

# Tamoxifen, age influence chemo-induced amenorrhea

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Image courtesy of Blausen Medical

Use of tamoxifen and age at treatment for breast cancer predict chemotherapy-induced amenorrhea among premenopausal women, according to research published online Aug. 26 in the *Journal of Clinical Oncology*.

(HealthDay)—Use of tamoxifen and age at treatment for breast cancer predict chemotherapy-induced amenorrhea among premenopausal women, according to research published online Aug. 26 in the *Journal of Clinical Oncology*.

Adriana Valentini, M.D., from the University of Toronto, and colleagues conducted a multicenter survey of 1,954 young women with a *BRCA1* or *BRCA2* mutation who were treated for [breast cancer](#); [premenopausal women](#) diagnosed with [invasive breast cancer](#) between 26 and 47 years of age were included. Chemotherapy-induced amenorrhea was defined as when the patient experienced two or more years of amenorrhea, beginning within two years of initiating chemotherapy and with no

resumption of menses.

The researchers found that, of the 1,426 women who received chemotherapy, 35 percent experienced long-term amenorrhea, while 5.3 percent of the 528 women who did not receive chemotherapy developed long-term amenorrhea. The probability of chemotherapy-induced amenorrhea increased with age: 7.2 percent for women diagnosed before age 30, 33 percent for women aged 31 to 44, and 79 percent for women diagnosed after age 45 (P trend

"Age at treatment and use of tamoxifen are important predictors of chemotherapy-induced amenorrhea in women who carry a *BRCA1* or *BRCA2* mutation," the authors write. "The risk of induced long-term amenorrhea does not seem to be greater among mutation carriers than among women who do not carry a mutation."

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