(HealthDay)—5-HT₃ receptor antagonists (5-HT₃RAs) seem to be
effective for preventing perioperative shivering (POS), according to a review and meta-analysis published online Sept. 15 in the *Journal of Clinical Pharmacology*.

Wen Wang, from the Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences and Peking Union Medical College in Beijing, and colleagues reviewed the results of randomized trials examining the preventive efficacy and safety of 5-HT₃RA on POS. Data from 16 studies with 1,126 patients were included in a meta-analysis.

The researchers found that intravenous administration of 5-HT₃RAs significantly reduced the incidence of POS (risk ratio [RR], 0.44; 95 percent confidence interval [CI], 0.35 to 0.56) and of postoperative nausea and vomiting (RR, 0.52; 95 percent CI, 0.28 to 0.97) compared with the control group. 5-HT₃RAs were not superior for lowering the rate of bradycardia (RR, 0.75; 95 percent CI, 0.38 to 1.49) or hypotension (RR, 0.79; 95 percent CI, 0.44 to 1.43).

"More high-quality of randomized controlled trials with larger sample size are still required to draw a definite conclusion about the preventive efficacy of 5-HT₃RAs on POS prevention in the future," the authors write.

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