

# Drinking coffee, smoking may protect against cholangitis

July 8 2014

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(HealthDay)—Coffee consumption and smoking might protect against the development of primary sclerosing cholangitis (PSC), according to a study published in the June issue of *Clinical Gastroenterology and Hepatology*.

Ina Marie Andersen, from the Oslo University Hospital in Norway, and colleagues distributed a questionnaire to 240 patients with PSC as well as 245 randomly chosen individuals from the Norwegian Bone Marrow Donor Registry ([control subjects](#)).

The researchers found that a lower proportion of patients with PSC were daily coffee drinkers than control subjects, both currently (76 versus 86 percent; odds ratio [OR], 0.52;  $P = 0.006$ ) and at the age of 18 years (35 versus 49 percent; OR, 0.58;  $P = 0.003$ ). Differences among men mainly

accounted for these associations. In patients, 20 percent were ever (current or former) daily smokers, compared with 43 percent of control subjects (OR, 0.33; P

"Coffee consumption and smoking might protect against development of PSC," the authors write.

**More information:** [Abstract](#)  
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Citation: Drinking coffee, smoking may protect against cholangitis (2014, July 8) retrieved 17 April 2024 from <https://medicalxpress.com/news/2014-07-coffee-cholangitis.html>

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