

1 **Original Research (Basic)**

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3 **Increased PHOSPHO1 expression mediates cortical bone mineral density in**
4 **renal osteodystrophy**

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36 **Abstract**

37 Patients with advanced chronic kidney disease (CKD) often present with skeletal abnormalities;
38 a condition known as renal osteodystrophy (ROD). While Tissue-nonspecific alkaline
39 phosphatase (TNAP) and PHOSPHO1 are critical for bone mineralization, their role in the
40 etiology of ROD is unclear. To address this, ROD was induced in both wild-type and *Phospho1*
41 knockout (P1KO) mice using dietary adenine supplementation. The mice presented with
42 hyperphosphatemia, hyperparathyroidism, and elevated levels of FGF23 and bone turnover
43 markers. In particular, we noted that in CKD mice, bone mineral density (BMD) was increased
44 in cortical bone ($p < 0.05$) but decreased in trabecular bone ($p < 0.05$). These changes were
45 accompanied by decreased TNAP ($p < 0.01$) and increased PHOSPHO1 ($p < 0.001$) expression
46 in wild-type CKD bones. In P1KO CKD mice, the cortical BMD phenotype was rescued,
47 suggesting that the increased cortical BMD of CKD mice was driven by increased PHOSPHO1
48 expression. Other structural parameters were also improved in P1KO CKD mice. We further
49 investigated the driver of the mineralization defects, by studying the effects of FGF23, PTH,
50 and phosphate administration on PHOSPHO1 and TNAP expression by primary murine
51 osteoblasts. We found both PHOSPHO1 and TNAP expression to be down-regulated in
52 response to phosphate and PTH. The *in vitro* data suggest that the TNAP reduction in CKD-
53 MBD is driven by the hyperphosphatemia and/or hyperparathyroidism noted in these mice,
54 while the higher PHOSPHO1 expression may be a compensatory mechanism. Increased
55 PHOSPHO1 expression in ROD may contribute to the disordered skeletal mineralization
56 characteristic of this progressive disorder.

57

58 **Keywords:** Bone mineralization; bone mineral density; chronic kidney disease-mineral and
59 bone disorder; renal osteodystrophy; PHOSPHO1; TNAP

60

61 **Introduction**

62 Chronic kidney disease (CKD) is a disorder characterized by progressive loss of kidney
63 function over time. Patients with advanced CKD frequently develop disturbances of mineral
64 and bone metabolism and fail to maintain normal systemic levels of calcium (Ca), inorganic
65 phosphate (Pi), parathyroid hormone (PTH), and fibroblastic growth factor-23 (FGF23) (Moe,
66 et al. 2006). Hyperphosphatemia, hyperparathyroidism, and elevated FGF-23 are the primary
67 indicators for the diagnosis of CKD–mineral bone disorder (CKD–MBD) which develops in
68 the early stages of CKD and disease progression can result in cardiovascular disease and renal
69 osteodystrophy (ROD) – the skeletal pathology component of the CKD-MBD syndrome (Fang,
70 et al. 2014). The current classification system and treatment strategy for ROD are based on
71 changes to bone turnover, mineralization, and volume (Kazama, et al. 2013). A decrease in
72 bone mineral density (BMD) is particularly common in patients with late-stage disease
73 (Nickolas, et al. 2013) but animal models have shown a more varied response (Bajwa, et al.
74 2018; Lau, et al. 2013a; Metzger, et al. 2021). The other ROD-associated skeletal pathologies,
75 have been attributed to CKD-related metabolic and hormonal disturbances (Zheng, et al. 2016).

76
77 Although the precise mechanisms responsible for the impaired skeletal mineralization observed
78 in ROD remain unclear, the origins are likely to involve a complex interplay between bone and
79 the altered endocrine milieu. Phosphorus retention, due to the failing kidney, leads to
80 chronically elevated concentrations of circulating FGF23 in an attempt to normalize serum Pi
81 levels through enhanced urinary secretion and decreased intestinal absorption (Mirza, et al.
82 2009). This is achieved by the inhibition of renal 1α -hydroxylase and stimulation of 24-
83 hydroxylase but the resulting reduction in circulating levels of $1,25(\text{OH})_2\text{D}_3$ contributes to
84 hypocalcaemia and secondary hyperparathyroidism (SHPT) (Shimada, et al. 2004). SHPT
85 promotes bone resorption by increasing the receptor activator of nuclear factor- κB ligand

86 (RANKL)/osteoprotegerin (OPG) ratio (Ma, et al. 2001). The bone formed during rapid
87 remodeling is both immature and poorly mineralized (Gracioli, et al. 2017). Indeed, the
88 mineralization status may be dependent on the prevailing serum PTH concentrations which
89 could explain the various mineralization states reported in ROD (Lau, et al. 2013b; Miller, et
90 al. 1998). It is also possible that altered endocrine factors may directly target the expression of
91 key phosphatases critical for skeletal mineralization. Specifically, FGF23 may inhibit matrix
92 mineralization by suppressing TNAP expression and activity by osteoblasts resulting in the
93 accumulation of the mineralization inhibitor, pyrophosphate (PPi) (Murali, et al. 2016b). Also,
94 PTH may induce a rapid downregulation of *Phospho1* gene expression in osteogenic cells and
95 bone marrow stromal cell lines (Chande and Bergwitz 2018; Houston, et al. 2016). Despite
96 clear links between both TNAP and PHOSPHO1 in the control of skeletal mineralization, their
97 roles in ROD remain unclear.

98

99 PHOSPHO1 and TNAP are two of the most widely studied phosphatases involved in skeletal
100 mineralization (Dillon, et al. 2019). PHOSPHO1 is expressed at sites of mineralization and
101 liberates Pi from phospholipid substrates for incorporation into the mineral phase (Roberts, et
102 al. 2007). *Phospho1* deficient mice exhibit decreased BMD, compromised trabecular and
103 cortical bone microarchitecture, and spontaneous greenstick fractures (Boyde, et al. 2017).
104 TNAP is an ectoenzyme and hydrolyzes PPi to allow the propagation of hydroxyapatite in the
105 extracellular matrix (ECM), beyond the confines of the matrix vesicle membrane (Hessle, et
106 al. 2002). Mice deficient in TNAP (*Alpl*^{-/-}) phenocopy infantile hypophosphatasia (HPP), an
107 inborn error of metabolism resulting in rickets and osteomalacia (Whyte 2008). A complete
108 absence of ECM mineralization is observed in *Phospho1*^{-/-}; *Alpl*^{-/-} double knockout mice and
109 in murine metatarsals cultured in the presence of PHOSPHO1 and TNAP inhibitors
110 demonstrating the functional co-operativity of PHOSPHO1 and TNAP for bone mineralization

111 (Huesa, et al. 2015; Yadav, et al. 2011).

112

113 Despite great advances in understanding the mechanisms responsible for the altered
114 mineralization status noted in ROD, the involvement of phosphatases is unclear. Therefore, in
115 this study, we examined changes in the expression of PHOSPHO1 and TNAP and bone
116 architecture in long bones using the well-established adenine-induced model of CKD (Jia, et
117 al. 2013). We also examined the effects of PTH, FGF23, and Pi on TNAP and PHOSPHO1
118 expression in primary osteoblasts. Our findings support a specific role for
119 PHOSPHO1 particularly in the altered cortical bone mineralization status in ROD.

