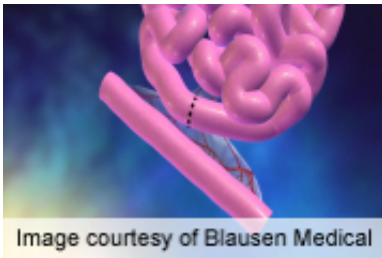


# "Never events" rare after bladder cancer surgery

April 5 2013

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"Never events", ten hospital-acquired conditions deemed by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services as being reasonably preventable, are rare in patients with bladder cancer who have undergone radical cystectomy, according to a study published in the March issue of *Urology*.

(HealthDay)—"Never events", ten hospital-acquired conditions deemed by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services as being reasonably preventable, are rare in patients with bladder cancer who have undergone radical cystectomy, according to a study published in the March issue of *Urology*.

Gregory A. Joice, from Columbia University in New York City, and colleagues determined the rate of never events, where hospitals would no longer be reimbursed for the additional care if a patient developed any of these conditions, in 61,142 patients with [bladder cancer](#) who had undergone radical cystectomy from 2002 to 2009.

The researchers found that 2.42 percent of patients developed any never event condition, with vascular-catheter infections being the most common at 1.25 percent. The risk of a never event was higher for blacks and for those with comorbidities. A never event increased the average hospital stay by 15 days, increased total costs by \$37,000, and increased in-hospital mortality to 8.0 percent from 2.2 percent.

"Centers for [Medicare](#) and [Medicaid](#) Services never events after radical cystectomy are rare events," Joice and colleagues conclude. "Vascular catheter infection and [pressure ulcers](#) were most common and were the only events with rates > 0.1 percent."

**More information:** [Abstract](#)

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