

Retrieved lymph node number affects prognosis in gastric CA

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(HealthDay)—In patients with pathological stage (pStage) II or III



gastric cancer, the number of retrieved lymph nodes (RLNs) is an independent poor prognostic factor, according to a study published in the September issue of the *Journal of Gastroenterology and Hepatology*.

Wataru Okajima, from the Kyoto Prefectural University of Medicine in Japan, and colleagues retrospectively analyzed 1,289 consecutive gastric cancer patients who underwent gastrectomy between 1997 and 2011. The patients were divided into two groups with a cut-off RLN number of 16.

The researchers found that <u>survival rates</u> differed significantly for patients in pStage II (P < 0.0001) and III (P = 0.0009), but not for patients in pStage I (P = 0.0627) and IV (P = 0.1553). For 498 patients in pStage II and III, patients in the RLN

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