

PPD skin test enhances bacillus Calmette-Guérin Tx in bladder CA

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Connaught strain, seven or more bacillus Calmette-Guérin instillations, and undergoing the purified protein derivative skin test. Overall, 24.1 and 15.2 percent of [patients](#) who did and did not undergo the test, respectively, had major bacillus Calmette-Guérin-related side effects ($P = 0.02$).

"Combination therapy with bacillus Calmette-Guérin using the purified protein derivative skin [test](#) may improve the oncologic outcomes of that therapy," the authors write.

More information: [Abstract/Full Text](#)

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(HealthDay)—For patients with non-muscle invasive bladder cancer, undergoing the purified protein derivative skin test prior to bacillus Calmette-Guérin therapy may have therapeutic impact, according to a study published in the June issue of *The Journal of Urology*.

Naoya Niwa, M.D., from the Keio University School of Medicine in Tokyo, and colleagues treated 498 patients with non-muscle [invasive bladder cancer](#) with adjuvant bacillus Calmette-Guérin; 320 of the patients underwent the purified [protein](#) derivative skin test one to two weeks before therapy.

The researchers found that the mean \pm standard deviation five-year recurrence-free survival rate was 66.6 ± 2.8 percent and 59.1 ± 4.1 percent for patients who did and did not undergo the purified protein derivative skin test, respectively ($P = 0.048$). There were no significant differences between the groups in progression-free survival. Significant independent associations with tumor recurrence were seen for a history of recurrence, multiple tumors, the bacillus Calmette-Guérin

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