

Oral nicotinamide safe for renal transplant recipients

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(HealthDay)—For renal transplant recipients, oral nicotinamide seems

safe and is associated with nonsignificant reductions in new non-melanoma skin cancers (NMSCs), according to a study published online April 8 in the *British Journal of Dermatology*.

Andrew C. Chen, M.B., B.S., from the University of Sydney at Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, and colleagues examined the safety and preliminary efficacy of oral nicotinamide for NMSC prevention in [renal transplant](#) recipients. They enrolled patients at least 12 months post-renal transplant, with stable kidney function, and a history of two or more histologically-confirmed NMSCs in the previous 12 months. Twenty-two participants were randomized in a 1:1 ratio to receive six months of nicotinamide 500 mg or [placebo](#) twice daily.

The researchers found that within six months, participants taking placebo developed an average of 4.2 new NMSCs, compared with 2.7 among patients taking nicotinamide (rate ratio, 0.65; 95 percent confidence interval, 0.3 to 1.6). One patient with 20 NMSCs highly influenced the rate in the [placebo group](#). There was a nonsignificant, 16 percent reduction in actinic keratoses associated with nicotinamide (95 percent confidence interval, -7 to 34 percent). No significant differences were seen in adverse events, creatinine, or blood pressure.

"A phase 3 study is now warranted to assess the chemopreventive efficacy of nicotinamide in renal [transplant recipients](#)," the authors write.

More information: [Abstract](#)
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