

## Early clinical trial tests treatment strategy for pancreatic cancer

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Axial CT image with i.v. contrast. Macrocystic adenocarcinoma of the pancreatic head. Credit: public domain

Pancreatic cancer carries a poor prognosis, and it often goes undetected until advanced stages. A new *BJS (British Journal of Surgery)* study indicates that a certain cocktail of chemotherapy drugs may be a safe and effective treatment option for patients with a metastatic form of the disease.

The study, which was an early-phase 46-patient trial intended to provide preliminary results regarding safety and efficacy, tested a strategy involving injections of paclitaxel into the abdomen and injections of gemcitabine and nab-paclitaxel (a combination of paclitaxel and a protein called albumin) into the blood.

The treatment had acceptable toxicities, and patients had a <u>median survival time</u> of 14.5 months, with a 1-year survival rate of 60.9%.

"Now, a phase 3 study to compare survival outcomes between this therapy and standard

chemotherapy has been launched," said senior author Sohei Satoi, MD, of Kansai Medical University, in Japan.

**More information:** S. Yamada et al, Phase I/II study of adding intraperitoneal paclitaxel in patients with pancreatic cancer and peritoneal metastasis, *British Journal of Surgery* (2020). <u>DOI:</u> <u>10.1002/bjs.11792</u>

Provided by Wiley



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