

Study finds allergic rhinitis, rheumatoid arthritis not linked

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(HealthDay)—There is not a significant association between allergic

rhinitis and the risk of rheumatoid arthritis, according to a review published online June 15 in the *Journal of Evidence-Based Medicine*.

Nipith Charoenngam, from Mahidol University in Bangkok, and colleagues conducted a systematic literature review and meta-analysis of studies investigating the association between [allergic rhinitis](#) and the risk of rheumatoid arthritis.

Based upon 12 studies (two [cohort studies](#) and 10 case-control studies), the pooled analysis showed no association between allergic rhinitis and risk of rheumatoid arthritis (relative risk, 0.94; 95 percent confidence interval, 0.73 to 1.20). However, when limiting analysis to studies with acceptable quality, patients with allergic rhinitis had a significantly higher risk of rheumatoid arthritis (relative risk, 1.36; 95 percent confidence interval, 1.12 to 1.65).

"In summary, this [systematic review](#) and meta-analysis could not reveal a significant association between allergic rhinitis and rheumatoid arthritis," the authors write. "However, when only studies with acceptable quality were included, a significantly higher risk of rheumatoid arthritis among patients with allergic rhinitis than individuals without allergic rhinitis was observed."

More information: [Abstract/Full Text \(subscription or payment may be required\)](#)

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