Title: ATRAID, a genetic factor that regulates the action of nitrogen-containing bisphosphonates on bone

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71 **One Sentence Summary:** The identification of the gene, *ATRAID*, essential for responses to
72 the commonly prescribed osteoporosis drugs, nitrogen-containing bisphosphonates.
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75 **Abstract:**
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Nitrogen-containing bisphosphonates (N-BPs), such as alendronate (Fosamax®), are the

mostly widely prescribed medications for diseases involving bone (*1-3*), with nearly 200

million prescriptions written annually. In the last few years, widespread use of N-BPs has

been challenged due to the risk of rare but significant side effects such as atypical

femoral fractures (AFF) and osteonecrosis of the jaw (ONJ) (*4-7*). N-BPs bind to and

inhibit farnesyl diphosphate synthase (FDPS), resulting in defects in protein prenylation

(*8-10*). Yet it remains poorly understood what other cellular factors might allow N-BPs to

exert their pharmacological effects. Herein, we perform genome-wide studies in cells and

patients to identify the poorly characterized gene, *ATRAID*. Loss of *ATRAID* function

results in selective resistance to N-BP-mediated loss of cell viability and the prevention

of alendronate-mediated inhibition of prenylation. *ATRAID* is required for alendronate

inhibition of osteoclast function, and *ATRAID*-deficient mice have impaired therapeutic

responses to alendronate in both postmenopausal and senile (old age) osteoporosis

models. Lastly, we performed exome sequencing on patients taking N-BPs that suffered

ONJ or an AFF. *ATRAID* is one of three genes that contain rare non-synonymous coding

variants in the ONJ and AFF patients that is also differentially expressed in poor

outcome groups of patients treated with N-BPs. We functionally validated this patient

variation in *ATRAID* as conferring cellular hypersensitivity to N-BPs. Our work adds key

insight into the mechanistic action of N-BPs and the processes that might underlie

differential responsiveness to N-BPs in people.

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INTRODUCTION

Nitrogen-containing bisphosphonates (N-BPs) are the standard treatment for osteoporosis and several other bone diseases (*11, 12*). Certain N-BPs (pamidronate (Aredia®), zoledronate (Zometa®)) are also routinely prescribed to prevent skeletal complications in patients with multiple myeloma and with bone metastases from other malignancies, including breast and prostate cancer (*13*). However, because N-BPs cause rare yet serious side-effects, such as atypical fractures and osteonecrosis of the jaw, many patients avoid taking them (*5-7, 11*), causing the number of prescriptions to plummet over 50% in the last decade (*7, 14*). A plan for addressing this crisis, developed by American Society for Bone and Mineral Research (ASBMR) leadership, calls for better pharmacogenomics to identify genetic factors that may underlie response to this class of drugs (*7*).

A goal of personalized medicine is to identify biomarkers that underlie drug responsiveness. In the case of the N-BPs, it can be said that there are limited personalization options owing to the limited number of genes implicated in the pharmacologic effects of N-BPs. Exposure of cells to N-BPs leads to inhibition of farnesyl diphosphate synthase (FDPS, a.k.a., FPPS) resulting in reduction in protein prenylation (*15*). Based on this observation, it is widely believed that N-BPs act therapeutically by impairing protein prenylation, ultimately leading to deficits in numerous cellular processes including differentiation, recruitment, and adhesion of osteoclasts (the major bone resorptive cell type) to bone and/or osteoclast cell death (*16-18*). Recently we performed CRISPRi-based, genome-wide screening and identified a poorly characterized gene, *SLC37A3,* that provides molecular details for how N-BPs reach their target, FDPS (*19*). As part of that work we determined that SLC37A3 requires another poorly characterized protein, ATRAID, for its expression (*19*). In this work, we independently identified *ATRAID* using a different genome-wide, mutagenesis strategy. We generated *ATRAID* deficient mice and determined that it is required for the regulation of N-BPs on bone. We also performed exome sequencing in patients

taking N-BPs and identified and functionally validated rare coding variants in *ATRAID* in patients

that suffered side effects, namely atypical femoral fractures and osteonecrosis of the jaw.

RESULTS

ATRAID is required for molecular responses to nitrogen-containing bisphosphonates

To provide insight into the mechanism(s) of N-BPs action, we performed a genetic screen to

identify human genes required for the anti-proliferative effects of N-BPs (Fig. 1A). We made use

of a largely haploid human cell line of myeloid origin (KBM7, a.k.a. HAP1) to generate a library

of retroviral gene trap mutants (*20*), and then selected for clones which are resistant to cytotoxic

levels of alendronate (ALN). The advantages of this cell line for genetic screening include: 1)

each gene is present as a single copy, enabling gene inactivation (except those genes on

chromosome 8); 2) KBM7 cells are human and of the hematopoietic lineage, increasing the

likelihood that any genes we identify could be relevant to the natural context for N-BPs, the

bones of human patients (*21*); and 3) it is a different cell line and a different mutagenic approach

than that we used with CRISPRi in K562 cells (*19*), which allows us to independently assess

those results. Using this haploid approach, we identified, *ATRAID*, a.k.a., *APR-3/C2orf28* (*22*),

as the gene most significantly enriched for insertions in alendronate resistant cells compared to

untreated cells (Fig. 1B; fig. S1, A and B, and table S1). Providing confidence in our screen, we

also identified *SLC37A3* as well as *SNTG1*, *PLCL1*, and *EPHB1,* which have been previously

connected to N-BP action on bone cells and/or human bone diseases (table S1) (*23-25*).

ATRAID was named because it is a gene whose mRNA expression is strongly induced by the

ligand, all-trans retinoic acid (*22*). *ATRAID* is conserved in chordates and contains a signal

peptide, Toll-like-receptor leucine rich repeat, EGF-like domain, and a transmembrane domain

(Fig. 1C and fig. S1A) (*26, 27*). Importantly, the alendronate resistance phenotype of *ATRAID*

deficient cells (ATRAID_GT1 (gene-trap1) and ATRAID_GT2 (gene-trap2)) was reversed by the

re-introduction of wild-type *ATRAID* splice variant 2 (v2) or splice variant 3 (v3) cDNA, which

differ in their N-termini (Fig. 1D; fig. S1, A and B). To better understand the level of alendronate

resistance in *ATRAID* deficient cells, we varied both cell number and drug concentration in the

viability assay. *ATRAID* deficient cells were resistant to alendronate over two to three orders of

magnitude of drug concentration or cell number (fig. S1C). The growth of untreated wild-type

and *ATRAID* deficient cells didn't differ (fig. S1D). Overexpression of full-length ATRAID (v2)

sensitized cells to alendronate (fig. S1E). Lastly, ATRAID membrane targeting is required for the

anti-proliferative effects of alendronate, as *ATRAID* deficient cells complemented with full-length

ATRAID (v2) were sensitive to the cytotoxic effects of alendronate, whereas those expressing

the membrane truncated form remained resistant (fig. S1F). Taken together, these data

establish *ATRAID* as a genetic factor required for the growth inhibitory effects of alendronate.

N-BPs are part of a larger class of compounds known as bisphosphonates (BPs) that contain

two phosphate moieties each joined to a carbon atom by a carbon-phosphorus bond (*28*) (Fig.

1E). To determine whether the effects of *ATRAID* deficiency on alendronate resistance were

specific to nitrogen-containing bisphosphonates, we tested the effect of several nitrogen-

containing and non-nitrogen-containing bisphosphonates on wild-type and mutant *ATRAID* cells.

ATRAID deficient cells were resistant to the nitrogen-containing bisphosphonates, alendronate

and zoledronate (ZOL), but were as sensitive to the non-nitrogen-containing bisphosphonates,

etidronate and tiludronate, as control cells (Fig. 1E).

To determine whether *ATRAID* is required for the reduction in protein prenylation observed

upon N-BP treatment, we monitored the prenylation of several proteins, including the heat shock

protein DnaJ (Hsp40) homolog HDJ-2, and the Ras family GTPase Rap1a (*29*). Alendronate

strongly inhibited prenylation of HDJ-2 and Rap1a in wild-type cells in a dose dependent

manner and had much less of an effect on prenylation of these proteins in *ATRAID* deficient

cells (Fig. 1F). Furthermore, the inhibitory effect of alendronate on prenylation was rescued

when *ATRAID* cDNA variants (v2 and v3) were introduced (fig. S1F). We observed inhibition of

prenylation resistance at N-BP doses where we did not see PARP-1 cleavage in *ATRAID*

deficient cells, suggesting that *ATRAID* can mediate the effect on prenylation independent of

apoptosis (fig. S1G). Thus, these findings suggest *ATRAID* functions as a positive regulator

upstream of FDPS.