120

121 **Materials and methods**

122 All reagents were from Sigma-Aldrich (Dorset, UK) or less otherwise stated.

123

124 **Mice**

125 C57BL/6 male mice (Charles River Laboratories, Currie, UK) and were used in the first *in vivo*
126 study. Male *Phospho1* knockout (P1KO) mice and wild-type (WT) controls, maintained on a
127 C57BL/6 background were generated and genotypes as previously described (Yadav et al.
128 2011) and used in the second *in vivo* study. At 8-weeks of age, mice were randomly assigned
129 a control (n = 12) or CKD (n = 12) diet (Fig. S1A). Mice losing more than 30% of their body
130 weight were euthanized by exposure to CO₂ and confirmed dead by cervical dislocation. All
131 animal experiments were approved by the Roslin Institute's named veterinary surgeon and
132 named animal care and welfare officer (NACWO), with animals maintained in accordance with
133 the Home Office code of practice (for the housing and care of animals bred, supplied, ARRIVE
134 guidelines or used for scientific purposes).

135

136 **CKD diet and tissue collection**

137 CKD was induced by feeding a casein-based diet containing 0.6% calcium, 0.9% phosphate,
138 1.5% Vitamin Mix, AIN-76A (containing vitamin D₃) and 0.2% adenine (Catalogue number:
139 TD.140290, Envigo, Teklad Co. Ltd). Control mice received the same diet without adenine
140 (Catalogue number: TD.138898, Envigo). All mice were fed their respective diets for 5 weeks
141 and at 13 weeks of age, all animals were sacrificed, and blood was obtained by cardiac puncture
142 under terminal anesthesia. Femora, tibiae, and kidneys were harvested and processed and stored
143 accordingly.

144

145 **Serum and urine biochemistry**

146 Serum blood urea nitrogen (BUN), creatinine (Cr), Ca, Pi, and alkaline phosphatase (ALP)
147 activity were quantified using a biochemistry analyzer (Beckman Coulter AU480, Olympus).
148 Intact PTH (Pathway Diagnostics, Dorking, UK), FGF23 (Kainos Laboratories, Inc. Japan), N-
149 terminal propeptide of human procollagen type I (P1NP) and carboxy-terminal telopeptide of
150 type I collagen (α CTX) (Wuhan Fine Biotech, Wuhan, China), levels were determined by
151 ELISA according to manufacturers' instructions. Hydrophobic bedding, LabSand (Coastline
152 Global, CA, USA) was used to collect urine samples from which the concentration of Cr and
153 albumin were determined by semi-quantitative test strips (Microalbustix, Siemens) and the
154 specific gravity (SG) was determined by a manual refractometer.

155

156 **Histopathological analysis of kidney and bone tissues**

157 The right tibiae and kidneys were fixed in 4% paraformaldehyde (PFA, for 24 hrs) and stored
158 in 70% ethanol. Kidneys were processed to paraffin wax using standard procedures.
159 Haematoxylin and eosin (H&E), Masson's trichrome, and von Kossa staining were performed
160 according to standard methods. Histopathological scoring of renal interstitial inflammation,

161 tubular atrophy, protein casts, and renal fibrosis was defined as 0 = normal; 1 = mild,
162 involvement of < 25% of the cortex; 2 = moderate, involvement of 25 to 50% of the cortex; 3
163 = severe, involvement of 50 to 75% of the cortex; 4 = extensive, involvement of > 75% of the
164 cortex. Bones were decalcified in 10% ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid (EDTA; pH 7.4) for 14
165 days at 4°C and processed to paraffin wax. Sections were stained by Goldner's Trichrome and
166 reacted for tartrate-resistant acid phosphatase (TRAP). Bone histomorphometry was quantified
167 using the BioQuant Osteo software (BIOQUANT Image Analysis Corporation, Texas, USA)
168 using the approved ASBMR histomorphometry nomenclature (three sections/bone: six
169 randomly selected bones from each group).

170

171 **Microcomputed tomography (μ CT)**

172 The bone structure of the left tibiae was determined using micro-computed tomography (μ CT,
173 Skyscan 1172, Bruker, Kontich, Belgium). High-resolution scans with an isotropic voxel size
174 of 5 μ m were acquired (60 kV, 167 μ A, and 0.5 mm filter, 0.6° rotation angle) and from the
175 reconstructed images (NRecon 1.7.3.0 program; Bruker), CTAn software 1.15.4.0 (Skyscan)
176 was used to visualize and determine bone histomorphometric parameters. Three-dimensional
177 images were created using IMARIS 9.0.

178

179 In the proximal tibial metaphysis, the volume of interest (VOI) extended distally 5% from the
180 bottom of the growth plate excluding the cortical shell. A total of 250 slices beneath this 5%
181 were selected to exclude the primary spongiosa. In the first *in vivo* study, whole bone cortical
182 analysis was performed on datasets derived from whole μ CT scans using BoneJ (version
183 1.13.14) a plugin for ImageJ. Following segmentation, alignment, and removal of fibula from
184 the dataset, a minimum bone threshold was selected for each bone to separate higher density
185 bone from soft tissues and air. The most proximal and the most distal 10% portions of tibial

186 length were excluded from analysis, as these regions include trabecular bone. In the 2nd *in vivo*
187 study cortical analysis was performed on datasets derived from μ CT scan images at 50% of the
188 total tibial length from the top of the tibia. BMD phantoms of known calcium hydroxyapatite
189 mineral densities of 0.25 and 0.75 g/cm³ were scanned and reconstructed using the same
190 parameters as used for bone samples.

191

192 **Primary calvarial osteoblast isolation and culture**

193 Calvarial osteoblasts were obtained from 3 to 5-day-old C57BL/6 mice by sequential enzyme
194 digestion [1 mg/ml collagenase type II (Worthington Biochemical, Lakewood, NJ, USA) in
195 Hanks' balanced salt solution (Life Technologies, Paisley, UK); 4 mM EDTA]. The cells were
196 grown in α -minimum essential medium (α MEM, Invitrogen, Paisley, UK) supplemented with
197 10% fetal bovine serum (FBS) and 0.5% gentamycin (Life Technologies) until confluent.

198

199 **Establishment of Pi-substrate free mineralization model for primary osteoblast culture**

200 To study the effects of varying Pi concentrations on phosphatase expression it was essential to
201 control Pi concentration in the basal mineralizing medium. This ruled out the use of β -
202 glycerophosphate (β GP) as the availability of Pi from β GP requires the action of TNAP (Huesa
203 et al. 2015) which can itself be modulated by CKD-associated endocrine factors such as Pi,
204 PTH, and FGF23 (Houston et al. 2016; Rendenbach, et al. 2014; Shalhoub, et al. 2011).
205 Therefore, upon confluence (day 0), mineralization was induced by supplementing the growth
206 medium (**basal concentration:** 1.8 mM Ca;1 mM Pi) with 50 μ g/ml L-ascorbic acid (AA) and
207 1.5 mM CaCl₂ **to provide a final medium containing 3.3 mM Ca** (Houston et al. 2016).
208 Cultures were also supplemented with a range of Pi (1-5 mM), PTH (0-50 nM), and FGF23 (0-
209 200 ng/ml) with or without klotho (50 ng/ml) (R&D Systems, Abington, UK). Cells were
210 maintained in a 5% CO₂ atmosphere at 37°C and mineralization media was changed every

211 second/third day for 28 days.

