing

Matrix Biology Society of

Australia and New Zealand

Osteoporosis Australia

Sports Medicine Australia

MAJOR SPONSORS INCLUDE:

Abbott Australia

AstraZeneca

Boehringer Ingelheim

GlaxoSmithKline Australia

Merck Sharp & Dohme

Medtronic Sofamor Danek

Pfizer

Pharmacia

Sanofi-Aventis

Smith & Nephew Surgical

Stryker South Pacific

Zimmer



For Further Information

Visit our Website at:

www.bjd.org.au

Or Email:

info@bjd.org.au

Or Phone:

1800 655 404

THE BONE & JOINT DECADE 2000-2010



Bone and Joint Health

“the business of every Australian”

www.bjd.org.au



WHAT IS THE BONE & JOINT DECADE?

The Bone and Joint Decade (BJD) was initiated by the United Nations and the World Health Organisation to improve the health-related quality of life for people with musculoskeletal disorders.

The BJD has four main aims...

1. To raise public awareness of the growing burden of musculoskeletal disorders on society,
2. To promote education and empower patients to participate in their own bone and joint health care.
3. To promote cost-effective prevention, diagnosis and treatment of musculoskeletal disorders.
4. To advance understanding of musculoskeletal disorders through further medical and public health research.

Professional organisations, patient advocacy groups, governments, industry and researchers are all working together to achieve these aims.

WHY HAVE A DECADE ON BONES AND JOINTS?

AND WHY NOW – 2000 TO 2010?

There is an epidemic of musculoskeletal disease occurring worldwide as the population ages.

Disorders such as osteoporosis, osteoarthritis, rheumatoid arthritis, low back pain, joint trauma and other joint diseases already affect hundreds of millions of people around the world.

A predicted doubling of people older than 50 by the year 2020 means many more will be suffering by this date unless bone and joint disease is made an international health priority.



In Australia, bone and joint conditions are the second most common cause of presentations to doctors in general practice and the third most expensive cause of health system expenditure.

The aim is that the BJD will focus attention on these important diseases, demonstrating to people in the community and healthcare providers that a relatively modest investment can produce significant benefits.

The Bone and Joint Decade will bring together these important strands of research, education and service to improve the quality of life of millions of Australians who suffer daily from a bone and joint condition.