ATRAID is required for organismal responses to nitrogen-containing bisphosphonates

To determine whether ATRAID modulates organismal responses to N-BPs we inactivated

ATRAID globally in mice (*30*). We confirmed deletion of *ATRAID* exons 3-5 and determined that

ATRAID homozygous deleted *ATRAID*^{KO} mice (labeled KO, -/-) are viable but their body weight

is mildly reduced compared with litter-matched derived, wild-type controls (labeled as WT, +/+)

(fig. S2A-C). We confirmed that tail fibroblasts derived from *ATRAID*^{KO} animals are resistant to

the cytotoxic effects of alendronate (fig. S2, D and E). Before studying the effects of the N-BPs

in the context of *ATRAID* loss, we first characterized the basal role of *ATRAID* in bones. We

determined that *ATRAID* mRNA expression was undetectable in the bones of *ATRAID*^{KO}

animals and that *ATRAID*^{KO} mice had slightly smaller bones compared with litter-matched

derived, wild-type control mice (fig. S2, F and G). To examine the effects of *ATRAID* on bone

structure, we performed micro-computed tomography (μCT) analysis (*31*). *ATRAID* deficiency

did not significantly decrease either trabecular and cortical structural parameters (fig. S2, H and

I; table S2). We measured bone strength using three-point bending tests (*32*). Some measures,

such as stiffness (Newtons/millimeter, N/mm) and post-yield displacement (a measure of bone

fragility, in millimeters, mm) were decreased by *ATRAID* deficiency, whereas others, such as

yield load (the point where bone bending goes from elastic vs. plastic, in Newtons, N), were not

significantly altered (fig. S2, J-L; table S2).

Osteoclasts release degradation products from C-terminal telopeptides of type I collagen (CTX-

I) from bone into blood (*33*), and levels of CTX-I in serum were not significantly different in wild-

type mice compared with *ATRAID*^{KO} mice (fig. S2M; table S2). Histomorphometric measures of

osteoclast function including osteoclast surface per bone surface (Oc.S/BS) (*34*), as judged by

Tartrate Resistant Acid Phosphatase (TRAP) staining (*35*), were also not statistically different

(fig. S2N; table S2). Consistent with a basal defect in osteoblast function (*36*), *ATRAID*^{KO} mice

have reduced serum levels of circulating Gla-Osteocalcin (Gla-OC; the activated form of

osteocalcin, incorporated in bone matrix (*37*)) and modestly reduced bone formation rate (BFR)

as measured by double-labeling (*34*) (fig. S2, O and P; table S2).

To test the effect of alendronate in a model that mimics menopausal bone loss, the most

common indication for the N-BPs, we performed ovariectomies (OVX) on adult female mice

(Fig. 2A) (*38*). When ovaries are removed from females, the changes in estrogen cause a

reduction in bone density triggered by disruption of the balance of osteoblast and osteoclast

functions. This loss of bone density can be alleviated by treatment with N-BPs (*39*). The

magnitude of trabecular bone loss in WT and *ATRAID*^{KO} sham mice four weeks after OVX is

exemplified in the µCT 3D reconstruction of the femoral proximal metaphysis (Fig. 2B).

Consistent with alendronate preventing bone loss (*39*), femoral cortical and trabecular structural

parameters, including cortical thickness and area, bone volume/trabecular volume (%) and

trabecular thickness, were increased by alendronate treatment of WT OVX mice (Fig. 2, C-F

and table S2; see WT OVX +/- alendronate). In contrast, alendronate had blunted effects in

ATRAID^{KO} OVX mice (Fig. 2, C-F and table S2; see *ATRAID*^{KO} OVX +/- alendronate).

The same patterns of alendronate resistance in *ATRAID*^{KO} mice were observed for bone

strength (Fig. 2, G and H). That is, alendronate increased bone strength as judged by stiffness

and yield load in wild-type ovariectomized mice, but its effects were significantly blunted in

ATRAID[KO] matched cohorts (Fig. 2, G and H; table S2). Taken together, these results suggest

that ATRAID is required for the beneficial bone effects of N-BPs in ovariectomized female mice.

To test an additional osteoporosis model, we examined senile (i.e., old age) osteoporosis using

18 month-old male WT and *ATRAID* deficient mice (*40*). After treating these mice weekly with

alendronate or saline for two months, we found similar results to those in our OVX study. That

is, measures of bone density were increased by alendronate, but less so in the *ATRAID*

deficient mice (fig. S2, Q and R, table S2). This further suggests ATRAID is key for responses to

N-BPs in vivo.

ATRAID is required cell-autonomously for N-BP inhibition of osteoclast function

Because N-BPs potentially affect osteoclasts and osteoblasts, we investigated whether ATRAID

deficiency would regulate the effects of alendronate in each cell type in our osteoporosis

models, post-menopausal (OVX) and old-age (senile). Regarding osteoclasts, in wild-type mice

both serum and bone histological markers of osteoclast function, CTX-I, and osteoclast surface

per bone surface (Oc.S/BS) and osteoclast number per bone surface (N.Oc/BS), respectively,

were impaired by alendronate treatment (Fig. 3, A and B; fig. S3, A and B; table S3) in both

osteoporosis models. In contrast, in *ATRAID*[KO] mice, alendronate was less effective on

osteoclasts in both osteoporosis models (Fig. 3, A and B; fig. S3, A and B; table S3). That

osteoclast number was reduced by N-BPs in wild-type mice is consistent with our cell viability

measurements in non-osteoclasts (Fig. 1; fig. S1, S2) and with previous literature (*39*).

To provide insight into the effects of N-BPs on osteoblasts in our osteoporosis models, we

measured BFR and mineral apposition rate (MAR) (*34*). Unlike BFR where the bone formation

rate is normalized by the amount of labeled bone surface, MAR is the rate of bone formation

irrespective of how much of the bone is active (*34*). Alendronate did not affect trabecular MAR

or BFR in either wild-type or *ATRAID*^{KO} mice in either osteoporosis model (fig. S3, C and D;

table S3).

To determine whether *ATRAID* is required in a cell autonomous manner for the N-BP-

dependent effects on osteoclasts, we isolated M-CSF expanded, bone marrow macrophages

(BMMs) from both WT and ATRAID^{KO} mice, and differentiated these cells into osteoclasts

following a standard protocol (*41*). *ATRAID*^{KO} BMMs differentiated into osteoclasts as well as

wild-type cells irrespective of treatment with alendronate, yet BMM-derived *ATRAID*^{KO}

osteoclasts were resistant to alendronate-induced apoptosis (Fig. 3, C and D). This suggests

that *ATRAID* is required cell autonomously in osteoclasts for the effects of N-BPs on cell

number.

As an independent confirmation of our primary cell experiments, we generated *ATRAID*

knockout RAW 264.7 cells and differentiated them to osteoclasts (fig. S3E). RAW 264.7 cells

are a robust, well-characterized murine macrophage cell line that can be differentiated to

osteoclast-like cells using RANKL (*42*). We treated both RAW 264.7 cells and the RAW 264.7

cells differentiated into osteoclasts with alendronate, and found *ATRAID* deficiency*,* as

expected, conferred resistance to doses that induced apoptosis (Fig. 3E). Alendronate did not

affect known markers of osteoclast differentiation in wild-type cells (Fig. 3C). Therefore, to

pursue the mechanism of N-BPs on osteoclast function, we focused on prenylation. In

alendronate-treated RAW 264.7 and differentiated RAW 264.7 to osteoclast cells, we found

ATRAID^{KO} cells were resistant to alendronate-induced inhibition of prenylation (Fig. 3F).

We assessed whether wild-type osteoblasts might sensitize *ATRAID* deficient osteoclasts to N-

BPs. We cultured primary wild-type osteoblasts with either WT or *ATRAID* deficient primary

osteoclasts and treated these co-cultures with alendronate or vehicle. As in the case of WT

RAW 264.7 cells grown independently (Fig. 3, E and F), WT osteoclasts were significantly more

affected by alendronate than *ATRAID* deficient osteoclasts despite the presence of WT

osteoblasts in both cases (Fig. 3, G and H). In total, these findings suggest that ATRAID is

required for the cell-autonomous effects of N-BPs on osteoclasts.

Genetic factors involved in responses to nitrogen-containing bisphosphonates in

patients

We sought an unbiased approach to determine what genes might be relevant in patients treated

with N-BPs. We performed whole exome sequencing (WES) on two sets of patients taking N-

BPs who experienced side effects: osteoporotic patients who experienced atypical femoral

fractures (AFF) (n = 27 patients) as well as multiple myeloma and breast cancer patients who

experienced osteonecrosis of the jaw (ONJ) (n = 8 patients) and 11 control patients taking N-

BPs that didn't experience AFF or ONJ (Fig. 4A and table S4 for patient information; see also

Materials and Methods for details on how these datasets were generated and analyzed). We

also analyzed two published gene expression datasets involving patients who had taken N-BPs:

multiple myeloma patients who did or did not suffer ONJ when taking N-BPs (*43*); and breast

cancer patients with bone marrow disseminated tumor cells (DTC) which reoccurred or the

patient died less than 1000 days vs. greater than 2500 days following initiation of zoledronate

treatment (*44*) (Fig. 4A and table S4). We then compared the patient data to three cell-based,

genome-wide CRISPRi and CRISPRa screens we previously performed: alendronate and

zolendronate CRISPRi and alendronate CRISPRa (*19, 45*) (table S4). To identify genes

involved in N-BP response across experimental paradigms we generated a Venn diagram to

visualize the overlap of "hits". In comparing the WES hits – i.e., genes that had the same rare

coding variants (minor allele frequency < 0.05) in both AFF and ONJ patients but not in controls

– with our hits from our alendronate and zoledronate CRISPRi/a screens we identified 64 genes

in common including *ATRAID, FDPS,* and *SLC37A3* (Fig. 4A). When comparing the WES hits

with the gene expression hits we identified 49 genes, while the CRISPRi/a and gene expression

studies had 76 genes in common (Fig. 4A). Three genes, *ATRAID, ATR,* and *ZBTB4* were

statistically significant in all three data types (Fig. 4A) (table S4). Focusing on *ATRAID*

specifically, we observed a ~50% decrease in *ATRAID* expression in the DTC and ONJ patients

where their gene expression had been measured. In exome sequencing on the AFF and ONJ

patients, interestingly, in *ATRAID* we detected two rare variants – hereafter referred to as the

'D5G/G32R variant' – that were present together in 3 out of 35 AFF and ONJ patients (2 out of

27 AFF; 1 out of 8 ONJ) (Fig. 4B).

We sought to determine the functional significance of decreased *ATRAID* mRNA expression

and the *ATRAID* D5G/G32R variant, both of which are associated with bad outcomes of N-BP

treatment (Fig. 4, A and B). To test the former, we introduced sub-endogenous levels of

ATRAID mRNA in *ATRAID* deficient cells such that the levels were similar to the reduced levels

seen in patients that experienced ONJ or DTC (~50% compared to wild-type controls) (Fig. 4C).

