

Does work stress increase cancer risk?

December 12 2018



Credit: CC0 Public Domain

In an *International Journal of Cancer* study of data on more than 280,000 people from North America and Europe, work stress was associated with a significantly increased risk of colorectal, esophagus, and lung cancers.

When looking more closely at the data, investigators observed a link between work stress and colorectal cancer in North America, but not in Europe.

By contrast, a significant association between work stress and esophagus cancer was found in Europe, but not in North America. In addition, there was no association between [work stress](#) and the risk of prostate, breast, or ovarian cancers.

"There are several biological mechanisms whereby stress in work may lead to cancer," the authors wrote.

More information: Tingting Yang et al, Work stress and the risk of cancer: A meta-analysis of observational studies, *International Journal of Cancer* (2018). [DOI: 10.1002/ijc.31955](https://doi.org/10.1002/ijc.31955)

Provided by Wiley

Citation: Does work stress increase cancer risk? (2018, December 12) retrieved 30 April 2024 from <https://medicalxpress.com/news/2018-12-stress-cancer.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.
