

# TNFi not linked to increased cancer recurrence in RA patients

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treatment and in unmatched analyses, the hazard ratios were close to 1.

"The findings suggest that TNFi [treatment](#) is not associated with increased risk for cancer [recurrence](#) in patients with RA, although meaningful risk increases could not be ruled out completely," the authors write.

Several authors disclosed financial ties to the pharmaceutical industry.

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

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(HealthDay)—For patients with rheumatoid arthritis (RA), treatment with tumor necrosis factor inhibitors (TNFi) is not associated with increased risk for cancer recurrence, according to a study published online Aug. 14 in the *Annals of Internal Medicine*.

Pauline Raaschou, M.D., Ph.D., from the Karolinska Institutet in Stockholm, and colleagues conducted a population-based cohort study based on linkage of nationwide registers to examine whether TNFi treatment in RA is associated with increased risk for [cancer recurrence](#).

The researchers found that 42 of the 467 patients who started TNFi treatment at a mean of 7.9 years after [cancer](#) diagnosis had cancer recurrence (9.0 percent); 155 of 2,164 matched patients with the same cancer history had recurrences (7.2 percent) (hazard ratio, 1.06; 95 percent confidence interval, 0.73 to 1.54). In analyses of subsets of patients matched on cancer stage or with similar time from index cancer diagnosis to the start of TNFi

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