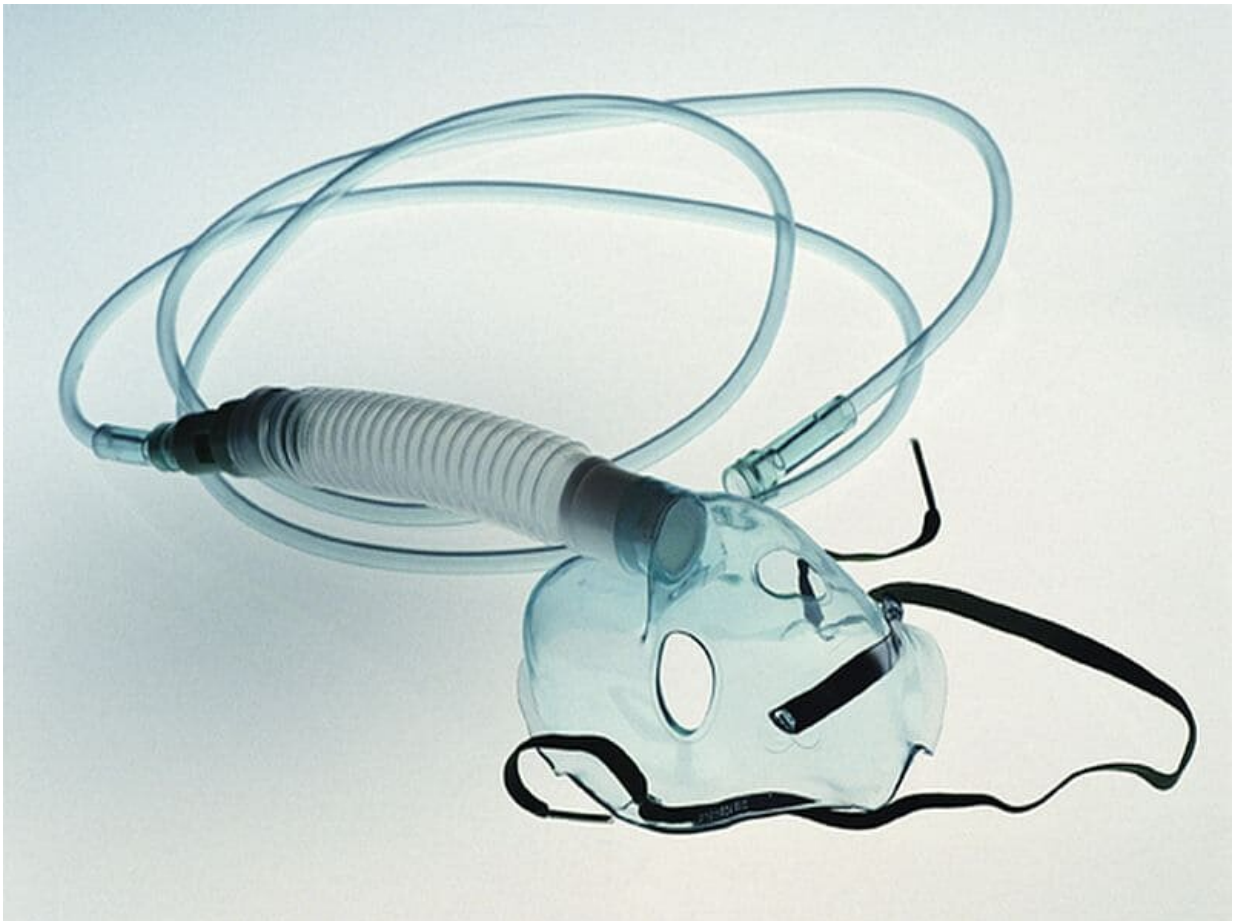


# Obstructive sleep apnea linked to cancer diagnosis in women

May 24 2019

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(HealthDay)—Obstructive sleep apnea (OSA) is associated with cancer

diagnosis, especially among women, according to a research letter published online May 20 in the *European Respiratory Journal*.

Athanasia Pataka, M.D., Ph.D., from the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki in Greece, and [colleagues](#) examined gender-specific differences in the association between OSA and [cancer prevalence](#) using data from the European Sleep Apnea Database (ESADA). Patients aged older than 18 years and enrolled in ESADA between 2007 and 2016 were considered.

The researchers found that 2 percent of the 19,556 [patients](#) had been diagnosed with malignancy (1.7 percent of men and 2.8 percent of women). In unadjusted models, a significant correlation was noted between cancer diagnosis and elevated apnea hypopnea index (AHI; AHI  $\geq 5/h$  versus AHI

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