

Antifungal meds cut risk for death after lung transplant

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(HealthDay)—Preventive antifungal medications cut the risk for death

following a lung transplant by more than half, according to a study published online Sept. 23 in the *Annals of the American Thoracic Society*.

Kelly M. Pennington, M.D., from the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota, and colleagues evaluated the effect of [antifungal](#) prophylaxis on all-cause mortality and invasive fungal infections (IFI) in [lung transplant](#) patients. The analysis included 667 [lung transplant](#) recipients (385 received prophylaxis and 282 did not) who were identified through administrative claims data (2005 through 2018).

The researchers found that all-cause mortality was significantly lower in those receiving antifungal prophylaxis versus those not (event rate per 100 person-years: 8.77 versus 18.50; hazard ratio, 0.48; 95 percent confidence interval, 0.26 to 0.71; $P = 0.003$). There were also lower rates of IFI seen among patients receiving antifungal prophylaxis versus those not receiving prophylaxis (event rate per 100 person-years: 15.09 versus 22.48; hazard ratio, 0.68; 95 percent confidence interval, 0.45 to 1.05; $P = 0.08$).

"This is the first study to demonstrate a mortality benefit associated with the use of antifungal prophylaxis in lung transplant patients," Pennington said in a statement. "We still do not know which lung transplant patients receive the most benefit from these medications, and there are other unanswered questions that will require more research."

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

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