

Review: Skin tests can diagnose contrast media hypersensitivity

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(HealthDay)—For patients with hypersensitivity reaction (HSR) to iodinated contrast media (ICM), skin tests can be helpful for diagnosis, according to a meta-analysis published online Feb. 3 in *Allergy*.

Soon Ho Yoon, M.D., from Seoul National University College of Medicine in South Korea, and colleagues conducted a systematic review of the literature to examine the outcomes of skin tests performed in patients with HSR to ICM. Data were included from 21 studies.

The researchers found that the pooled per-patient positive rates of skin tests were 17 percent and up to 52 percent in patients with immediate HSR and when confined to severe immediate HSR, respectively. The positive rate was 26 percent among patients with non-immediate HSR. In non-immediate HSR, the pooled per-patient cross-reactivity rate was

higher than in immediate HSR (68 versus 39 percent). Between pairs of ICM, the median per-test cross-reactivity rates were 7 percent in immediate HSR and 38 percent in non-immediate HSR. In immediate and non-immediate HSR, the pooled per-patient recurrence rates of HSR to skin test-negative ICM were 7 and 35 percent, respectively.

"Skin tests may be helpful in diagnosing and managing patients with HSR to ICM, especially in [patients](#) with severe immediate HSR," the authors write.

One author disclosed financial ties to the medical device industry.

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