A new study finds that long-term aspirin use before a diagnosis of colorectal cancer (CRC) may be associated with lower CRC-specific mortality. The report that appears in *JNCI: The Journal of the National Cancer Institute*, suggests that the findings for pre-diagnosis aspirin use might help reduce CRC mortality in the overall population by limiting metastatic spread of colorectal tumors before diagnosis. Preventing distant metastases leads to fewer deaths from colorectal cancer.

The study, led by Peter T. Campbell, Ph.D., of the American Cancer Society, used data from men and women enrolled in the American Cancer Society's Cancer Prevention Study-II (CPS-II) Nutrition Cohort who were cancer-free at the baseline (year 1992/1993) and diagnosed with CRC during follow-up through 2015. Mortality outcomes were complete through to the end of 2016.

"These findings are important because colorectal cancer patients seek guidance on lifestyle factors to improve their prognosis," said Dr. Campbell.

More information: *Journal of the National Cancer Institute* (2021). DOI: [10.1093/jnci/djab008](https://doi.org/10.1093/jnci/djab008)