212

213 **Cell viability and cytotoxicity assay**

214 To assess the effects of Pi on osteoblast viability, the AlamarBlue assay (Thermo Fisher
215 Scientific, Loughborough, UK), and lactate dehydrogenase (LDH) CytoTox 96 cytotoxicity
216 assay (Promega, Southampton, UK) were performed according to manufacturer's instructions.

217

218 **RNA extraction and quantitative polymerase chain reaction**

219 The distal and proximal epiphyses of the left femorae were excised, and the diaphyseal bone
220 marrow was removed by centrifugation at 13,000 x g for 10 mins at 4°C. The resultant cortical
221 shafts were homogenized using a Rotor-Stator Homogenizer (Ultra-Turrax T10). RNA
222 extraction from the homogenized bone and cultured osteoblasts was completed using the
223 RNeasy kit (Qiagen). The RNA concentration was determined using a NanoDrop
224 spectrophotometer (Fisher Scientific, Loughborough, UK) at a wavelength of 260 nm, and
225 RNA purity was evaluated by the 260/280 nm ratio. RNA was reverse transcribed to
226 complementary DNA (cDNA) using Superscript II (Invitrogen). All genes were analyzed with
227 the SYBR green detection method (PCR Biosystems, UK) using the Stratagene Mx3000P real-
228 time QPCR system (Agilent Technologies, Santa Clara, USA). Gene expression data were
229 normalized against housekeeping genes (*Gapdh* in primary osteoblasts and *Atp5b* in bone tissue)
230 using MxPro software (Cheshire, UK). The relative expression of the analyzed genes was
231 calculated and expressed as a fold change compared to control values. Primer sequences are
232 listed in Supplementary Table S1.

233

234 **Protein extraction and isolation from brush border membrane vesicles (BBMV) of kidney**

235 Kidneys were homogenized in ice-cold buffer A [50 mM D-mannitol, 2 mM 4-(2-

236 hydroxyethyl)-1-piperazineethanesulfonic acid (HEPES), 2.5 mM ethylene glycol-bis (2-
237 aminoethylether)-N, N, N', N'-tetraacetic acid (EGTA), and 12 mM Tris-base titrated to pH 7.1]
238 mixed with a protease inhibitor cocktail. BBMVs were isolated from microvilli of kidneys
239 using 2 consecutive magnesium precipitations in buffer A and then buffer B [150 mM D-
240 mannitol, 2.5 mM EGTA, and 6 mM Tris hydrochloride. The resultant BBMV pellet was
241 resuspended in radioimmunoprecipitation assay (RIPA) buffer (Thermo Fisher Scientific)
242 containing a protease inhibitor cocktail.

243

244 **Western blot analysis**

245 Protein from cultured osteoblasts and right femorae diaphyseal cortical bone (with marrow
246 removed) was extracted in RIPA buffer containing protease inhibitor cocktail after
247 homogenization. Protein concentrations were determined using the BCA protein assay kit (Life
248 Technologies). Proteins were separated using a 10% Bis-Tris protein gel (Thermo Fisher
249 Scientific). After blocking in 5% skimmed milk/Tris-buffered saline with Tween 20 (TBST)
250 or LI-COR buffer at room temperature (RT) for 1 hour, the membranes were incubated
251 sequentially with primary and secondary antibodies (Tables S2 and S3). Western blot analysis
252 of proteins from primary osteoblasts was performed using the Odyssey infrared detection
253 system (LI-COR). Western blot analysis of proteins from bone tissues was undertaken using
254 the ultra-sensitive enhanced chemiluminescence detection system (Thermo Fisher Scientific).
255 The blots were imaged by the GeneGnome XRQ chemiluminescence imaging system (Syngene,
256 UK). Densitometry of the protein bands was analyzed with Image J software (NIH) for
257 quantification.

258

259 **Quantification of ECM mineralization**

260 Cultured osteoblasts were fixed in 4 % PFA for 10 mins at RT and stained with aqueous 2 %

261 (w/v) Alizarin red solution for 10 mins at RT. The bound stain was solubilized in 10 %
262 cetylpyridinium chloride and the optical density was measured by spectrophotometry at 570
263 nm.

264

265 **Statistical analysis**

266 Quantitative data are expressed as the mean \pm standard error of the mean (SEM) of at least
267 three biological replicates per experiment. The precise number (n) is indicated in the relevant
268 table and figure legends. Statistical analysis was performed using a two-tailed Student's t-test
269 or one-way analysis of variance (ANOVA) followed by Tukey's range test, as appropriate.
270 Statistical analysis was implemented by the GraphPad Prism software. A $p < 0.05$ was
271 considered to be significant and noted as "*". p values of < 0.01 , < 0.001 , and < 0.0001 were
272 noted as "****", "*****" and "*****" respectively.

273

274 **Results**

275 **Verification of the CKD mouse model**

276 Before investigating TNAP and PHOSPHO1 expression in experimental ROD we first
277 confirmed that our mouse model presents with the characteristic serum biochemistries and
278 kidney pathology of CKD. The CKD mice lost bodyweight and presented with the expected
279 changes to serum and urine analyte levels at the end of the study (Fig. S1B and Table 1). The
280 kidneys of CKD mice presented with various pathologies including tubular atrophy, protein
281 casts, interstitial inflammation, and renal fibrosis (Fig S2). Furthermore, transcripts encoding
282 kidney injury biomarkers *Lcn2* (protein; Ng2), and *Spp1* [protein; osteopontin (OPN)] (Kaleta
283 2019; Viau, et al. 2010), as well as *Fgf23*, were increased in CKD mice whereas *Slc34a1*
284 (protein; NaPi-2a) expression was decreased (Fig. S3A). Protein expression of OPN and NaPi-
285 2a by BBMV confirmed the transcript data (Fig. S3B). Collectively, these data confirm

286 previous reports that mice fed an adenine-rich diet for 5 weeks developed CKD (Jia et al. 2013;
287 Metzger, et al. 2020; Tamura, et al. 2009).

288

289 **PHOSPHO1 and TNAP expression are altered in bones of CKD mice**

290 *Phospho1* expression was increased and *Alpl* expression decreased in the femur of CKD mice
291 when compared to control mice. The expression of *Enpp1*, *Slc20a2*, *Ank*, *Bglap*, *Pdgn*, *Runx2*,
292 *Bmp2*, *Npnt*, and *Tnfrsf11b* was decreased whereas femoral expression of *Fgf23*, and *Adipoq*,
293 were increased in CKD mice when compared to control mice (Fig. 1A). The changes in
294 *Phospho1* and *Alpl* expression in femurs of CKD mice was confirmed at the protein level (Figs.
295 1B, C).

