

Moderator: Is there a relationship between osteonecrosis and antiphospholipid syndrome?

Dr. Esdaile: Yes. That is the thought but I don't think the evidence is perfect. Some people believe it is and it would not be impossible for there to be a rationale for it. There probably is some increase in osteonecrosis. It is hard to tell you the answer because much of the osteonecrosis in lupus is asymptomatic so the only way to really know if someone has osteonecrosis is to do an x-ray of all of their bones - which we don't do.