

Mitral regurgitation deaths up after prolonged decline

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(HealthDay)—Mortality due to mitral regurgitation (MR) in U.S. adults

declined at an annual rate of approximately 4 percent from 1999 until 2012 but has since then increased by about 1.5 percent annually, according to a study published in the December issue of *Mayo Clinic Proceedings*.

Vibhu Parcha, M.D., from the University of Alabama at Birmingham, and colleagues assessed trends in mortality due to MR using the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Wide-Ranging Online Data for Epidemiologic Research database that included nationwide death certificates (1999 through 2018).

The researchers found 45,982 deaths due to MR during the study period, with higher [mortality rates](#) seen in older White females from the Western United States. The crude and age-adjusted mortality rates in 1999 were 27.4 and 27.5 per 1 million persons, respectively, which declined by 2018 to 18 and 17.7 per 1 million persons, respectively. From 1999 to 2012, crude mortality rates declined (annual percentage change [APC], -4.1; 95 percent confidence interval [CI], -4.6 to -3.6) but then increased after 2012 (APC, 2.6; 95 percent CI, 0.8 to 4.4; P

"There may be distinct explanations for the increasing mortality rates in the last six years of the study (2012 to 2018), with an [annual increase](#) of approximately 1.5 percent," the authors write.

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