296

297 **Cortical BMD is increased in CKD mice and influenced by PHOSPHO1 status**

298 **Trabecular BMD, bone volume/tissue volume (BV/TV), thickness (Th), structural model index**
299 **(SMI) and connectivity density (Conn Dn.) of the tibiae were all decreased in CKD mice when**
300 **compared to controls (Fig. 2).** Cortical bone parameters were also altered in CKD mice; cortical
301 **BMD was increased in discrete regions, whereas cross-sectional area (CSA), cortical thickness,**
302 **resistance to torsion, and Imin and Imax were all generally lower over the entire tibial length**
303 **of CKD mice (Figs. 3a, c, d, f, i, j).** Consistent with the thinner cortex, the medullary area **and**
304 the endosteal perimeter **were** increased and the periosteal perimeter decreased in the CKD mice
305 (Figs. 3b, **d**, g, h). The histomorphometric analysis **is consistent with** the reduced trabecular
306 BV/TV in the CKD mice (Fig. S4A, i & ii, and Fig. S4B). The osteoid volume/bone volume
307 (OV/BV) was increased in CKD mice confirming the impaired mineralization in this
308 compartment (Fig. S4A, iii & iv, and Fig S4B). Osteoclast number associated with trabecular
309 bone within the primary spongiosa of CKD mice was increased (Fig. S4A, v & vi and Fig.

310 S4B); an observation consistent with decreased *Tnfrsf11b* (osteoprotegerin) expression in CKD
311 bones (Fig. 1A) and higher serum α CTX concentrations in CKD mice (Table 1).

312

313 The increased cortical BMD in CKD-MBD mice (Fig. 3a) aligns with the higher PHOSPHO1
314 expression in the cortical bone shafts, despite being an unexpected finding in the CKD-MBD
315 mice (Figs. 1A-C). To explore this further, we next examined bone from PHOSPHO1 deficient
316 (P1KO) mice maintained on the 0.2% adenine supplemented diet for 5 weeks. Cortical analysis
317 was performed on datasets derived from μ CT scan images at 50% of the total tibial length as
318 this region of bone from CKD mice had a higher BMD than control counterparts (Fig 3a). As
319 previously noted, (Fig. 3a), the cortical BMD of WT CKD mice was increased compared to
320 WT control mice but, in contrast, no such increase was apparent in P1KO CKD mice, which
321 had a BMD similar to their respective P1KO controls but as expected lower than the BMD of
322 WT control mice (Fig. 4). Structural cortical bone changes were also influenced by the absence
323 of PHOSPHO1 in the P1KO mice; the CKD-induced increases in porosity and decreases in
324 BV/TV, CSA, and Th noted in WT CKD mice were all blunted in P1KO CKD mice compared
325 to P1KO control mice (Fig. 4). **The response of trabecular bone in mice with CKD was similarly**
326 **affected by PHOSPHO1 status (Fig S5).**

327

328 **Pi, PTH, and FGF23 perturb ECM mineralization and the expression of key**
329 **mineralization markers in primary osteoblasts**

330 To **investigate** the causes of the mineralization defects noted in the CKD mice, we investigated
331 the direct effects of FGF23, PTH, and Pi on the expression of PHOSPHO1 and TNAP and
332 other key regulators of mineralization by primary osteoblasts in cultures. Over 28 days, the
333 basal Pi-substrate free mineralization media promoted matrix mineralization (Figs. **S6A, B**)

334 and PHOSPHO1 and TNAP expression in a temporal manner at both the gene and protein level
335 confirming the suitability of this culture model for our purposes (Figs. S6C-E).

336

337 At concentrations of 2 mM and above, Pi significantly down-regulated *Phospho1*, *Alpl*, and
338 *Bglap* mRNA expression ($p < 0.01$, Fig. 5A). In contrast, *Enpp1*, *Spp1* and *Slc20a1* expression
339 was increased at the higher Pi concentrations ($p < 0.05$, Fig. 5A). Cell viability as assessed by
340 Alamar blue and LDH release was unaffected at all Pi concentrations tested (Fig. S7).
341 PHOSPHO1 and TNAP protein expression were also inhibited by increasing Pi concentrations
342 whereas the addition of Pi, 3 mM and above, increased the formation of mineralized bone
343 nodules in a dose-dependent manner ($p < 0.001$, Figs. 5B, C).

344

345 Administration of PTH at > 5 nM downregulated the expression of *Phospho1*, *Alpl* and *Bglap*
346 ($p < 0.01$, Fig. 6A). *Enpp1*, *Slc20a2*, and *Runx2* expression were also decreased but only at
347 higher PTH concentrations ($p < 0.05$, Fig. 6A). Reduction of PHOSPHO1 and TNAP protein
348 expression by increasing PTH concentrations mirrored the changes in gene expression (Fig.
349 6B). The addition of PTH inhibited ECM mineralization and this was noted at concentrations
350 as low as 0.5 nM. Mineralization was completely abolished at 25 and 50 nM ($p < 0.001$, Fig.
351 6C).

352

353 Exposure to FGF23 had little effect on the expression of the genes studied although both
354 *Phospho1* and *Alpl* expression were decreased but only at the highest FGF23 concentrations (p
355 < 0.05 , Fig. 7A). The addition of Klotho to the FGF23 supplemented cultures had no further
356 effects on gene expression when compared with FGF23 alone (data not shown). A similar trend
357 was also noted at the protein level where PHOSPHO1 and TNAP expression decreased in a
358 FGF23 concentration-dependent manner but this change did not reach statistical significance

359 from control-treated cultures (Fig. 7B). A similar response was observed in the presence of
360 FGF23 and Klotho (data not shown). FGF23 with or without klotho had no effects on ECM
361 mineralization of primary osteoblasts at the concentrations tested (Fig. 7C and data not shown).

362

363 **Discussion**

364 This study has shown that PHOSPHO1 and TNAP, two phosphatases required for bone
365 mineralization, have altered expression in ROD. Specifically, the ROD phenotype was
366 characterized by increased cortical BMD and this response may be mediated by increased
367 PHOSPHO1 expression. **However, the altered PHOSPHO1 expression is unlikely to be a direct
368 result of the increased PTH, FGF23 and Pi concentrations as all decreased PHOSPHO1
369 expression in osteoblast cultures. The effects of uremic toxins and low calcitriol were not
370 studied in our *in vitro* model. Nevertheless, this study is the first to implicate PHOSPHO1
371 function in the altered mineralization status of bones in a murine model of ROD.**

372

373 In humans, deteriorating renal function contributes to the progression of ROD which results in
374 bone loss, osteoporosis, and eventually increased morbidity and mortality resulting from
375 fractures and/or cardiovascular disease (Gal-Moscovici and Sprague 2007). A similar bone
376 phenotype was mirrored in this present study where cortical thinning, lower BV/TV, and
377 increased cortical porosity were noted in the adenine-fed mice. The loss of bone is likely to be
378 multi-factorial but PTH enhanced bone resorption via altered RANKL and OPG expression is
379 likely to predominate (Ma et al. 2001). In the early stages of CKD, the low bone turnover
380 disease results from bone cell inactivity due to PTH resistance, as well as reduced calcitriol
381 levels, and accumulation of uremic toxins (Couttenye, et al. 1999). When renal function further
382 deteriorates, the chronically increased PTH levels overcome peripheral PTH resistance and
383 activate the indolent bone cells, leading to high turnover bone disease (Drüeke and Massy

