

# Hydrochlorothiazide may up basal, squamous cell cancer risk

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(HealthDay)—Hydrochlorothiazide use is associated with an increased

risk of non-melanoma skin cancer (NMSC), with evidence of a dose-response relationship, according to a study published online Dec. 3 in the *Journal of the American Academy of Dermatology*.

Sidsel Arnspang, M.D., from Odense University Hospital in Denmark, and colleagues examined the correlation between hydrochlorothiazide use and the risk of [basal cell carcinoma](#) (BCC) and [squamous cell carcinoma](#) (SCC). Patients with NMSC were identified from the Danish Cancer registry during 2004 to 2012. They were matched in a 1:20 ratio by age and sex with controls.

The researchers found that higher use of hydrochlorothiazide ( $\geq 50,000$  mg) was associated with odds ratios of 1.29 and 3.98 for BCC and SCC, respectively. There were clear dose-response correlations for hydrochlorothiazide use with BCC and SCC; the odds ratios were 1.54 and 7.38, respectively, for the highest cumulative dose category ( $\geq 200,000$  mg). There was no [correlation](#) for use of other diuretics and antihypertensives with NMSC.

"Hydrochlorothiazide use is associated with a substantially increased risk of NMSC, especially SCC," the authors write.

Two authors disclosed financial ties to the pharmaceutical industry.

**More information:** [Abstract/Full Text \(subscription or payment may be required\)](#)

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