We refer to these *ATRAID* partially restored cells as '*ATRAID*low expr.'. *ATRAID* deficient cells

conferred resistance to alendronate as expected, on the other hand, *ATRAID*low expr. cells were

hypersensitized to alendronate (Fig. 4D). Similarly, the *ATRAID* D5G/G32R variant, which we

identified in both the AFF and ONJ patients, conferred hypersensitivity to alendronate compared

with wild-type *ATRAID* (Fig. 4, E and F). Taken together, this suggests that bad patient

outcomes might reflect cellular hyper-response to N-BPs. In total, these findings support the

importance of ATRAID in bisphosphonate responsiveness in humans.

DISCUSSION

This work has focused on the physiological impact of *ATRAID* as a novel positive regulator

genetically upstream of *FDPS*. Here we use prenylation as an output of FDPS function.

Recently, we linked *FDPS* to DNA synthesis and damage (*46*). Considering that each of the

three top genes from the patient analysis, *ATRAID*, *ATR,* and *ZBTB4* (Fig. 4A)*,* are involved in

p53 responses – a well-known mediator of DNA damage (*47-50*) – it will be interesting to

determine whether these genes mediate their effects on p53 signaling via *FDPS*. The molecular

effects of N-BPs on FDPS require the novel transporter, SLC37A3 (*19*). Interestingly, the

SLC37A family member (*51*), *SLC37A2*, is mutated in dogs and gives rise to a bone overgrowth

phenotype that resembles the human disease, Caffey syndrome (*52, 53*). This phenotype is

particularly interesting because it suggests that natural ligands or drugs that inhibit the SLC37A

family might phenocopy N-BP treatment in increasing bone density. ATRAID binds NELL-1, a

secreted protein that promotes bone mineralization in mice and potentiates osteoblast

differentiation in an *ATRAID*-dependent manner (*54, 55*). It is also notable that NELL-1 is in pre-

clinical testing for the treatment of osteoporosis (*56*). In future studies, it will be interesting to

determine whether NELL-1 affects the responses to N-BPs we observe upon manipulating

ATRAID. There are rare, but serious clinical issues with N-BPs. Therefore, identifying those

patients who might experience these consequences when taking N-BPs is of paramount

importance. Perhaps utilizing *ATRAID* and/or other factors characterized herein as biomarker(s)

might eventually be such a diagnostic strategy.

Materials and Methods

Materials. Reagents were obtained from the following sources: antibodies to Rap1a (SC-1482)

from Santa Cruz Biotechnology; anti-HDJ-2/DNAJ Ab-1, Clone: KA2A5.6 (cat.# MS-225-P0),

anti-V5 (cat.# R960-25), and GAPDH (14C10) Rabbit mAb (cat.# 2118S) from Fisher Scientific;

rabbit polyclonal and monoclonal antibodies to PARP (cat.# 9532) from Cell Signaling

Technology; FuGENE 6 (cat.# E2691) and Complete Protease Cocktail (cat.# 11836170001)

from Roche; alendronate (cat.# 1012780-200MG), etidronate (cat.# P5248-10MG), tiludronate

(cat.# T4580-50MG), Acid Phosphatase Leukocyte (TRAP) kit (cat.# 387A-1KT), SYBR Green

JumpStart Taq ReadyMix (cat.# 4309155), calcein (cat.# C0875-5G), FLAG M2 affinity agarose

beads (Cat.# M2220), and anti-FLAG antibody (F3165), 3X FLAG peptide (F4799), ß-

glycerophosphate (cat.# 50020), ascorbic acid (cat.# A5960), RANKL (cat.# R0525), M-CSF

(cat.# M9170), dexamethasone (cat.# D4902), vitamin D3 (cat.# D1530), and alizarin red (cat.#

A3882-1G) from Sigma-Aldrich. Zoledronic acid (zoledronate, cat.# M 1875) from Moravek;

IMDM Glutamax, α-MEM, RPMI, SuperScript II Reverse Transcriptase, Platinum Pfx, Platinum

Taq DNA Polymerase and inactivated fetal calf serum (IFS) from Invitrogen; NEBNext Ultra II

Q5 Master Mix (cat.# M0544L), Sal I-HF (cat.# R3138L), Not I-HF (cat.# R3189L), BstXI (cat.#

R0113L), Blp I (cat.# R0585L) from New England Biolabs; NucleoSpin Blood DNA isolation kit

(cat.# 740950.50) from Macherey Nagel.

Cell lines and cell culture. KBM7 cell lines were cultured in IMDM with 10% IFS. K562 cell

lines were cultured in IMDM or RPMI with 10mM Glutamine with 10% FBS. HEK-293T cells

were cultured in DMEM with 10% FBS. RAW264.7 and primary mouse cells were cultured as

described below.

Haploid genetic screening. The genetic selection with alendronate was performed on 100

million mutagenized KBM7 cells (*57*). Cells were exposed to 165 µM alendronate and allowed to

recover for 4 weeks before harvesting the surviving cells and isolating genomic DNA. Analysis

of the screen was performed essentially as described previously (*57*). In brief, the sequences

flanking retroviral insertion sites were determined using inverse PCR followed by Illumina

sequencing. After mapping these sequences to the human genome, we counted the number of

inactivating mutations (i.e., mutations in the sense orientation or present in exon) per individual

Refseq-annotated gene as well as the total number of inactivating insertions for all Refseq-

annotated genes. For each gene, statistical enrichment was calculated by comparing how often

that gene was mutated in the drug-treated population with how often the gene carries an

insertion in the untreated control dataset. For each gene, the P-value (corrected for false

discovery rate) was calculated using the one-sided Fisher exact test (table S1).

CRISPRi/a genetic screening. We sought to improve the gene coverage in the zolendronate

CRISPRi screen we previously reported because we observed it was relatively under-sampled

compared to other CRISPRi/a screens we and others had performed (*19, 58*). We isolated

genomic DNA from biological replicate samples from our zolendronate screen and adapted the

Weissman lab library preparation protocol (*59*) with the following two changes to achieve

greater sgRNA coverage: 1) we increased the input genomic DNA from 0.5µg to 10µg of per

PCR reaction; and 2) we switched from Phusion to NEBNext Ultra II Q5 PCR enzyme.

Preparing the library with these modifications didn't change the top hits but it resulted in greater

number of sgRNAs for each gene being detected and more robust overlap of the gene scores

with our other CRISPRi/a screens with N-BPs.

cDNA manipulations and mutagenesis. The cDNAs for *ATRAID* were cloned from a human

R4 cell line cDNA library. For expression studies, all cDNAs were amplified by PCR and the

products were subcloned into the Sal 1 and Not 1 sites of pRK5 or pMSCV (*60*). The controls,

metap2 and *tubulin*, were previously described (*61*). All constructs were verified by DNA

sequencing. To generate the 293T *ATRAID_KO* expressing *ATRAID-FLAG*, using Gibson

assembly we cloned the cDNA encoding *ATRAID* with a C-terminal Flag tag into a homologous

recombination vector targeting the *AAVS1* locus, with a GGGGSGGGGS flexible linker

(sequence: GGT GGA GGG GGA AGT GGC GGA GGA GGT TCA) added between the CDS

and the Flag tag. We transfected this vector along with pX330 expressing an sgRNA targeting

the *AAVS1* locus. To generate the *ATRAID* low expressing cell line (293T *ATRAID_KO* +

ATRAID$_{low\ expr}$*),* we used the same procedure, but cloned the cDNA encoding *ATRAID* with a C-

terminal V5 tag driven by a PGK promoter. Low expression was verified with multiple *ATRAID*

expression primers, described below. Mutagenesis to engineer *ATRAID* patient variants was

performed with a QuikChange site-directed mutagenesis kit (Agilent) following the

manufacturer's protocol. The viral vector, pLenti PGK hygromycin *ATRAID*-V5, used for

mutagenesis was previously described (*19*) and is based on Addgene clone ID: 19066.

sgRNA manipulations. Genome editing experiments were designed based on an established

protocol (*62*). In brief, the sgRNAs for *ATRAID* were cloned using Golden Gate assembly into

pSpCas9-BB-2A-GFP (PX438), a kind gift from Feng Zhang (Addgene #48138). All constructs

were verified by PCR and DNA sequencing. For the human *ATRAID* locus, one sgRNA targeting

exon 3 and another targeting exon 5 were used to act simultaneously and remove part of exon 3,

the entire exon 4 and part of exon 5.