384 2016). Bone resorption predominates in both high and low bone turnover disease and the
385 resultant elevated serum Ca and Pi levels promote bone extra-skeletal (vascular) calcification
386 (Zheng et al. 2016). In agreement with the results of this present study, others have also
387 reported increased cortical porosity and compromised bone architecture in CKD rodent models
388 although inconsistent effects on the cortical and trabecular compartments have been reported
389 (Jia et al. 2013; Metzger et al. 2021; Miller et al. 1998; Ogirima, et al. 2006). Although humans
390 with CKD have been reported to have lower cortical BMD inconsistencies in trabecular and
391 cortical BMD in CKD animal models also exist (Lau et al. 2013b; Nickolas et al. 2013).
392 Specifically, in a mouse nephrectomy model in which serum Pi levels were unchanged,
393 trabecular and cortical BMD were increased and decreased, respectively which was the
394 opposite to that found in this present study (Lau et al. 2013b). The increased trabecular BMD
395 was not influenced by dietary phosphate content whereas the decreased cortical BMD was only
396 noted in mice fed a high phosphate (0.9%) and not a normal phosphate (0.5%) containing diet
397 (Lau et al. 2013b). In this present study, mice were fed a 0.9% phosphate containing diet and
398 analysis revealed that at no location along the entire cortical bone shaft was BMD lower in the
399 CKD mice. The spectrum of bone phenotypes reported in CKD-MBD models may reflect the
400 differing serum PTH levels at the point of study, as progressive SHPT is linked with different
401 effects on bone quality and structure (Miller et al. 1998). Furthermore, whether differential
402 expression of PHOSPHO1 and TNAP within the trabecular and cortical bone compartments
403 contributes to the divergent BMD response is unclear and requires further investigation.

404

405 The high bone turnover status in SHPT will contribute to bone that is less mineralized, a
406 hallmark of stage 4 and 5 CKD, and lead to reduced mechanical strength and increased risk of
407 fractures (Drüeke and Massy 2016). Similarly, in this present study, PTH induced skeletal
408 remodeling is likely to, at least in part, explain the poorly mineralized trabecular bone noted in

409 this study although PTH exposure can also inhibit osteoblast differentiation and thus indirectly
410 delay osteoid production and matrix mineralization (Qin, et al. 2004). **Furthermore, in humans**
411 **and mice**, the CKD-driven increase in osteocyte secretion of Wnt/ β -catenin-signaling inhibitors,
412 such as FGF23, dickkopf 1, and sclerostin may negatively affect osteoblast function and
413 contribute to the mineralization defect in ROD (Evenepoel, et al. 2015; Murali, et al. 2016a).
414 The results of this present study offer changes to PHOSPHO1 and TNAP osteoblast expression
415 as an additional/alternative explanation for the altered bone mineralization status associated
416 with ROD.

417

418 Monitoring serum ALP has been regarded as a useful serum marker of bone turnover in ROD
419 however its expression in bone, functioning as a phosphatase capable of mineralizing osteoid
420 has not to our knowledge been explored in the pathogenesis of ROD (Bervoets, et al. 2003).
421 The decreased *Alpl* expression in CKD cortical bone was not however consistent with the
422 observed increased cortical BMD and we hypothesize that the latter is possibly driven by
423 increased PHOSPHO1 expression **which has been shown *in vitro* to promote osteoblast matrix**
424 **mineralization** (Huesa et al. 2015). To examine this further we determined cortical BMD and
425 other structural parameters in P1KO CKD mice. In the absence of PHOSPHO1, cortical BMD
426 in control mice was decreased as previously reported and the increased BMD in cortical bone
427 of CKD wild-type mice was not observed in the P1KO CKD mice (Yadav et al. 2011).
428 Furthermore, other structural parameters such as cortical porosity, thickness and CSA were
429 also improved in P1KO CKD mice. **It is possible that the milder cortical bone alterations noted**
430 **in the CKD PHOSPHO1 KO mice are a consequence of a less severe CKD phenotype in these**
431 **mice. To answer this we completed a full renal histopathological examination of the kidneys**
432 **and renal scoring of tubular atrophy, protein casts, interstitial inflammation, and renal fibrosis**
433 **of sections in the WT CKD mice and PHOSPHO1 KO CKD mice were similar (data not**

434 shown). Unfortunately, limited blood was obtained from the small CKD PHOSPHO1 KO mice
435 and only serum creatinine concentrations were measured, and these did not differ between WT
436 CKD mice (0.52 ± 0.02 mg/dL, n = 4) and PHOSPHO1 KO CKD mice (0.49 ± 0.02 mg/dL, n
437 = 5) (NS). The creatinine values were also similar in the WT control (0.30 ± 0.02 mg/dL n =
438 3) and PHOSPHO1 control (0.31 ± 0.03 mg/dL, n = 8) mice. Although these data have
439 limitations, the combined creatinine and kidney pathology data does suggest that the severity
440 of CKD is similar in WT and PHOSPHO1 KO mice.

441

442 Whilst supportive of our hypothesis, the mechanisms responsible for the increased PHOSPHO1
443 in cortical bone are unclear and cannot be explained by the direct effects of Pi, FGF23, and
444 PTH which are all inhibitory to PHOSPHO1 expression by osteoblasts *in vitro* as shown in this
445 study. A compensatory mechanism in an attempt to protect the bone from hypomineralization
446 may be a possibility but further work on this and whether PHOSPHO1 deficiency improves
447 bone health in ROD by decreasing cortical porosity is warranted (Metzger et al. 2020). The
448 decreased cortical bone TNAP expression could be a direct effect of Pi and PTH on osteoblasts
449 as shown by the *in vitro* data of this and other *in vitro* studies (Houston et al. 2016; Rendenbach
450 et al. 2014). Furthermore, whilst not observed in this study, others have reported a direct
451 inhibitory effect of FGF23 on osteoblast matrix mineralization *in vitro* which may be mediated
452 by decreased TNAP expression and an accumulation of PPI, **via FGF receptor-3** (Murali et al.
453 2016a; Shalhoub et al. 2011). However, indirect systemic effects via disrupted vitamin D status
454 and Pi and Ca metabolism are also likely to contribute to the altered TNAP expression in bone
455 of CKD-MBD mice (Bover, et al. 2018; Rendenbach et al. 2014).

