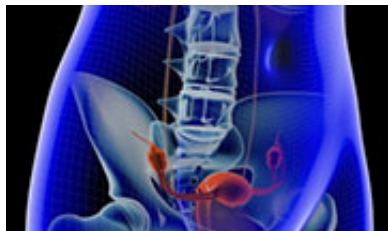


Intraperitoneal chemotherapy ups ovarian cancer outcomes

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(HealthDay)—Intraperitoneal chemotherapy significantly improves survival among women with advanced ovarian cancer; however, fewer than half of eligible U.S. patients are receiving it, according to research published online Aug. 3 in the *Journal of Clinical Oncology*.

The investigators studied whether a combination of intraperitoneal (IP) and intravenous (IV) [chemotherapy](#) was as effective in clinical practice as in a clinical trial involving women who'd had surgery for stage III [ovarian cancer](#). The researchers examined the medical records of 823 women who were treated for stage III ovarian cancer between 2003 and 2012, and were eligible for IP/IV combination therapy.

The team found that 81 percent of women who received the dual therapy were alive three years after treatment, compared with 71 percent of those who received IV chemotherapy alone. However, only 41 percent of the patients who were deemed to be suitable candidates actually received the dual therapy, the team reported. The investigators also found that the side effects of the dual therapy were less severe than those reported in the clinical trial.

"This is the first study to show that IP/IV chemotherapy improves survival in the real world, outside of a clinical trial," first author Alexi Wright, M.D., of the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute in

Boston, said in an institute news release.

"Unfortunately, fewer than half of [women](#) who qualify for IP/IV chemotherapy received the treatment. This suggests that increasing access to IP/IV chemotherapy may improve ovarian cancer patients' survival."

Several authors disclosed financial ties to pharmaceutical, biotechnology, and medical device companies.

More information: [Abstract](#)
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