

Lower all-Cause, cardio mortality in obese with RA

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(HealthDay) -- Overweight and obese patients with rheumatoid arthritis (RA) have lower all-cause and cardiovascular mortality, but have substantially increased risks of comorbidities, medical costs, and reduced quality of life compared with normal-weight RA patients, according to a study published online April 18 in *Arthritis Care & Research*.

Frederick Wolfe, M.D., of the National Data Bank for Rheumatic Diseases in Wichita, Kan., and Kaleb Michaud, Ph.D., of the University of Nebraska Medical Center in Omaha, conducted a 12.3-year study of 24,535 patients with RA to study the effect of body mass index (BMI) on mortality and clinical status. Patients were stratified according to age and by BMI (

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