456

457 Several studies have reported that **murine** mineralizing cells including cementoblasts,
458 chondrocytes, and osteoblasts **maintained in culture** are sensitive to P_i and respond by altering

459 the expression of mineralization-associated genes and transcription factors (Beck, et al. 2000;
460 Foster, et al. 2006). The regulation of biomineralization by Pi may be related to its ability to
461 stimulate MV release and/or the accumulation of type III NaP(i) transporter (PiT1) in
462 **osteogenic cultures** promoting Pi uptake and ECM mineralization (Chaudhary, et al. 2016;
463 Yoshiko, et al. 2007). **Importantly, these early *in vitro* PiT1 studies used foscarnet**
464 **(phosphonomethanoic acid) which has now been shown to be a non-specific inhibitor of**
465 **sodium-phosphate transporters and therefore some caution should be taken in interpreting these**
466 **results (Clerin, et al. 2020; Foster et al. 2006; Villa-Bellosta and Sorribas 2009; Yoshiko et al.**
467 **2007). Furthermore, *in vivo* studies in mice have shown that it is not PiT-1 that is important for**
468 ***in vivo* mineralization but PiT-2 (Beck-Cormier, et al. 2019; Yamada, et al. 2018).** In relation
469 to this present study, the availability of exogenous Pi to promote osteoblast matrix
470 mineralization by-passes the requirement for Pi production from phosphocholine and
471 phosphoethanolamine by PHOSPHO1 and PPI by TNAP (Ciancaglini, et al. 2010; Houston, et
472 al. 2004; Roberts et al. 2007) and may explain the concentration-dependent decrease in
473 PHOSPHO1 and TNAP expression by exogenous Pi **which has been shown to operate in**
474 **cultured cementoblasts** as part of a negative feedback mechanism (Foster et al. 2006). In this
475 regard, human PHOSPHO1 shares approximately 30% homology at the amino acid level with
476 a tomato phosphate starvation-induced gene product, LePS2, which possesses phosphatase
477 activity that can convert organic phosphorus into available Pi. Intriguingly, LePS2 expression
478 is tightly and negatively regulated by Pi availability and is thus induced in the absence, but
479 repressed in the presence of Pi (Stenzel, et al. 2003). It is unknown if such a Pi negative
480 feedback mechanism controls PHOSPHO1 expression but the increased osteoclast resorption
481 observed in ROD will bring about the release of Pi which will contribute to the observed
482 hyperphosphatemia and impede the skeleton from exerting its normal reservoir function when
483 serum Pi concentrations increase (Hruska, et al. 2008). In such a scenario, the resulting Pi stress

484 conditions experienced by the skeleton may drive higher PHOSPHO1 expression in a similar
485 way to the LePS2 protein and other phosphatases such as OsACP1 a PHOSPHO1-like acid
486 phosphatase in rice (Deng, et al. 2022).

487

488 In summary, this study has identified PHOSPHO1 as a possible mediator in the development
489 of the cortical bone phenotype in ROD, thus providing a foundation for future research to
490 explore potential therapies to improve bone health in CKD-MBD.

491

492 **Credit authorship contribution statement**

493 **Shun-Neng Hsu:** Conceptualization, Formal Analysis, Methodology, Investigation, Writing –
494 Original draft, Funding acquisition. **Louise A Stephen:** Formal Analysis, Methodology,
495 Investigation, Supervision, Writing – Review & Editing. **Scott Dillon:** Formal Analysis,
496 Methodology, Investigation. **Elsbeth Milne:** Formal Analysis, Methodology. **Behzad**
497 **Javaheri:** Formal Analysis, Methodology. **Andrew A Pitsillides:** Methodology, Investigation.
498 **Amanda Novak:** Conceptualization, Methodology. **Jose Luis Millán:** Investigation. **Vicky E**
499 **Macrae:** Conceptualization, Supervision, Funding acquisition; Writing – Review & Editing.
500 **Katherine A Staines:** Conceptualization, Investigation, Supervision, Writing – Review &
501 Editing, Funding acquisition. **Colin Farquharson:** Conceptualization, Investigation, Writing
502 – Review & Editing, Supervision, Funding acquisition. All authors approved the final version
503 of the manuscript.

504

505 **Declaration of interest**

506 The authors declare that they have no competing interest.

507

508 **Ethical Approval**

509 All experimental protocols were approved by Roslin Institute's Animal Users Committee and
510 the animals were maintained in accordance with UK Home Office guidelines for the care and
511 use of laboratory animals, and with the ARRIVE guidelines.

512

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529

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681

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683

684

685 **Table 1. Body weight, serum, and urine biochemistries in control and CKD mice.**

Parameters	CONTROL	CKD	P Value
	(n = 12)	(n = 8)	
Body Weight (g)	27.07 ± 1.81	19.06 ± 2.75	<0.0001
Serum			
BUN (mg/dL)	25.51 ± 1.18	65.16 ± 1.82	<0.0001
Cr (mg/dL)	0.33 ± 0.00	0.58 ± 0.01	<0.0001
Ca (mg/dL)	9.70 ± 0.15	10.65 ± 0.18	<0.0001
Pi (mg/dL)	9.02 ± 0.24	13.32 ± 0.62	<0.0001
ALP (IU/L)	162.92 ± 22.06	120.80 ± 6.01	NS
PTH (pg/mL)	1070.35 ± 154.40	1967.13 ± 204.40	<0.01
FGF23 (ng/mL)	0.32 ± 0.05	47.74 ± 4.56	<0.0001
Total P1NP (ng/mL)	0.42 ± 0.08	0.78 ± 0.09	<0.01
αCTx (ng/mL)	6.19 ± 1.86	16.45 ± 1.97	<0.01
Urine			
Cr (mg/dl)	262.50 ± 18.30	62.50 ± 8.18	<0.0001
Albumin	141.25 ± 8.75	42.50 ± 8.18	<0.0001
SG	>1.04 ± 0.00	1.02 ± 0.00	<0.0001
Urine/Serum ratio			
UCr/SCr	799.93 ± 49.51	99.72 ± 11.58	<0.0001

BUN, blood urea nitrogen; Cr, creatinine; Ca, calcium; Pi, phosphorus; ALP, alkaline phosphatase; PTH, parathyroid hormone; FGF23, fibroblast growth factor 23; SG, specific gravity; UACR, urine albumin/urine creatinine ratio; UCr/SCr, urine creatinine/serum creatinine. Four mice on the CKD diet lost > 30% bodyweight between 4 and 5 weeks and were removed from the study. The data are represented as the means ± SEM.

686

687

688 **Figure legends**

689 **Fig 1. Expression of osteoblast and mineralization markers in mouse femurs from CTL**
690 **and CKD mice.** (A) Expression of key mineralization and osteoblast marker genes in femurs
691 of CTL and CKD mice at end of the study (13 weeks of age). Of note, *Fgf23* and *Phospho1*
692 expression were increased and *Alpl* expression was decreased in the femurs of the CKD-MBD
693 mice. (B) Representative image of 2 CTL and 2 CKD-MBD femurs analyzed by western blot
694 for PHOSPHO1 and TNAP expression (C) Quantification of PHOSPHO1 and TNAP
695 expression indicated that PHOSPHO1 was increased and TNAP was decreased in the femur of
696 CKD-MBD mice compared with control mice. The data are represented as the mean \pm SEM (n
697 = 8); * $p < 0.05$; ** $p < 0.01$; *** $p < 0.001$; **** $p < 0.0001$).

698

699 **Fig 2. Micro-CT analysis of trabecular bone of the tibia.** Micro-CT analysis of tibia from
700 male C57BL/6 mice fed a CTL or CKD diet for 5 weeks. Tb. BMD (trabecular bone mineral
701 density; g/cm^3); Tb. BV/TV (trabecular bone volume/tissue volume; %); Tb. Th. (trabecular
702 thickness; mm); SMI (structure model index); Tb. Conn Dn (trabecular connectivity density;
703 mm^{-3}) were all decreased in the CKD-MBD mice. Tb. N. (trabecular number; mm^{-1}) was
704 unchanged. Tibia of n = 8 (CTL mice) vs n = 8 (CKD-MBD mice) biological replicates were
705 analysed. The data are represented as the means \pm SEM. * $p < 0.05$; ** $p < 0.01$; *** $p < 0.001$
706 versus CTL.

