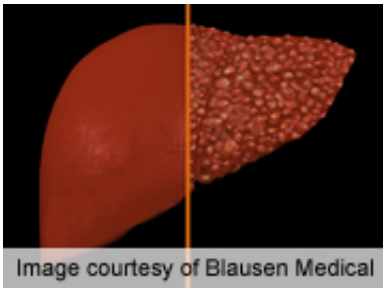


Continued metformin beneficial for diabetes with cirrhosis

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(HealthDay)—Continuation of metformin therapy may improve survival in diabetes patients who are diagnosed with cirrhosis, according to research published in the December issue of *Hepatology*.

Xiaodan Zhang, of the Mayo Clinic College of Medicine in Rochester, Minn., and colleagues conducted a retrospective study of 250 patients with diabetes who were receiving metformin at the time of diagnosis with cirrhosis. The effect of continued therapy with metformin on survival was investigated.

The researchers found that 172 patients continued metformin therapy and 78 patients discontinued the medication. Median survival was longer in patients who continued metformin than in those who did not (11.8 versus 5.6 years overall; P

"Continuation of [metformin](#) after cirrhosis diagnosis reduced the risk of death by 57 percent," the authors write. "Metformin should therefore be continued in diabetic [patients](#) with [cirrhosis](#) if there is no specific contraindication."

More information: [Abstract](#)
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