Human *ATRAID*:

exon3 sgRNA_1: GCCTGATGAAAGTTTGGACC

exon3 sgRNA_2: CCCTGGTCCAAACTTTCATC

exon5 sgRNA_1: GTCCTGGAGGAATTAATGCC

exon5 sgRNA_2: GTCCTGGAGGAATTAATGCC

Mouse *ATRAID*:

GGATACATCGAAGCTAATGC

For generating *ATRAID* knockouts in RAW 264.7 cells, cells were transfected with PX438

carrying the above sgRNA. Mutation was confirmed by PCR and sequencing.

Cell viability assays. Wild-type or mutant cells were seeded at 20,000 cells per well in a 96-

well tissue culture plate and treated with indicated concentrations of compound or left untreated.

48 or 72 hours after treatment the cell viability was measured using a Cell-titer Glo colorimetric

assay (Promega) according to manufacturer's protocol. Viability is plotted as percentage viability

compared to untreated control.

For assays of apoptosis, cells were plated in 6-well dishes and exposed to alendronate for 48

hours. AnnexinV positive cells were quantified using flow cytometry with the Dead Cell

Apoptosis Kit with AnnexinV Alexa Fluor (488) and PI (Thermo Fisher Scientific #V13241)

following the manufacturer's instructions.

Protein analysis. All cells unless otherwise stated were rinsed twice with ice-cold PBS and

lysed with Triton-X 100 or NP-40 containing lysis buffer (40 mM HEPES [pH 7.4], 2 mM EDTA,

150 mM NaCl, 50 mM NaF, 1% Triton-X 100 or 1% NP-40, and one tablet of EDTA-free

protease inhibitors [Roche] per 25 ml or Halt protease-phosphatase inhibitor

(#78442 ThermoFisher Scientific)). Lysate is incubated at 4 centigrade for 15-30min with

constant inversion. The soluble fractions of cell lysates were isolated by centrifugation at 13,000

rpm for 10 min in a microcentrifuge. Lysate protein concentrations were normalized by Bradford

assay (Bio-Rad). Proteins were then denatured by the addition of sample buffer and by boiling

for 5 minutes, resolved using 4%-20% or 6% (for HDJ-2) SDS-PAGE (Invitrogen), and analyzed

by immunoblotting for the indicated proteins. Immunoblotting was performed as follows:

nitrocellulose membranes were blocked at room temperature (RT) with 5% non-fat milk for

45min. Membranes were then incubated overnight at 4°C with desired primary antibodies

dissolved in 5% milk. Membranes were then washed 3 times in TBST, each wash lasting 5min.

Membranes were then incubated at RT with desired secondary antibodies at 1:2000 in 5% milk

for 45min. HRP-conjugated or fluorescent secondary antibodies (Santa Cruz Biotechnology or

Thermo Fisher, respectively) were used for detection. Membranes were then washed 3 times in

TBST, each wash lasting 5min. Signal from membranes using HRP-conjugated secondary

antibodies were captured using a camera and those using fluorescent secondary antibodies

were imaged on a GE Typhoon Trio imager. The small GTPase Rap1A protein prenylation can

be detected by Western blot analysis using an antibody that specifically binds to its

unprenylated form (*63, 64*) (Santa Cruz, SC-1482).

RAW 264.7 differentiation. RAW 264.7 cells were maintained in DMEM + 10% FBS + 1X

penicillin/streptomycin. Differentiation of RAW cells to osteoclasts was achieved following the

protocol of Collin-Osdoby et al. (*42*) where cells were treated with 35ng/ml RANKL (R&D

Systems) for 6 days. For experiments with alendronate, the drug was added at the indicated

concentrations 48 hours prior to collection.

Primary bone marrow isolation and osteoclast differentiation. Primary bone marrow was

isolated from the femurs, tibiae, and spine of wildtype and *ATRAID*^{KO} mice, enriched to

macrophages and differentiated to osteoclasts following the protocol of Tevlin et al. (*41*). Where

indicated, cells were treated with the indicated concentrations of alendronate 48 hours before

collection. Note: alendronate responsiveness can differ between different osteoclast cell

contexts (*65*). In our hands, isolated primary osteoclasts were more sensitive to alendronate

than the RAW 264.7 cell line. Therefore, we used higher doses of alendronate with RAW 264.7

cells vs. isolated primary cells (30μM and 80μM vs. 10μM and 30μM).

Co-culture of primary osteoblasts and osteoclasts. Murine bone marrow macrophages and

bone marrow stromal cells were isolated from the long bones of wild-type and *ATRAID* deficient

mice. Murine bone marrow macrophages were differentiated to osteoclasts using M-CSF and

RANKL in α-MEM + 10% FBS. Murine bone marrow stromal cells were differentiated to

osteoblasts using ß-glycerophosphate and ascorbic acid in α-MEM + 20% FBS. 200,000

osteoblasts and 300,000 osteoclasts were co-cultured in six-well dishes in α-MEM + 10% FBS

10nM 1,25(OH)$_2$ vitamin D3, and 100nM dexamethasone and treated with the indicated

concentrations of alendronate for 96 hours followed by tartrate acid phosphatase assay

following the manufacturer's protocol. Images of the 6-well dishes were captured by camera and

the total TRAP staining on these images was quantified using ImageJ software using the

Analyze->Analyze Particle workflow.

Gene expression analysis. Total RNA was isolated and reverse-transcription was performed

from cells or tissues in the indicated conditions. The resulting cDNA was diluted in Dnase-free

water (1:20) followed by quantification by real-time PCR. mRNA transcript levels were measured

using Applied Biosystems 7900HT Sequence Detection System v2.3 software. All Data are

expressed as the ratio between the expression of target gene to the housekeeping genes 36B4

and/or GAPDH. Each treated sample was normalized to the level of the controls in the same cell

type.

Human Primer sequences (for clarity, denoted with prefix: "h" for human):

hATRAID exon1-F' – GGATGGAGGGGCCCGAGTTTCTG

hATRAID exon2-R' – CCCAAGATGGTGCCCTTCTGATTC

hATRAID exon6-F' – CCATGGATACAAGTGTATGCGCC

hATRAID exon 7-R' – TCATGAAGTCTTGGCTTTTCGGC

hRPLP0-F'- CAGATTGGCTACCCAACTGTT

hRPLP0-R'- GGAAGGTGTAATCCGTCTCCAC

hTBP-F'- GAGCCAAGAGTGAAGAACAGTC

hTBP-R'- GCTCCCCACCATATTCTGAATCT

Mouse Primer sequences (for clarity, denoted with prefix: "m" for mouse):

mATRAID exon3-F' – GATCTTCAGAACTGTTCCCTGAAG

mATRAID exon4-R' – GCTGAGTAAACCCACGGAAGGTG

mATRAID exon5-F' – CTTCTTTCAAGGACAAGCAGATTTG

mATRAID exon 7-R' – GAATCCCAAAGAACATAAGCAGTG

mACTB- F'- TGTCGAGTCGCGTCCA

mACTB- R' – ATGCCGGAGCCGTTGTC

mRPLP0- F' – TGCTCGACATCACAGAGCAG

mRPLP0- R' – ACGCGCTTGTACCCATTGAT

mRANK – F' – GCAGCTCAACAAGGATACGG

mRANK – R'- TAGCTTTCCAAGGAGGGTGC

mTRAP –F' – AAGAGATCGCCAGAACCGTG

mTRAP – R' – CGTCCTCAAAGGTCTCCTGG

mCTSK – F' – CCTTCCAATACGTGCAGCAG

mCTSK- R' – CATTTAGCTGCCTTTGCCGT

Generation and genotyping of ATRAID KO mice*. Chimeric mice were obtained by

microinjection of the correctly targeted *ATRAID* EUCOMM ES clones (HEPD0577_2_D01 and

HEPD0577_2_E01) (*66, 67*) into BALB/C blastocysts and crossed with C57BL/6 mice to obtain

offspring with germline transmission. Heterozygous mice for the floxed *ATRAID* allele

(*ATRAID*^loxP/+^), were crossed to C57BL/6 mice expressing the Cre-recombinase transgene from

the full-body CMV promoter (*68*). Mice analyzed in this study were 100% C57BL/6.

All experiments involving mice were performed with protocols approved by the Harvard and

Washington University Animal Studies Committees. We confirm that we have complied with all

relevant ethical regulations. All mice were housed under a 12-hour light cycle and fed standard

chow diet ad libitum.

PCR genotyping of all WT and *ATRAID* deficient mice were performed with primers that detect

the following:

4) This generates a 140bp product and indicates the presence of the transgene.

551   Transgene (92 upstream) F' CAGCCATATCACATCTGTAGAG

552   Transgene (92 upstream) R' GAGTTTGGACAAACCACAACTAG

553   2) This indicates recombination and is detectable in mice also expressing CRE

554   Del F' CTGCATTCTAGTTGTGGTTTGTCC

555   Del R' CAGGAGGTAGTGCAAGCCTTTG

556   3) Wild-type *ATRAID* primers spanning *ATRAID* exons 3 and 4. This PCR product is not

557   detectable in homozygous null animals.

558   Exon ¾ F' CAGAACTGTTCCCTGAAGGATCCTGGTC

559   Exon ¾ R' GTACACACTGTTAGCGCTCTGTTTGC

560   4) These generic CRE primers give a ~100bp product indicates the presence of the CRE

561   transgene.

