

# Rates of liver disease high among world trade center responders

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(HealthDay)—World Trade Center (WTC) responders have a three

times higher rate of liver disease compared with non-WTC responders, according to a study recently published in *Clinical Imaging*.

Xiangmeng Chen, from the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai in New York City, and colleagues examined the prevalence of moderate-to-severe hepatic steatosis (HS) and associated [risk factors](#) in members of the WTC General Responder Cohort. Low-dose, non-contrast computed tomography images for lung cancer screening were compared to those of non-WTC participants who were part of the same screening program for early lung cancer.

The researchers found that the prevalence of moderate-to-severe HS was 16.2 percent among 154 WTC participants versus 5.3 percent among 170 non-WTC participants. Moderate-to-severe HS in WTC members was associated with higher body mass index (BMI), higher laboratory [liver](#) function tests, and former smoking status. When adjusting for potential confounders, the odds ratio for moderate-to-severe HS was 3.4-fold higher in the WTC participants versus the non-WTC participants. Moderate-to-severe HS remained associated with higher BMI and former smoker status.

"Based on these preliminary results, we suggest that WTC general responders with liver attenuation values

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