

Endocrinology Associates Now Treating Hypophosphatasia

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Endocrinology Associates, a well-established provider of advanced endocrinology care in Columbus, Ohio, has officially launched a new treatment service for Hypophosphatasia (HPP), a rare and historically underdiagnosed metabolic bone disease. With this addition, the practice aims to identify and support patients who have long lived with unexplained chronic pain, weakness, and mobility issues stemming from undiagnosed HPP. This new program, led by practice owner and endocrinologist Dr. Elena Christofides, marks a turning point in the local treatment landscape for rare bone disorders.

"HPP is a long-overlooked condition that often hides behind years of pain and misdiagnosis," said Dr. Elena Christofides. "But we now have a deeper understanding of the condition and more importantly, we have treatment options. For the first time, patients who have lived with lifelong suffering have a therapeutic path forward. Our goal is to reduce pain, improve mobility, and most of all, restore quality of life."

Hypophosphatasia is a genetic condition that affects the development of bones and teeth, resulting from mutations in the ALPL gene. The gene normally produces an enzyme vital for bone mineralization. Without it, bones can soften and weaken, mimicking other conditions like rickets or osteoporosis. In adults, HPP may present as recurrent fractures, musculoskeletal pain, premature tooth loss, or even issues with fatigue and depression. The subtle presentation often delays diagnosis, which is where Endocrinology Associates comes in.

Because HPP symptoms frequently overlap with other more common conditions, patients can go years or even decades without a proper diagnosis. It's often only when symptoms persist, worsen, or fail to respond to conventional treatment that HPP is considered. Endocrinology Associates is now equipped to offer not only the right diagnostic tools, but also a comprehensive, patient-first approach to treating the disease in adults.

Dr. Christofides and her team utilize a combination of genetic testing, enzyme activity assessments, and detailed patient histories to pinpoint potential HPP cases. For patients who meet the diagnostic criteria, therapy options may include enzyme replacement therapy and coordinated care plans designed to reduce

pain and restore functional movement. The team also provides education and counseling to help patients understand the long-term implications of the disease and the benefits of early intervention.

“In some cases, a patient may have been told for years that they have fibromyalgia, osteoporosis, or simply “age-related” pain,” added Dr. Christofides. “But what they actually have is a treatable metabolic disorder. That’s why this matters. Proper diagnosis changes everything – how we treat it, how we support the patient, and how much relief we can actually offer.”

Endocrinology Associates’ new HPP program is part of a broader mission to close the care gap in rare endocrine and metabolic disorders. The practice is known for taking on complex referral cases, particularly those involving rare diseases, hormone imbalances, and other difficult-to-diagnose conditions. Their team prioritizes long-term health outcomes and improved quality of life, especially for patients who may have been lost in the system.

Patients experiencing persistent bone pain, frequent fractures, early tooth loss, or unexplained fatigue are encouraged to speak with a medical professional who is trained in rare bone disorders. Early diagnosis can prevent long-term complications and make a significant difference in a patient’s quality of life.

Endocrinology Associates is currently accepting new patients and referrals. Those interested in scheduling a consultation or learning more about the HPP treatment program are encouraged to call the office or visit the new educational webpage at <https://endocrinology-associates.com/hypophosphatasia/>.

About Endocrinology Associates

Endocrinology Associates is an adults-only specialty clinic run by Dr. Elena Christofides. She is an expert endocrinologist and medical researcher recognized for her expertise helping patients manage a variety of conditions, including diabetes, weight management, osteoporosis, hypertension, pituitary disorders, male and female hormone replacement, infertility, and more. Under her guidance, the highly experienced staff at Endocrinology Associates have made a name for themselves for offering personalized and comprehensive care to their patients, and for solving difficult referral cases. Metabolism affects everything one does – and Endocrinology Associates is the manual that will help explain the difficult and complex machine that is the body.

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