562   CRE F' GCG GTC TGG CAG TAA AAA CTA TC

563   CRE R' GTG AAA CAG CAT TGC TGT CAC TT

Serum ELISA assays. Cardiac puncture blood of mice of the indicated ages was obtained and

centrifuged at low speed at 4°C for 15 min, and serum was isolated. Gla-Osteocalcin (Mouse

Gla-Osteocalcin High Sensitive EIA Kit from Clontech, cat.# MK127) and C-terminus cross-

linked telopeptides of type I collagen CTX-I (RatLaps EIA Kit from Immunodiagnosticsystems

Inc., Bolden, UK, AC-06F1) were quantified following the manufacturer instructions.

Animal procedures. Age and sex matched mice were randomly assigned to treatment groups

within each genotype. For the basal characterization of WT and *ATRAID* deficient mice and for

the OVX experiments the mice were litter-matched. For the senile osteoporosis experiments the

animals were originally derived from the same litter but were bred as cohorts. All animal

experiments were replicated two to four times spanning independent days to ensure

reproducibility. No outlier animals were excluded from any downstream analysis.

Ovariectomy or sham operations were performed on 3.5-month-old females as detailed

previously (*69*). Briefly, the ovaries were exposed through an abdominal approach and either

resected after clipping the blood vessels or left in place (sham operation). The muscle and skin

of the abdomen were sutured. Mice were given an intraperitoneal injection of buprenex

immediately after surgery and then every twelve hours for 48 hours post-surgery. Immediately

preceding OVX, vehicle (phosphate buffered saline) or 100 µg/kg alendronate (both provided by

Sigma) was injected intra-peritoneally every week for 4 weeks. These doses were chosen

based on the anti-resorptive activity of alendronate in different species (*70, 71*).

Bone microstructure. A high-resolution desktop micro-tomographic imaging system (µCT40,

Scanco Medical AG, Bruttisellen, Switzerland) was used to assess cortical and trabecular bone

microarchitecture and morphology in the femoral mid-diaphysis and distal metaphysis,

respectively. Scans were acquired using a 10 µm^3 isotropic voxel size, 70 kVP peak x-ray tube

potential, 114 mAs x-ray intensity, 200 ms integration time, and were subjected to Gaussian

filtration and segmentation. Regions of interest (ROIs) were selected 50 slices above and below

the femoral longitudinal midpoint or 100 slices above the growth plate of the distal femur to

evaluate the cortical and trabecular compartment, respectively. Image acquisition and analysis

adhered to the JBMR guidelines for the use of µCT for the assessment of bone

microarchitecture in rodents (*31*). To judge the effect sizes in our µCT experiments, it is notable

that both OVX and ALN influenced µCT parameters in wild-type mice of a magnitude in our

hands (~10-20%) that is highly consistent with what has been previously shown in the strain we

used, C57BL/6 (*39, 72*).

Bone biomechanics. Mechanical testing in a 3-point bending to failure was conducted on

femora after µCT. Briefly, hydrated femora were stabilized over supports 7mm apart and a

loading force was applied in the anteroposterior direction midway between the supports (Instron,

Norwood, MA, USA). Test curves were analyzed to determine ultimate force to failure and

stiffness as described previously (*32, 73*).

Bone histomorphometry. To label mineralizing fronts, mice were injected intraperitoneally with

calcein (15 mg/kg i.p., Sigma-Aldrich) and alizarin red (30 mg/kg; Sigma) were intraperitoneally

injected 7 and 2 days, respectively, before euthanasia. Bone was fixed in 10% (vol/vol) neutral

buffered formalin for 24 h, processed through a series of graded alcohols, and decalcified.

Decalcified vertebrae or femurs were embedded in paraffin and 2-4 h, processed through a

series of graded alcohols, and Tartrate resistant acid phosphatase (TRAP) stain was performed.

Undecalcified femora were embedded in methyl methacrylate and the whole bone were cut and

stained for TRAP or analyzed for calcein and alizarin red fluorescence. Quantitative

histomorphometry was performed using a commercial software (OSTEO II, Bioquant, Nashville,

TN, USA), and standard parameters of bone remodeling were determined as detailed elsewhere

(*74*).

Statistics analysis. Unless otherwise specified, group means were compared by one-tailed

Student t-test for unpaired samples. Data on repeated measures were analyzed by ANOVA,

followed by a post-hoc multiple Holm–Sidak method t-test. All data are expressed as the mean

± s.d with numbers of samples indicated in figure legends. *P* values are indicated in each figure

legend, and values less than 0.05 were considered significant. All code used to generate

statistics and correlations for this project can be found at https://github.com/tim-

peterson/ATRAID.

Transcriptional profiling analysis. The multiple myeloma, osteonecrosis of the jaw (ONJ)

microarray gene expression was performed as previously described (*43*) using the Affymetrix

U133 Plus 2.0 array platform (Affymetrix, Santa Clara, CA, USA) on total RNA isolated from

peripheral blood mononuclear cells (GEO accession #: GSE7116). 21 multiple myeloma

patients with a history of N-BP use were included in the study. 11 patients (52.4%) reported to

have ONJ. The breast cancer bone marrow micrometastases (a.k.a., DTC) microarray gene

expression data was generated as previously described (*44*) and also used the Affymetrix U133

Plus 2.0 array platform. DTC profiling was performed on tumor biopsies of 81 patients (GEO

accession #: GSE71258). 54 breast cancer patients treated with zometa (zoledronate) were

included in the study. N-BPs directly inhibit tumor growth and angiogenesis (*75, 76*). 14 patients

(25.9%) eventually died and 40 patients (74.1%) survived. Her-2 negative patients were divided

into two categories following randomization to the zoledronate arm: those that who had DTC

reoccurrences or lived less than 1000 days and those who lived at least 2500 days.

Quantile normalization was used for all differential expression analysis, and all the normalization procedures were performed using function normalizeQuantiles in the R Bioconductor package limma (*77*). Gene expression data was filtered using function filterfun in the R Bioconductor package genefilter (*78*). Probes with expression values over 5 in less than 25% of the samples were removed. Comparison between groups were estimated using an empirical Bayes method (*79*), and variances across all genes were used to estimate the variance of each gene. Raw p-values were calculated from a moderate t-test, and false discovery rate (FDR) adjusted p-values were obtained based on Benjamini and Hochberg's methods for multiple testing. Log$_2$ fold changes between the experimental conditions were calculated for each gene as well.

Affy probe IDs were transformed into gene symbols based on the R Bioconductor package, hgu133plus2.db (*80*). In Fig. 4A, differentially regulated genes for the -/+ONJ patients were identified by having adjusted p-values smaller than 0.05, while potential differentially-regulated genes for the <1000 vs. >2500 days with breast cancer patients with disseminated tumor cells (DTC) were identified by having raw p-value smaller than 0.05. For the ONJ dataset, 1992 genes were significant. For the DTC dataset, 1854 genes were significant.

Exome sequencing analysis. Exome sequencing data was generated from blood leukocyte DNA for 27 bisphosphonate treated osteoporosis cases with atypical femoral fractures (AFF), 11 bisphosphonate treated osteoporosis cases without atypical femoral fractures, and 8 bisphosphonate multiple myeloma or breast cancer cases with osteonecrosis of the jaw (ONJ). Exome capture was performed using Agilent All-exome capture kits. Sequencing was performed using paired-end Illumina sequencing. Analysis of exome sequencing data was performed in-house using our previously described methods (*81, 82*). Briefly, FASTQ formatted sequences were aligned to the hg37 human reference sequence (NCBI GRCh37) using BWA (*83*). Mapped reads were filtered to remove duplicate reads with the same paired start sites. The

Binary sequence Alignment/Map (BAM) formatted alignments were then processed using the

Genome Analysis Toolkit (GATK) Haplotype Caller (*84, 85*) and genotypes jointly called

together with all in-house control exome sequenced individuals. Variants were filtered for read-

depth (>8x), genotype quality (GQ>20), and GATK-calculated variant quality score recalibration

(VQSR). Allele frequencies were annotated using the gnomAD database (*86*). Variant positions

were processed excluding those with call rates <0.95 or Hardy-Weinberg equilibrium P-values <

10^{-5}. Variants were annotated using Seattleseq:

http://snp.gs.washington.edu/SeattleSeqAnnotation151/. Genes with multiple variants with non-

Finnish European (NFE) allele frequencies less than 0.05 only in cases were considered. From

dbSNP, https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/SNP/ : For the *ATRAID* gene, the D5G variant is found on

chromosome 2 position: 27212382 – rs1275533. The G32R variant is found on chromosome 2

position: 27212297 – rs11556163.

The ethnic breakdown of the AFF cases is: 25/27 European American (EA), 3/27 Asian

American (AA), 0/27 African American. The ethnic breakdown of the controls is 8/11 European

American and 3/11 unknown. For *ATRAID*, the D5G variant is present in 2 out of 27 AFF

patients. Though this allele wasn't detected in the 11 control samples, it is present in a

population of European Americans (EA) that is representative of the study population at a

prevalence of 0.0139 and in Asian Americans (AA) at a prevalence of 0.002. Therefore, the

D5G allele is (2/27) / (0.0139 * 25/27 + 0.002 * 3/27) = 5.66X enriched in cases compared to a

representative population to that of the cases. For the G32R *ATRAID* allele the enrichment is:

(2/27) / (0.0149 * 25/27 + 0.002 * 3/27) = 5.28. Because we have incomplete information on the

ONJ cases, we used the EA frequency for our enrichment calculations: the D5G allele is (1/8) /

(0.0139 * 8/8) = 7.19X enriched in cases compared to a representative population. For the

G32R allele the enrichment is: (1/8) / (0.0149 * 8/8) = 6.71X. A simple binomial test,

binom.test(), was used to calculate the p-value for each *ATRAID* variant in AFF and ONJ cases.

