

Self-perception of aging may affect the prognosis of older patients with cancer

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Self-perception of aging—or attitudes toward one's aging experience—may affect older individuals' risk of dying early after being diagnosed with cancer, according to results from a study published in *Cancer Medicine*.

In the study of 140 individuals aged 65 years and older who were diagnosed with non-metastatic [cancer](#) and were followed for up to six years, participants with more negative self-perception of aging were 3.62 times more likely to die than those with a more positive [self-perception](#) of aging, after adjusting for potential influential factors.

"This research highlights the importance of self-perceptions of aging for our health, and remind us of the need to change our [attitudes](#) towards older people," said corresponding author Sarah Schroyen, Ph.D., of the University of Liège, in Belgium.

More information: Sarah Schroyen et al, Impact of self-perception of aging on mortality of older patients in oncology, *Cancer Medicine* (2020). [DOI: 10.1002/cam4.2819](https://doi.org/10.1002/cam4.2819)

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