707

708 **Fig 3. Micro-CT analysis of whole cortical bone of the tibia.** Micro-CT analysis of tibia
709 from male C57BL/6 mice fed a CTL or CKD diet for 5 weeks. Quantification of whole bone
710 analyses of cortical bone between 10% and 90% of total tibial length, excluding proximal and
711 distal metaphyseal bone, of CTL and CKD tibia at 13 weeks of age. (a) BMD (bone mineral
712 density; g/cm^3), (b) medullary area (cm^2) and (g) endosteal perimeter (mm) were generally

713 increased and (c) CSA (cross-sectional area; mm²), (d) mean thickness (mm), (f) resistance to
714 torsion (J; mm⁴), (h) periosteal perimeter (mm), (i) Imin (mm⁴), (j) Imax (mm⁴) were generally
715 decreased in the CKD-MBD bones. Tibia of n = 8 (CTL mice) vs n = 8 (CKD mice) biological
716 replicates were analysed. $p < 0.05$ was significant and $p \leq 0.01$ – 0.05 was noted as green, $p \leq$
717 0.001 – 0.01 as yellow and $p \leq 0.000$ – 0.001 as red. Not significant is noted as blue.

718

719 **Fig 4. Micro-CT analysis of cortical bone of wild-type (WT) and PHOSPHO1 deficient**
720 **CTL and CKD mice.** Quantification of cortical bone mineral density (Ct. BMD), cortical bone
721 volume/tissue volume (Ct. BV/TV), cortical cross-sectional area (Ct. CSA), cortical thickness
722 (Ct. Th), and closed pore porosity (Ct Po (cl)) at 50% of the total tibial length from the top of
723 the tibia. Of note, BMD was increased in the WT CKD-MBD tibia but not the PHOSPHO1
724 deficient CKD-MBD tibia when compared to their respective controls. The data are represented
725 as the mean \pm SEM (n = 8); * $p < 0.05$; ** $p < 0.001$; **** $p < 0.0001$ compared to WT CTL
726 bones.

727

728 **Fig 5. Regulation of key mineralization associated genes, proteins and osteoblast**
729 **extracellular matrix mineralization by Pi in primary osteoblasts.** (A) Expression analysis
730 of *Phospho1*, *Alpl*, *Enpp1*, *Spp1*, *Slc20a1*, *Slc20a2*, *Bglap*, and *Runx2* by osteoblasts in
731 response to Pi (1-5 mM), (B) western blotting analysis and quantification of PHOSPHO1 and
732 TNAP expression in response to Pi and (C) representative images and quantification of alizarin
733 red staining in response to Pi for 28 days after confluency. PHOSPHO1 and TNAP at the gene
734 and protein level were decreased with increasing Pi concentrations whereas matrix
735 mineralization increased with increasing Pi concentrations. The data are represented as the
736 mean \pm SEM (n = 3); * $p < 0.05$; ** $p < 0.01$; *** $p < 0.001$; **** $p < 0.0001$ compared to 1
737 mM Pi cultures.

738

739 **Fig 6. Regulation of key mineralization associated genes, proteins and osteoblast**
740 **extracellular matrix mineralization by PTH in primary osteoblasts.** (A) Expression
741 analysis of *Phospho1*, *Alpl*, *Enpp1*, *Spp1*, *Slc20a1*, *Slc20a2*, *Bglap*, and *Runx2* by osteoblasts
742 in response to PTH (0-50 nM), (B) western blotting analysis and quantification of PHOSPHO1
743 and TNAP expression in response to PTH and (C) representative images and quantification of
744 alizarin red staining in response to PTH for 28 days after confluency. PHOSPHO1 and TNAP
745 at the gene and protein level and matrix mineralization were all decreased with increasing Pi
746 concentrations. The data are represented as the mean \pm SEM (n = 3); * $p < 0.05$; ** $p < 0.01$;
747 *** $p < 0.001$; **** $p < 0.0001$ compared to 0 nM PTH cultures.

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750 **Fig 7. Regulation of key mineralization associated genes, proteins and osteoblast**
751 **extracellular matrix mineralization by FGF23 in primary osteoblasts.** (A) Expression
752 analysis of *Phospho1*, *Alpl*, *Enpp1*, *Spp1*, *Slc20a1*, *Slc20a2*, *Bglap*, and *Runx2* by osteoblasts
753 in response to FGF23 (0-200 ng/ml), (B) western blotting analysis and quantification of
754 PHOSPHO1 and TNAP expression in response to FGF23 and (C) representative images and
755 quantification of alizarin red staining in response to FGF23 for 28 days after confluency.
756 *Phospho1* and *Alpl* gene expression were decreased at the highest FGF23 concentrations but
757 non-significant differences were noted with PHOSPHO1 and TNAP expression and matrix
758 mineralisation. The data are represented as the mean \pm SEM (n = 3); * $p < 0.05$; ** $p < 0.01$;
759 *** $p < 0.001$; **** $p < 0.0001$ compared to 0 nM FGF23 cultures.

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763 **Supplementary figure legends**

764 **Fig S1. Schematic view of the 5-week adenine induced CKD-MBD model and time-**

765 **dependent changes in body weight.** (A) Eight-week-old C57BL/6 male mice were randomly

766 allocated to either a control (CTL; n=12) or CKD (n = 12) group. Mice in the CKD-MBD group

767 were fed a casein-based diet containing 0.2% adenine diet for 5 weeks. Mice in the CTL group

768 were fed a casein-based diet without adenine. (B) The bodyweight of the CKD-MBD mice

769 progressively decreased during the 5-weeks on the adenine supplemented diet. The data are

770 represented as the means \pm SEM. **** $p < 0.0001$ as compared to CTL mice of the same age.

771 Note, 4 mice in the CKD-MBD group lost more than 30% of their body weight and were

772 removed from the study.

773

774 **Fig S2. Characterization of renal pathology in CKD mouse model.** (A) Representative

775 photomicrographs of hematoxylin and eosin (H&E; i-iv), Masson's trichrome (MT; v & vi),

776 and von Kossa (VK; vii & viii) stained kidney sections from CTL and CKD mice at end of the

777 study (13 weeks of age). (i & ii) kidney sections showing gross pathology, (d) atrophic tubuli

778 with protein casts (green arrows) and dilated Bowman's space (blue arrow). (f) Dilated tubules

779 (green arrows) and interstitial fibrosis (blue arrows. (h) Calcification of tubular structures (blue

780 arrows). Scale bar, (i & ii) 500 μ m, (iii-viii) 100 μ m. (B) Renal scoring of tubular atrophy,

781 protein casts, interstitial inflammation, and renal fibrosis of sections from 4 CTL and 4 CKD

782 mice. All indices were higher in kidneys from CKD-MBD mice. Renal scoring scale: 0 =

783 normal; 1 = mild, involvement of <25% of the cortex; 2 = moderate, involvement of 25 to 50%

784 of the cortex; 3 = severe, involvement of 50 to 75% of the cortex; 4 = extensive damage

785 involving >75% of the cortex. The data are represented as the mean \pm SEM (n = 4); **** $p <$

786 0.0001.

