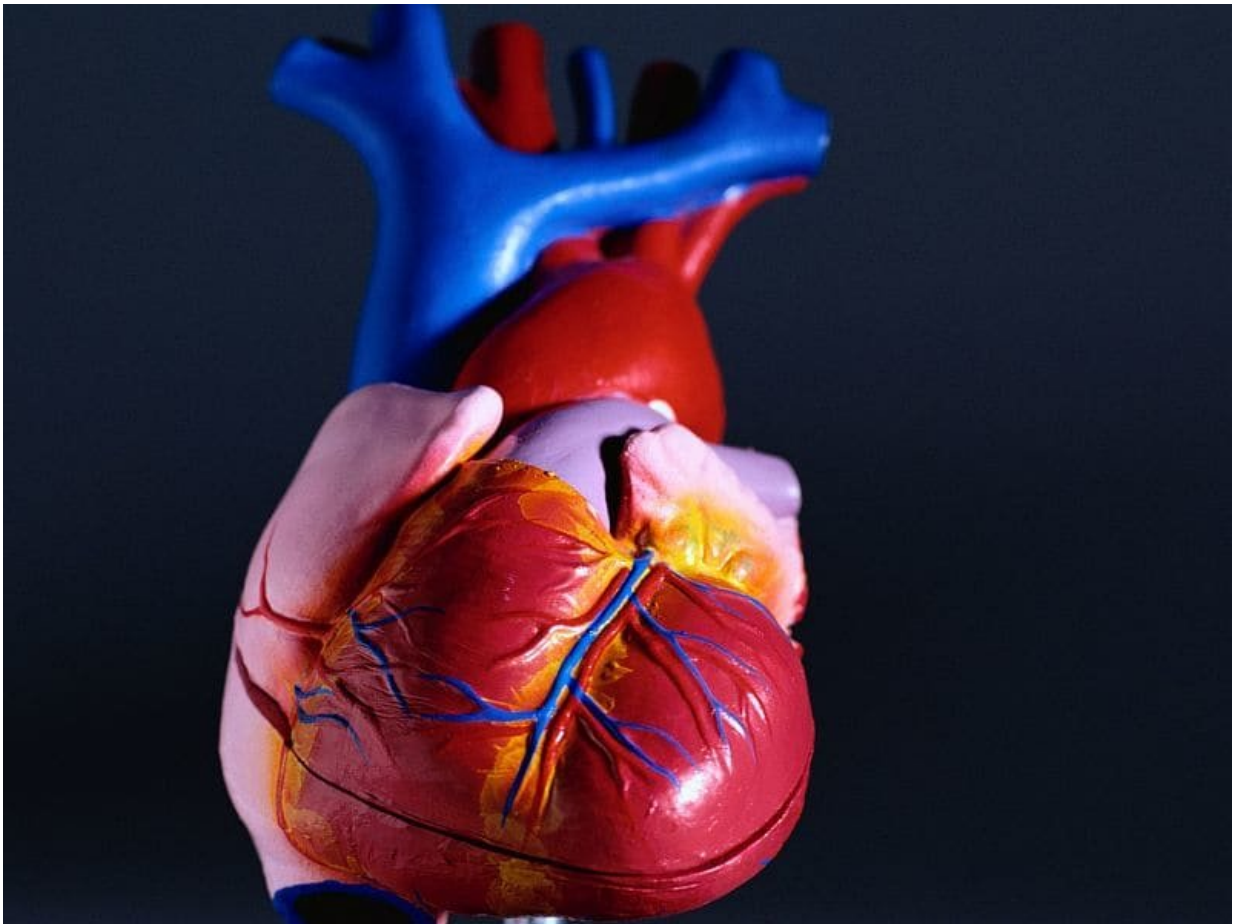


Several invasive procedures linked to infective endocarditis

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(HealthDay)—Several invasive medical procedures, including

cardiovascular procedures and procedures of the skin and management of wounds, are associated with increased risk of infective endocarditis, according to a study published in the June 19 issue of the *Journal of the American College of Cardiology*.

Imre Janszky, M.D., Ph.D., from the Norwegian University of Science and Technology in Trondheim, and colleagues applied a case-crossover design and compared the occurrence of invasive medical procedures 12 weeks before endocarditis with those in a corresponding 12-week time period one year earlier. All invasive non-dental medical procedures were considered, except for those likely to be undertaken due to endocarditis or sepsis, or due to infections that could lead to endocarditis.

A total of 7,013 cases of infective endocarditis were identified during the study period from Jan. 1, 1998, to Dec. 31, 2011. The researchers found that there was a strong correlation for several cardiovascular procedures, especially coronary artery bypass grafting; procedures of the skin and wound management; transfusion; dialysis; bone marrow puncture; and some endoscopies, especially bronchoscopy, with increased risk for infective endocarditis.

"This study suggests that several invasive non-dental medical procedures are associated with a markedly increased risk for [infective endocarditis](#)," the authors write.

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