For the D5G allele, p-value = 0.01262 – binom.test(3, 35, 0.0139). For the G32R, p-value =

0.01518 – binom.test(3, 35, 0.0149).

Functional validation of ATRAID patient alleles. For testing the effects of reduced *ATRAID*

expression**,** *ATRAID* deficient HEK-293T cells were stably infected with sub-endogenous levels

of variant "v3" of wild-type *ATRAID*. These cells were then compared with wild-type HEK-293T

and the parent *ATRAID* deficient line in cell viability assays. For the rs1275533 variant, the

amino acid change, D5G, corresponds to the v3 ATRAID amino acid sequence and the same

variant is D60G on the longer, v2 *ATRAID* isoform. For the rs11556163 variant, G32R is only

present on v2 *ATRAID*. Both *ATRAID* variants were found together in each AFF or ONJ case

identified, which suggested these variants are linked. Thus, to recapitulate the patient

genotypes, we therefore introduced both v2 and v3 wild-type or variant forms of ATRAID in

ATRAID deficient cells. This means there were three differences between the wild-type and

ATRAID D5G/G32R variant cell lines we generated – two variants on v2 ATRAID and one

variant on v3 ATRAID.

Supplementary Materials

Fig. S1, related to Fig. 1. ATRAID is required for molecular responses to N-BPs.

Fig. S2, related to Fig. 2. ATRAID is required for organismal responses to N-BPs.

Fig. S3, related to Fig. 3. ATRAID is required cell-autonomously for N-BP inhibition of

osteoclast function.

Table S1, related to Fig. 1 and fig. S1. Haploid genomic screen raw data for alendronate.

Table S2, related to Fig. 2 and fig. S2. Statistics for animal studies.

Table S3, related to Fig. 3 and fig. S3. Statistics for animal and co-culture studies.

Table S4, related to Fig. 4. Gene expression, sequencing, and growth phenotype data for

ONJ, DTC, AFF, and CRISPRi and CRISPRa studies.

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1040 genomic screening. T.R.P., J.P., and L.E.S. wrote the paper. **Competing Interests:** ATRAID,

1041 SNTG1, EPHB1, and PLCL1, the genes identified here, are part of a Whitehead–Harvard patent

1042 on which T.R.P., T.R.B., and D.M.S. are inventors. Shared reagents are subject to a materials

1043 transfer agreement. **Data and materials availability:** All data that supports the findings is

1044 available in the Figures, supplemental figures and tables.

1045

Figures:

Fig. 1. *ATRAID* is required for molecular responses to nitrogen-containing

bisphosphonates. (A) Schematic of haploid mutagenesis screening pipeline. Sequencing-

based identification of gene-trap insertion sites in alendronate-resistant human haploid KBM7

cells. Genomic DNA for sequencing was obtained from mutagenized KBM7 cells grown for four

weeks post-treatment with 165 µM alendronate. **(B)** Sequencing-based identification of gene-

trap insertion sites in alendronate-resistant cells. N=number of unique insertions within the

stated gene locus. False discovery rate corrected (FDR) p-values for $ATRAID=7.02 \times 10^{-45}$,

$PLCL1=1.02 \times 10^{-04}$, $EPHB1=2.05 \times 10^{-04}$, $SNTG1= 1.84 \times 10^{-03}$. P-values represent enrichment in

alendronate-treated versus vehicle treated cells. The red dotted line indicates the genes with a

FDR p-value of < 0.05. 185 genes in this screen that met that criteria. **(C)** Schematic

representation of structural features of human ATRAID protein and its mouse and frog

orthologues. **(D)** Cell viability in wild-type control and *ATRAID*-deficient cells exogenously

expressing or not expressing *ATRAID* cDNA. Cells were treated with 60 µM alendronate and

analyzed for cell viability. Cell viability was determined by measuring cellular ATP levels and is

expressed as a ratio of that compared with untreated cells. Error bars indicate the standard

deviation for n=4 (biological replicates). N.S., not significant; * indicates p<0.05. v2, variant 2

(NM_080592.3); v3, variant 3 (NM_001170795.1) of the *ATRAID* gene, respectively. **(E)**

Chemical structures for nitrogen-containing bisphosphonates (N-BPs) or non-nitrogen-

containing bisphosphonates (BP) used in (E) are shown. KBM7 cell viability in *ATRAID*-deficient

(ATRAID_GT1 and ATRAID_GT2) and control (wild-type) KBM7 cells upon treatment with

nitrogen-containing bisphosphonates (N-BPs) or non-nitrogen-containing bisphosphonates (BP).

All cells were treated with the indicated concentration of the indicated N-BP (alendronate,

zoledronate), BP (etidronate, tiludronate) for 72 hours. Cell viability was determined by

measuring cellular ATP levels and is expressed as a ratio of that compared with untreated cells.

All measurements were performed in quadruplicate (biological replicates). * indicates $p<0.05$,

unpaired *t*-test. **(F)** Alendronate induced inhibition of protein prenylation requires *ATRAID*.

ATRAID deficient and *ATRAID* v3-reconstituted HEK-293T cells were treated with the indicated

dose of alendronate for 24 hours then lysed and analyzed by immunoblotting for the indicated

proteins. Equal amounts of protein were loaded in each lane. This experiment was repeated

three times (biological replicates) and was consistent all three times. * indicates non-specific

band.

1078

Fig. 2. ATRAID is required for organismal responses to nitrogen-containing

bisphosphonates. (A) Schematic of menopausal bone loss model – bilateral ovariectomy

(OVX). Saline or 100 µg/kg/week alendronate was administered concurrent with OVX or a sham

procedure. After four weeks, mice were euthanized and bones and serum were extracted and

analyzed. **(B)** Representative µCT reconstructions of femoral trabecular bone from 4-month-old

litter-matched derived, wild-type, *ATRAID* WT (+/+), and KO (-/-), female mice that were either

ovariectomized (OVX) or sham operated (Sham), treated with either vehicle (saline) (+OVX), or

alendronate (+OVX+ALN) for four weeks. **(C-F)** Ovariectomized *ATRAID*[-/-] mice have impaired

bone microstructural responses to alendronate. Femur cortical (C, D) and trabeculae (E, F)

regions were analyzed by µCT. Each circle represents an individual animal. Circles offset to the

right represent unique animals with similar values to those of another animal (offset for visual

clarity). N=6-11 mice (3.5 month old) per group. * indicates $p<0.01$, [#] indicates $0.01<p<0.05$, and

red line indicates mean. **(G-H)** Ovariectomized *ATRAID* KO mice have impaired bone strength

responses to alendronate. Stiffness (G) and yield load (H) were analyzed by three-point bending

test. Each circle represents an individual animal. Circles offset to the right represent unique

animals with similar values to those of another animal (offset for visual clarity). N=6-11 mice per

group. *indicates p<0.01, [#]indicates 0.01<p<0.05, N.S., indicates not significant, and red line

indicates mean.

1097

Fig. 3. *ATRAID* is required cell-autonomously for N-BP inhibition of osteoclast

prenylation.

(A) CTX-I, a serum marker of osteoclast activity is reduced in WT but not ATRAID KO

ovariectomized mice by alendronate treatment. Serum CTX-I was measured by ELISA. Each

circle represents an individual animal. Circles offset to the right represent unique animals with

similar values to those of another animal (offset for visual clarity). N=8-13 mice per group. *

indicates p<0.05. **(B)** Osteoclast histomorphometric responses are reduced in WT but not

ATRAID KO ovariectomized mice by alendronate treatment. Osteoclast surface to bone surface

ratio (Oc.S/BS) was determined by Tartrate Acid Phosphatase (TRAP)-assay reactivity. Each

circle represents an individual animal. Circles offset to the right represent unique animals with

similar values to those of another animal (offset for visual clarity). N=5-7 mice per group. *

indicates p<0.05, n.s. indicates not significant, and red line indicates mean. **(C)** Quantitative

PCR to examine mRNA expression of markers of osteoclast differentiation, *CTSK, RANK,*

TRAP, in wild-type (WT) and ATRAID[KO] cells M-CSF expanded, bone marrow macrophages

(BMMs) differentiated with *RANKL* to osteoclasts. Expression is normalized to wild-type,

undifferentiated BMM cells, using *ACTB* and *RPLP0* as control genes. Error bars represent the

standard deviation of technical triplicate reactions. **(D)** Percent of Annexin-V positive cells after

a 48 hour alendronate treatment of *ATRAID* WT (+/+) and KO (-/-) BMMs differentiated into

osteoclasts. Annexin V staining was assessed using flow cytometry. Each circle represents

osteoclasts derived from an individual animal (split for treatment with 0, 10µM, 30µM

alendronate). Red line indicates mean. * indicates p<0.05, N.S. indicates not significant. **(E)**

Percent of Annexin-V positive cells after a 48 hour alendronate treatment (0, 30µM, 80µM) in

wild-type and *ATRAID*[KO] differentiated RAW 264.7 osteoclasts. Annexin V staining was

assessed using flow cytometry. Error bars represent the standard deviation of n=3 experiments

(biological replicates), * indicates p<0.05. **(F)** Immunoblots of cell lysates of RAW wild-type (WT)

and *ATRAID*[KO] (KO) cells, and RAW 264.7-derived osteoclasts treated with alendronate for 48

hours, demonstrating *ATRAID* deficiency confers resistance to alendronate-induced prenylation

defects. Top panel: immunoblot specific to the unprenylated version of Rap1a. Bottom panel:

Gapdh, serving as a loading control. Alendronate concentrations were 0, 20µM, 80µM. **(G)**

Representative image of a six-well dish co-culture of equal numbers of mouse primary

osteoblasts and osteoclasts of the indicated genotypes with or without the indicated doses of

alendronate (ALN) for four days. The experiment was performed three independent times with a

similar result. Red staining reflects TRAP-assay reactivity. **(H)** Image analysis of the samples in

(G). Error bars represent the standard deviation of n=3 independent images (technical

replicates). * indicates p<0.01, N.S. indicates not significant.

