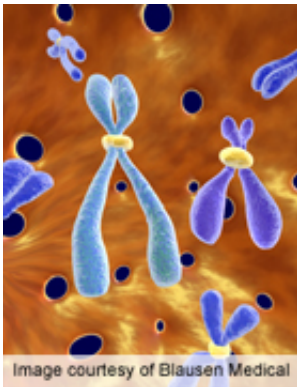


KRAS mutations predict shorter survival in lung cancer

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(HealthDay) -- For patients with advanced lung adenocarcinomas, *KRAS* mutations predict shorter survival, according to a study published online July 18 in *Cancer*.

Melissa L. Johnson, M.D., from Northwestern University in Chicago, and colleagues examined the prognostic significance of *KRAS* [mutations](#) using data from 1,036 patients (59 percent women; 33 percent never-smokers) with advanced lung adenocarcinomas with known [EGFR](#) and *KRAS* status, who were evaluated between 2002 and 2009.

The researchers found that the patients had a median age of 65 years, and 81 percent had a Karnofsky performance status of 80 percent or

greater. *EGFR* mutations correlated with longer overall survival (hazard ratio, 0.60; P KRAS mutations with shorter survival (hazard ratio, 1.21; P = 0.048), in multivariate analysis.

"In conclusion, we report here that the presence of a *KRAS* mutation is a poor [prognostic factor](#) for patients with lung adenocarcinomas," the authors write. "Because patients with *KRAS* mutations have a distinct clinical course that results in shorter survival, they should be evaluated separately in clinical trials. We recommend including *KRAS* testing in upfront mutation analyses along with testing for *EGFR* mutations and *EML4-ALK* to prospectively identify these patients in the clinic."

Several authors disclosed [financial ties](#) to pharmaceutical companies.

More information: [Abstract](#)
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