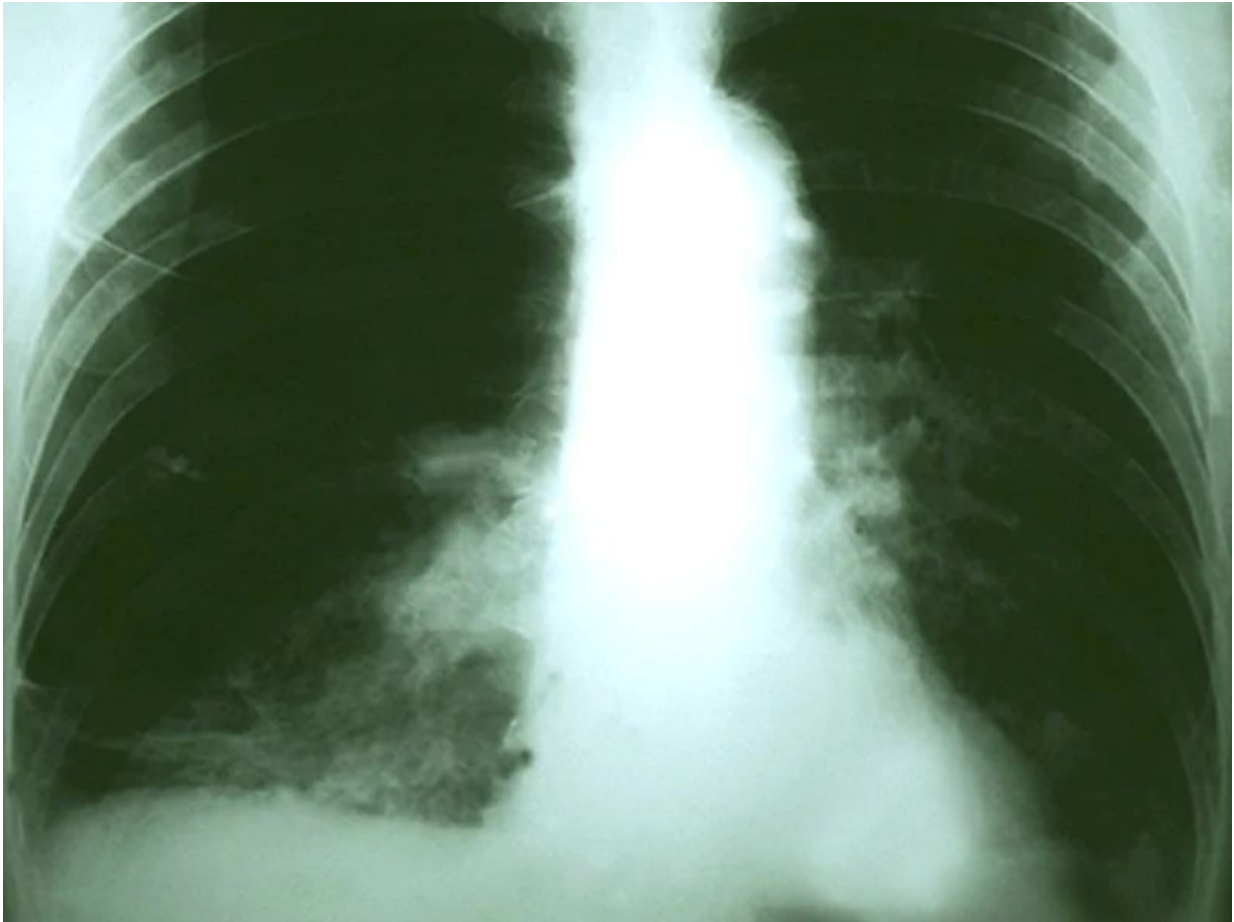


# Thermal ablation acceptable for early lung cancer

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(HealthDay)—Thermal ablation (TA) is a safe, effective treatment for

stage 1 non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC), according to a study recently published in *Radiology*.

Johannes Uhlig, M.D., from the Yale School of Medicine in New Haven, Conn., and colleagues used the 2004 to 2013 National Cancer Database to identify patients with stage 1 NSCLC treated with TA (1,102 patients) or stereotactic radiation therapy (SRT; 27,732 patients).

The researchers found no significant difference in overall survival between TA and SRT during a mean follow-up of 52.4 months (survival difference,  $P = 0.69$ ) in a propensity score-matched cohort with balanced distribution of potential confounders. During the course of the follow-up period, all survival rates were comparable between TA and SRT (one year,  $P = 0.76$ ; two years,  $P = 0.43$ ; three years,  $P = 0.32$ ; five years,  $P = 0.81$ ). For patients who underwent TA, unplanned hospital [readmission rates](#) were higher than the readmission rates of those who underwent SRT (3.7 versus 0.2 percent;  $P$

"Regarding overall survival, thermal ablation was non-inferior to [stereotactic radiation therapy](#) for primary treatment of stage 1 non-small-cell [lung cancer](#)," the authors write.

One author disclosed financial ties to the pharmaceutical industry.

**More information:** [Abstract/Full Text](#)

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