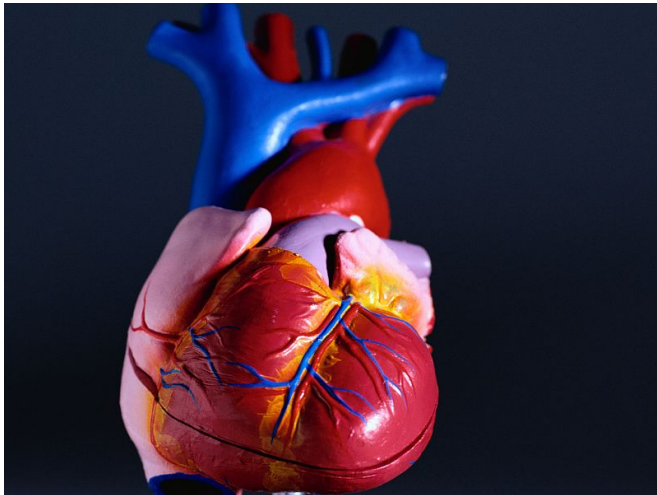


Stem cell factor tied to reduced risk of cardiac events, death

1 September 2017



remained independently associated with lower risk of cardiovascular (hazard ratio, 0.59; 95 percent confidence interval, 0.43 to 0.81) and all-cause mortality (hazard ratio, 0.68; 95 percent confidence interval, 0.57 to 0.81) and with lower risk of [heart failure](#) (hazard ratio, 0.5; 95 percent confidence interval, 0.31 to 0.8) and stroke (hazard ratio, 0.66; 95 percent confidence interval, 0.47 to 0.92) but not [myocardial infarction](#) (hazard ratio, 0.96; 95 percent confidence interval, 0.72 to 1.27).

"The findings provide clinical support for a protective role of SCF in maintaining cardiovascular integrity," the authors write.

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

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(HealthDay)—High levels of stem cell factor (SCF) are associated with reduced risk of mortality and cardiovascular events, according to a study published online Aug. 26 in the *Journal of Internal Medicine*.

Harry Björkbacka, Ph.D., from Lund University in Sweden, and colleagues examined the correlation between circulating levels of SCF and risk for development of [cardiovascular events](#) and death. SCF was analyzed from plasma from 4,742 participants in the Malmö Diet and Cancer Study; participants were followed for a mean of 19.2 years.

The researchers found that participants with high baseline levels of SCF had lower cardiovascular and all-cause mortality and [reduced risk](#) of heart failure, stroke, and myocardial infarction. There was a correlation for smoking, diabetes, and high alcohol consumption with lower levels of SCF. After adjustment for traditional cardiovascular risk factors, the highest versus the lowest SCF quartile

APA citation: Stem cell factor tied to reduced risk of cardiac events, death (2017, September 1) retrieved 25 November 2020 from <https://medicalxpress.com/news/2017-09-stem-cell-factor-tied-cardiac.html>

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