

Risk of diabetes up in hodgkin's lymphoma survivors

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(HealthDay)—Para-aortic radiation correlates with increased diabetes mellitus (DM) risk for Hodgkin's lymphoma (HL) survivors, according to a study published online Aug. 25 in the *Journal of Clinical Oncology*.

Frederika A. van Nimwegen, from the Netherlands Cancer Institute in Amsterdam, and colleagues examined the correlation between treatment for HL and DM risk in a cohort of 2,264 five-year HL survivors. Participants were diagnosed before age 51 years and received treatment between 1965 and 1995. Medical records and general practitioners provided treatment and follow-up information.

The researchers found that 157 patients developed DM after a median follow-up of 21.5 years. After 30 years, the overall cumulative incidence of DM was 8.3 percent. The cumulative incidence of DM was 14.2

percent after para-aortic radiation with ≥ 36 Gy. The risk of DM was increased 2.30-fold with irradiation with ≥ 36 Gy to the para-aortic lymph nodes and spleen, while the risk was increased 1.82-fold with para-aortic radiation alone with ≥ 36 Gy. The risk of DM was not significantly increased with lower doses (10 to 35 Gy). Higher mean [radiation doses](#) to the pancreatic tail correlated with significantly increased risk of DM (P

"Screening for DM should be considered in follow-up guidelines for HL [survivors](#), and treating physicians should be alert to this increased risk," the authors write.

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