787

788 **Fig S3. Expression levels of injury associated markers in kidneys of CTL and CKD mice.**

789 (A) *Fgf23*, *Spp1* and *Lcn2* expression was higher whereas *Slc34a1* was lower in kidneys of
790 CKD-MBD mice at end of the study (13 weeks of age). Four random samples from each of the
791 CTL and CKD groups were selected for analysis. (B) Representative western blot of
792 osteopontin (OPN) and type II sodium-phosphate cotransporter (NaPi-2a) protein expression
793 from BBMV of kidneys at end of study (13 weeks of age). The increased osteopontin and
794 decreased NaPi-2a in CKD-MBD kidneys confirm gene expression data. The data are
795 represented as the mean \pm SEM (n = 4); * $p < 0.05$; ** $p < 0.01$; *** $p < 0.001$; **** $p < 0.0001$
796

797 **Fig S4. Histological characterization of trabecular bone in CKD mice** (A) Representative
798 photomicrographs of tibia sections stained for hematoxylin and eosin (H&E; i & ii) and
799 Goldner's trichrome (iii & iv) and reacted for tartrate acid phosphatase activity (TRAP; v & vi;
800 blue arrow) from CTL and CKD-MBD mice at end of study (13 weeks of age). Scale bar, 100
801 μ m. (B) Bone volume/tissue volume (BV/TV) was decreased in CKB-MBD mice whereas
802 osteoid volume/bone volume (OV/BV); osteoclast surface/bone surface (Oc.S/BS); number of
803 osteoclasts/bone surface (N.Oc/BS) were all increased in CKD-MBD mice. The data are
804 represented as the mean \pm SEM (n = 6); * $p < 0.05$; ** $p < 0.01$.

805

806 **Fig S5. Micro-CT analysis of trabecular bone of wild-type (WT) and PHOSPHO1**
807 **deficient CTL and CKD mice. Tb. BMD, Tb. BV/TV, Tb. N and Tb. Conn. Tb. were**
808 **increased in PHOSPHO1 deficient CKD-MBD tibia when compared to their respective WT**
809 **CKD-MBD tibia. The data are represented as the mean \pm SEM (n = 8); * $p < 0.05$; ** $p < 0.01$;**
810 **** $p < 0.001$; **** $p < 0.0001$ compared to WT CTL bones.**

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812

813 **Fig S6. Characterization of osteoblast culture model showing temporal increases in**
814 **extracellular matrix mineralization and PHOSPHO1 and TNAP expression.** (A) Alizarin
815 red staining, (B) quantification of matrix mineralization (C) RT-qPCR analysis of *Phospho1*,
816 and *Alpl* mRNA expression, (D) western blot analysis, and (E) quantification of PHOSPHO1,
817 and TNAP expression and by primary osteoblasts cultured in the basal Pi-substrate free
818 mineralization medium over a 28-day culture period. The data are represented as the mean \pm
819 SEM (n = 3); * $p < 0.05$; ** $p < 0.01$; *** $p < 0.001$; **** $p < 0.0001$ in comparison with day
820 0, post confluence cultures.

821

822 **Fig S7. The effect of Pi on osteoblast viability.** Cells were exposed to Pi (1-5 mM) for 28
823 days after confluency and viability were assessed by (A) Alamar Blue assay, and (B) LDH
824 assay. Cell viability was not affected by Pi at all concentrations tested. The data are represented
825 as the mean \pm SEM (n \geq 3); NS, not significance from the 1 mM control group.

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Table S1. Sequences of primers used for qPCR

Genes	Forward, 5'→3'	Reverse, 5'→3'	Source
<i>Atp5b</i>	ATGCCACTTCCAAGGTAGCG	GCAACAGTCAGACCAGTCAGA	Primer Design
<i>Gapdh</i>	AAATGGTGAAGGTCGGTGTG	TGAAGGGGTCGTTGATGG	Sigma-Aldrich
<i>Phospho1</i>	TTCTCATTTCCGATGCCAACA	TGAGGATGCGGGCGGAATAA	Eurofins Genomics
<i>Alpl</i>	GGGACGAATCTCAGGGTACA	AGTAACTGGGGTCTCTCTC	Sigma-Aldrich
<i>Enpp1</i>	GCTAATCATCAGGAGGTCAAG	CTGGTAGAATCCCGTCAATC	Sigma-Aldrich
<i>Spp1</i>	CACTCCAATCGTCCCTACAGT	CTGGAAACTCCTAGACTTTGACC	Sigma-Aldrich
<i>Slc20a1</i>	TGTGGCAAATGGGCAGAAG	AGAAAGCAGCGGAGAGACGA	Sigma-Aldrich
<i>Slc20a2</i>	CCATCGGCTTCTCACTCGT	AAACCAGGAGGCGACAATCT	Sigma-Aldrich
<i>Anxa6</i>	GGACCTCATCGAAGACTTGAAG	CTTTGGCGTCACAATAGGCAA	Sigma-Aldrich
<i>Ank</i>	TCGTCGCCCTCCCTTTTATG	GGTGACTGTGAAGCAAAATGG	Sigma-Aldrich
<i>Npnt</i>	TGCCCTATCGTGTCCATG	ACTCTTCCAGTCGCACATTC	Sigma-Aldrich
<i>Pdpr</i>	AACAAGTCACCCAATAGAGATAAT	CTAACAAGACGCCAATATGATTC	Sigma-Aldrich
<i>Fgf23</i>	GGATCTCCACGGCAACATT	GTAGTGATGCTTCTGCGACAA	Eurofins Genomics
<i>Bglap</i>	CCGGGAGCAGTGTGAGCTTA	TAGATGCGTTTGTAGGCGGTC	Sigma-Aldrich
<i>Runx2</i>	ACCATAACAGTCTTCACAAATCCT	CAGGCGATCAGAGAACAACTA	Sigma-Aldrich
<i>Sost</i>	TGAGAACAACCAGACCATGAAC	TCAGGAAGCGGGTGTAGTG	Primer Design
<i>Bmp2</i>	TCAAGCCAAAACAAAACAGC	AGCCACAATCCAGTCATTCC	Sigma-Aldrich
<i>Klotho</i>	GGACAATGGCTTTCCTCCTT	TGCACATCCCACAGATAGACA	Sigma-Aldrich
<i>Adipoq</i>	AAGAAGGACAAGGCCGTTCTCTT	GCTATGGGTAGTTGCAGTCAGTT	Sigma-Aldrich

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Table S2. Primary antibodies used for western blotting

Target	Source	Company	Dilution	Molecular weight
β-actin	Rabbit	Cell Signaling Technology	1:4000	45 kDa
PHOSPHO1	Human	AbD Serotec and Bio-Rad	1:500	32 kDa
TNAP	Rat	R&D Systems	1:1000	75 kDa

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Table S3. Secondary antibodies used for western blotting

Target	Source	Company	Dilution
β-actin	Goat anti-rabbit	Dako	1:1000
PHOSPHO1	Goat anti-human	Bio-Rad	1:1000
TNAP	Goat anti-rat	R&D Systems	1:1000
β-actin	Donkey anti-rabbit	LI-COR Biosciences	1:15000
PHOSPHO1	Goat anti-human	LI-COR Biosciences	1:15000
TNAP	Goat anti-rat	LI-COR Biosciences	1:15000

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