

Recent diabetes and weight loss tied to pancreatic cancer risk

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(HealthDay)—Recent-onset diabetes accompanied by weight loss is

associated with a substantially increased risk for developing pancreatic cancer, according to a study published online Aug. 13 in *JAMA Oncology*.

Chen Yuan, Sc.D., from Dana-Farber Cancer Institute in Boston, and colleagues used data from 112,818 women participating in the Nurses' Health Study and 46,207 men participating in the Health Professionals Follow-Up Study to evaluate the association of [diabetes](#) duration and recent weight change with the subsequent risk for pancreatic cancer.

The researchers identified 1,116 incident cases of pancreatic cancer. Participants with recent-onset diabetes had a higher age-adjusted risk for pancreatic cancer (hazard ratio [HR], 2.97), as did those with long-standing diabetes (HR, 2.16), compared with participants without diabetes. Participants who reported 1 to 4 pounds of weight loss had a higher age-adjusted risk for pancreatic cancer (HR, 1.25), as did those with 5 to 8 pounds of weight loss (HR, 1.33) and those with more than an 8-pound weight loss (HR, 1.92) compared with those with no weight loss. Participants with recent-onset diabetes plus weight loss of 1 to 8 pounds had still higher risk (HR, 3.61), as did those with more than 8 pounds of [weight](#) loss (HR, 6.75) compared with those with neither exposure.

"Individuals with recent-onset diabetes accompanied by [weight loss](#) have a high risk for developing [pancreatic cancer](#) and may be a group for whom early detection strategies would be advantageous," 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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