

Cinacalcet

[Sink-calcium-cow](#)

The calcimimetic agent cinacalcet is a treatment option for patients with hypercalcemia secondary to primary or secondary hyperparathyroidism. It works by activating the calcium-sensing receptors on chief cells within the parathyroid gland so that less PTH is released and serum calcium levels can normalize. It is often used in patients with parathyroid carcinoma, and dialysis patients with secondary hyperparathyroidism.

Glucocorticosteroids

[Glue-quarter-on-steroids](#)

Patients with lymphomas or chronic granulomatous diseases such as sarcoidosis have hypercalcemia that is caused by excess calcitriol production. Glucocorticoids inhibit calcitriol production by activated mononuclear cells. Prednisone 20 - 40 mg per day is generally effective to decrease serum calcium within one week.

Denosumab

[Dino-sumo](#)

A monoclonal antibody against RANKL, denosumab binds to RANKL and inhibits the activation of osteoclasts leading to decreased bone resorption. It is often used in patients with hypercalcemia of malignancy that is resistant to bisphosphonate use. As it is not renally excreted, it is safe for use in those with kidney disease.