1133

Fig. 4. *ATRAID* as a potential genetic factor for altered responses to nitrogen-containing

bisphosphonates in patients. (A) Genome-wide studies of N-BP responsiveness in patients

vs. cells. The outcomes considered from human studies involving N-BPs are: osteonecrosis of

the jaw (ONJ), breast cancer bone marrow micrometastases (i.e., disseminated tumor cells

(DTC)), and atypical femoral fractures (AFF). *ATRAID, ATR, ZBTB4* are statistically significant

hits (p < 0.05) in N-BP cell-based CRISPRi/a screening, differentially expressed in both gene

expression datasets (ONJ and DTC), and possess rare multiple non-synonymous coding

variants in AFF and ONJ cases but not controls. These three genes are visualized as the Venn

diagram of overlap of lists of genes that met the following criteria: significant alendronate

CRISPRi, zoledronate CRISPRi, or alendronate CRISPRa hits with absolute value of rho growth

phenotype values >= 0.30 and p <= 0.05 (1335 out of 15828 genes) (*19, 45*); differentially

expressed N-BP in ONJ + DTC (774 out of 18415 for ONJ (*43*) and 20492 for DTC (*44*);

multiple coding variant(s) in AFF and ONJ cases and not controls (1252 out of 11659 genes)

(data as part of this study). **(B)** Patient genetic data for *ATRAID*. Raw expression values were

normalized to 1 to fit on a comparable Y axis. * indicates p<0.05. N.S. indicates not significant.

"X"-enriched refers to the fold-enrichment of the allele compared with a population with a similar

genetic background as the cases. For example, for *ATRAID*, the D5G variant is present in 2 out

of 27 AFF patients. Though this allele wasn't detected in the 11 control samples, it is present in

a population of European Americans (EA) and Asian Americans (AA) that is representative of

the study population at a prevalence of 0.0131. Therefore, the D5G allele is (2/27) / 0.0131 =

5.66X enriched in cases compared to the EA/AA population. "v3" and "v2" refer to isoforms of

the *ATRAID* gene. A simple binomial test was used to calculate the significance of each variant.

* indicates p<0.05. **(C)** Quantitative PCR to examine *ATRAID* mRNA expression in wild-type,

ATRAID deficient, and low ATRAID expressing cells. Error bars represent the standard

deviation of technical triplicate reactions. Expression was normalized to WT cells using *RPLP0*

and *TBP* as controls. **(D)** Cell viability in wild-type, *ATRAID* deficient, and low *ATRAID*

expressing cells. Cells were treated with the indicated doses of alendronate and analyzed for

cell viability. Cell viability was determined by measuring cellular ATP levels and is expressed as

a ratio of that compared with untreated cells. Error bars indicate the standard deviation for n=4

(biological replicates). N.S., not significant; * and [#] indicate p<0.05 for the indicated cell lines.

(E) Immunoblot of wild-type and D5G/G32R variant *ATRAID*-V5 tagged proteins. Mutant or wild-

type *ATRAID* v2 and v3 were stably introduced into *ATRAID* deficient HEK-293T cells. **(F)** Cell

viability in wild-type vs. D5G/G32R variant cells. Cells were treated with the indicated doses of

alendronate and analyzed for cell viability. Cell viability was determined by measuring cellular

ATP levels and is expressed as a ratio of that compared with untreated cells. Error bars indicate

the standard deviation for n=4 (biological replicates). N.S., not significant; * indicates p<0.05.

Supplementary Materials:

Fig. S1, related to Fig. 1. ATRAID is required for cellular responses to nitrogen-containing bisphosphonates. (A) Schematic of the exon structure of the three human *ATRAID* mRNA variants. The coding sequence for each variant is in green. Non-coding portions of each exon are in grey. The translated regions of variant 1 and variant 3 are shorter than variant 2 due to internal translation initiation sites. The location of the primer sets used to identify each *ATRAID* gene trap (GT) are indicated (in blue for ATRAID_GT1; in red for ATRAID_GT2). **(B)** mRNA analysis of *ATRAID* and *GGPS1* expression levels in clones that contain independent gene-trap insertions in their respective loci. Wild-type KBM7 cells were compared with mutant alleles (labeled as GT) and *GGPS1* was used as a loading control. **(C)** *ATRAID* deficient cells are resistant to alendronate over a wide range of concentrations and cell numbers. KBM7 cell viability was determined by measuring cellular ATP levels and is expressed as a ratio of that compared with untreated cells. All measurements were performed in quadruplicate (biological replicates). * indicates $p < 0.05$, unpaired t-test. **(D)** Untreated WT and *ATRAID* deficient cells grow at a similar rate. WT and *ATRAID* deficient HEK-293T cells were plated at the same cell density (10,000 cells/per well), allowed to grow for 48 hours, and ATP levels were measured. Viability measurements were performed in quadruplicate (biological replicates). Error bars reflect standard deviation. **(E)** *ATRAID* overexpression sensitizes cells to alendronate. HEK-293T cells were transfected with either Metap2 (control), or ATRAID-cDNA expressing vectors and the indicated doses of alendronate for 72 hours. Viability measurements were performed in quadruplicate (biological replicates). * indicates $p < 0.05$, unpaired t-test. **(F)** Alendronate regulation of viability is dependent on ATRAID membrane targeting. Cells deficient in ATRAID (ATRAID_GT2) were transformed to express exogenous Metap2 (control), tubulin (control), ATRAID variant 2 (_v2), or ATRAID variant 2 lacking the transmembrane domain (Δmem_v2). Cells were treated with alendronate at the indicated dose for 72 hours. Cell viability was

determined as in p<0.05, unpaired t-test (n=6) (3 biological replicates, 3 technical replicates).

(G) An additional cell line whose alendronate-dependent regulation of prenylation requires

ATRAID. Wild-type control and *ATRAID* deficient KBM7 cells exogenously expressing or not

expressing *ATRAID* cDNA were treated with the indicated dose of alendronate for 24 hours then

lysed and analyzed by immunoblotting for the indicated proteins. Equal amounts of protein were

loaded in each lane. This experiment was repeated three times (biological replicates) and was

consistent all three times.

1203

Fig. S2, related to Fig. 2. ATRAID is required for organismal responses to nitrogen-

containing bisphosphonates.

(A) Schematic of *ATRAID* targeted gene locus and genotyping strategy. *ATRAID* exon 3-exon 5

are targeted, i.e., flanked by LoxP sites. **(B)** Confirmation of deletion of protein-coding genomic

DNA at the *ATRAID* gene locus. WT, wild-type at the *ATRAID* locus; het, heterozygous; KO,

homozygous deletion. **(C)** *ATRAID* KO mice have reduced body weight compared with *ATRAID*

wild-type WT (+/+) mice. N=6-13 for wild-type, N=7-14 for ATRAID KO mice. * indicates p<0.05.

(D) Cells from *ATRAID* KO mice lack *ATRAID* mRNA. Tail fibroblast cells were analyzed for

mRNA expression of *ATRAID* by RT-PCR and normalized to RPLP0 mRNA levels. Error bars

indicate standard deviation for n=4 (biological replicates). * indicates p<0.05, unpaired t-test. **(E)**

Cells from the tails of *ATRAID* KO animals are resistant to the cytotoxic effects of alendronate.

All cells were treated with the indicated concentration of alendronate for 72 hours. Cell viability

was determined by measuring cellular ATP levels and is expressed as a ratio of that compared

with untreated cells. All measurements were performed in quadruplicate (biological replicates). *

indicates p<0.05, unpaired t-test. **(F)** *ATRAID* mRNA is undetectable in tibia of ATRAID

knockout mice. Tibias were analyzed for *ATRAID* mRNA expression by RT-qPCR and

normalized to RPLP0 mRNA levels. Error bars indicate standard deviation for n=4 (biological

replicates). * indicates p<0.05, unpaired t-test. **(G)** Femurs from *ATRAID* KO mice are slightly

smaller but grossly morphologically normal. Representative traverse µCT images at the femoral

distal metaphysis from wild-type and *ATRAID* KO mice. Femur lengths in millimeters (mm) were

based on µCT measurement. Error measurements are standard deviation for n=5-6 mice. *

indicates $p < 0.05$, unpaired t-test. **(H, I)** *ATRAID* KO mice bone microstructure isn't significantly

altered. Femur trabeculae (H) and cortical (I) regions were analyzed by µCT. Each circle

represents an individual animal. Circles offset to the right represent unique animals with similar

values to those of another animal (offset for visual clarity). N=8-10 (2-month-old) mice per

group. n.s. indicates not significant, unpaired t-test. **(J-L)** ATRAID KO mice have impaired bone

strength. Stiffness (J), yield load (K), and post-yield displacement (L) were analyzed by three-

point bending test. Each circle represents an individual animal. Circles offset to the right

represent unique animals with similar values to those of another animal (offset for visual clarity).

