

Multivitamin use may cut risk of chemo-induced neuropathy

September 13 2017



(HealthDay)—Multivitamin use before diagnosis of breast cancer is

associated with reduced risk of symptoms of chemotherapy-induced peripheral neuropathy, according to a study published online Sept. 1 in the *Journal of the National Cancer Institute*.

Gary R. Zirpoli, Ph.D., from the Roswell Park Cancer Institute in Buffalo, N.Y., and colleagues examined use of dietary supplements before and during treatment in relation to CIPN using data from questionnaires completed by 1,225 [breast cancer](#) patients. The authors assessed supplement use in relation to CIPN; they used the National Cancer Institute Common Terminology Criteria for Adverse Events (CTCAE v. 3.0) and the self-reported Functional Assessment of Cancer Therapy/Gynecologic Oncology Group Neurotoxicity (FACT/GOG-Ntx) subscale.

The researchers found that there was an association for multivitamin use before diagnosis with reduced symptoms of CIPN (CTCAE-adjusted odds ratio, 0.6 [95 percent confidence interval, 0.42 to 0.87]; FACT/GOG-Ntx-adjusted OR, 0.78 [95 percent confidence interval, 0.61 to 1]). There was a marginal inverse correlation for use during treatment with CIPN (CTCAE-adjusted odds ratio, 0.73 [95 percent confidence interval, 0.49 to 1.08]; FACT/GOG-Ntx-adjusted odds ratio, 0.77 [95 percent confidence interval, 0.6 to 0.99]). There was no significant correlation for other supplement use, either before diagnosis or during treatment, with CIPN.

"Multivitamin use could be a surrogate for other related behaviors that are the actual drivers of the association with reduced CIPN," the authors write.

The study was partially funded by Amgen.

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Citation: Multivitamin use may cut risk of chemo-induced neuropathy (2017, September 13)
retrieved 23 April 2024 from
<https://medicalxpress.com/news/2017-09-multivitamin-chemo-induced-neuropathy.html>

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