

Blood metal ions tied to failed hip replacement, resurfacing

July 10 2014



Image courtesy of Blausen Medical

(HealthDay)—Raised levels of blood metal ions are associated with failed metal-on-metal hip resurfacings and total hip arthroplasties, according to a study published in the July 2 issue of *The Journal of Bone & Joint Surgery*.

Alister J. Hart, M.D., from the Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital in London, and colleagues compared blood metal ion [levels](#) between a group of patients with failed implants and a group with non-failed implants. All 597 eligible patients had received unilateral Articular Surface Replacement prostheses at least twelve months earlier.

The researchers found that patients with failed arthroplasty had significantly higher blood cobalt and chromium ion levels than patients with non-failed arthroplasty (P total hip arthroplasty being in the failed

group and a 5 percent increased odds for [patients](#) with [hip resurfacing](#) (P

"No level had a perfect positive predictive value, and so we discourage surgeons from performing revision surgery based on blood metal ion levels alone," the authors write.

At least one author, or their institution, disclosed financial ties to an entity in the biomedical arena.

More information: [Abstract](#)
[Full Text \(subscription or payment may be required\)](#)

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Citation: Blood metal ions tied to failed hip replacement, resurfacing (2014, July 10) retrieved 18 April 2024 from <https://medicalxpress.com/news/2014-07-blood-metal-ions-tied-hip.html>

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