N=8-10 mice (2-month-old) per group. * indicates $p < 0.05$, n.s. indicates not significant, unpaired

t-test. **(M, N)** Markers of osteoclast function aren't significant different comparing ATRAID wild-

type, WT (+/+) with knockout, KO (-/-) mice. (M) Serum C-terminal telopeptides of type I

collagen (CTX-I) were measured in serum obtained from 3-month-old males using ELISA. Each

circle represents an individual animal. Circles offset to the right represent unique animals with

similar values to those of another animal (offset for visual clarity). N=6 mice per group. n.s.

indicates not significant, unpaired t-test. (N) Osteoclast surface to bone surface ratio (Oc.S/BS)

was determined by Tartrate Acid Phosphatase (TRAP)-assay reactivity. Each circle represents

an individual animal. Circles offset to the right represent unique animals with similar values to

those of another animal (offset for visual clarity). N=6 mice per group. n.s. indicates not

significant, unpaired t-test. **(O, P)** *ATRAID* KO mice have altered markers of osteoblast function.

(O) Gla-Osteocalcin was measured in serum obtained from 3-month-old males using ELISA.

Each circle represents an individual animal. Circles offset to the right represent unique animals

with similar values to those of another animal (offset for visual clarity). N=7-9 mice per group. *

indicates $p < 0.05$, unpaired t-test. (P) bone formation rate (BFR/BS) determined by double

labeling using calcein followed by alizarin red were analyzed histologically. Each circle

represents an individual animal. Circles offset to the right represent unique animals with similar

values to those of another animal (offset for visual clarity). N=5-7 mice per group. * indicates

$p<0.05$, n.s. indicates not significant, unpaired t-test. **(Q, R)** Senile osteoporotic (18 month old)

ATRAID deficient mice have impaired bone microstructural responses to alendronate. Femur

trabeculae regions from WT and *ATRAID* KO mice were analyzed by µCT. Each circle

represents an individual animal. Circles offset to the right represent unique animals with similar

values to those of another animal (offset for visual clarity). N=5-8 mice per group. * indicates

$p<0.05$, and red line indicates mean.

1257

Fig. S3, related to Fig. 3. *ATRAID* required cell-autonomously for N-BP inhibition of

osteoclast prenylation.

(A, B) Osteoclast surface and numbers are reduced in WT but not *ATRAID* KO ovariectomized

or senile mice by alendronate treatment. Osteoclast surface per bone surface (Oc.S/BS) (A) and

the number of osteoclasts per bone surface (N.Oc/BS) (B) were determined by Tartrate-

Resistant Acid Phosphatase (TRAP)-assay reactivity. Each circle represents an individual

animal. Circles offset to the right represent unique animals with similar values to those of

another animal (offset for visual clarity). N=5-7 mice per group (OVX); N=4-7 mice per group

(senile). * indicates $p<0.05$, n.s. indicates not significant, and red line indicates mean. **(C, D)**

Osteoblast function isn't significantly altered by alendronate in WT or *ATRAID* KO

ovariectomized or senile mice. Mineral apposition rate (MAR) (C) and bone formation rate

(BFR/BS) (D) were determined by double labeling using Calcein followed by Alizarin Red were

analyzed histologically. Each circle represents an individual animal. Circles offset to the right

represent unique animals with similar values to those of another animal (offset for visual clarity).

N=5-7 mice per group (OVX); N=4-7 mice per group (senile). * indicates $p<0.05$, n.s. indicates

not significant, and red line indicates mean. **(E)** Schematic of the mouse *ATRAID* first coding

exon, indicating the CRISPR-induced mutations present in the two *ATRAID*^{KO} clones used in

Fig. 3.

Figure 1

Figure 2

A menopausal bone loss model
bilateral ovariectomy (OVX)

B cortical (compact) bone structure

C cortical thickness (Ct. Th., mm)

D cortical area (Ct. Ar.., mm²)

trabecular (cancellous) bone structure

E trabecular thickness (Tb. Th., mm)

F bone volume / trabecular volume (BV/TV, %)

bone strength

G stifness (N/mm)

H yield load (N)

Figure 3

Figure 4

A

genome-wide studies involving N-BPs

cell-based screen | gene expr. | exome seq.

CRISPRi ALN | CRISPRi ZOL | CRISPRa ALN | ONJ | DTC | AFF | ONJ

cells | patients

CRISPRi/a = cell-based drug response screen
WES = whole exome sequencing
N-BPs = ALN = alendronate; ZOL = zolendronate
ONJ = osteonecrosis of the jaw
DTC = bone marrow disseminatated tumor cells
AFF = atypical femoral fractures

WES+CRISPRi/a
64 genes
WES+gene expr.
49 genes
CRISPRi/a+gene expr.
76 genes

WES+CRISPRi/a
+gene expr.
ATR
ATRAID
ZBTB4

1335 | 76 | 774
3
64 | 49
1252

B

N-BP-treatment consequence:	patients							
	ONJ		DTC		ONJ		AFF	
	-	+	-	+	-	+	-	+
ATRAID	differential gene expression				coding variant only in cases			

* D5G (v3); G32R, D60G (v2); ONJ: 7x; 7x | AFF: 6x; 5x enriched vs. representative population

C

ATRAID

Relative mRNA expression

ATRAID genotype: WT | *ATRAID* KO | *ATRAID* KO + *ATRAID* low expr.

D

Relative ATP levels (cell viability)

- WT
- *ATRAID* KO
- *ATRAID* KO + *ATRAID* low expr.

μM ALN: (log$_2$ scale) 2 10 40 160 640

: *ATRAID* KO vs. WT, pval $\leq$ 0.05
* : *ATRAID* low expr. vs. WT, pval $\leq$ 0.05

E

IB: ATRAID-V5

WT | D5G/G32R

F

ATRAID genotype

- WT
- D5G/G32R

Relative ATP levels (cell viability)

μM ALN: (log$_2$ scale) 32 64 128 256

* : D5G/G32R vs. WT, pval $\leq$ 0.05

Figure S1

A H. sapiens *ATRAID* mRNA

ATRAID_GT1 ATRAID_GT2

variant 1
variant 2
variant 3

Exon 1/2   Exon 6/7

Exon: 1   2   3   4   5   6   7

B *ATRAID* mRNA expression

Exon 1/2
Exon 6/7
GGPS1

ATRAID deficient: − + + −

C

10 cells/well   100 cells/well

1000 cells/well   10000 cells/well

Relative ATP levels

μM alendronate (log₂ scale)   μM alendronate (log₂ scale)

control_GT   ATRAID_GT2

D

Relative ATP levels, normalized to WT

WT   ATRAID KO

E

Relative ATP levels

cDNA:
Metap2 (control)
ATRAID

μM alendronate

F

ATRAID_GT2

Relative ATP levels

μM alendronate

ATRAID_GT2 + cDNA
Metap2 (control)
Tubulin (control)
ATRAID v2
ATRAID v2-Δmem

G

genotype: WT (Wild-type)   ATRAID_GT2 (*ATRAID* deficient)

ATRAID cDNA variant: −   −   v2   v3

alendronate (μM): − 60 90   − 60 90   − 60 90   − 60 90

(unprenylated) Rap1a

PARP-1   full-length →
          cleaved →

Figure S2

Lumbar vertebrae (TRAP staining)
ATRAID genotype
WT (+/+)   KO (-/-)

hi-mag   hi-mag

Lumbar vertebrae
(double-label: calcein->alizarin red)
ATRAID genotype
WT (+/+)   KO (-/-)

hi-mag   hi-mag

M serum bone parameter
N.S.
Serum Total CTX-I (ng/mL)
20 — 15 — 10 — 5
ATRAID genotype: WT KO

N bone histomorphometry
N.S.
Osteoclast surface/ Bone surface (OC.s/BS TRAP+)
0.30 — 0.25 — 0.20 — 0.15 — 0.10
ATRAID genotype: WT KO

O serum bone parameter
*
Serum Gla-Osteocalcin (ng/mL)
10 — 9 — 8 — 7 — 6 — 5 — 4 — 3 — 2 — 1 — 0
ATRAID genotype: WT KO

P bone histomorphometry
*
Bone formation rate/ Bone surface (BFR/BS)
1.0 — 0.8 — 0.6 — 0.4 — 0.2
ATRAID genotype: WT KO

senile (old age, 18 months) osteoporosis model
trabecular (cancellous) bone structure

Q bone volume / trabecular volume (BV/TV, %)
*   N.S.
0.20 — 0.15 — 0.10 — 0.05 — 0.00
alendronate: - + - +
ATRAID: genotype WT (+/+)   KO (-/-)

R bone density (mg/cm^3)
*   N.S.
250 — 200 — 150 — 100 — 50
alendronate: - + - +
ATRAID: genotype WT (+/+)   KO (-/-)

Figure S3

A — Osteoporosis model — senile — osteoclast surface / bone surface (Oc.S/BS)

B — Osteoporosis model — post-menopausal, senile — number of osteoclasts / bone surface (N. OC/BS)

C — Osteoporosis model — post-menopausal, senile — mineral apposition rate (MAR)

D — Osteoporosis model — post-menopausal, senile — bone formation rate / bone surface (BFR/BS, 7d)

E