Curing Hep C Is Linked to Lowered Non-Liver-Related Health Risks

Conditions such as autoimmune disorders, insulin resistance and cardiovascular disease tend to have a better outlook.

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People who get their hepatitis C virus (HCV) cured have a more favorable outlook when it comes to numerous non-liver-related health conditions, MedPage Today reports.

Publishing their findings in the journal Gut, researchers conducted a systematic review and meta-analysis of 48 studies published between 1989 and 2017. They compared the outcomes of those who were cured of hep C with those who were not cured.

In four studies, curing hep C was associated with a 56 percent lower likelihood of dying of non-liver-related causes.

Eleven studies showed that curing HCV was associated with a 21-fold increased likelihood of experiencing complete remission of cryoglobulinemia vasculitis (inflammation of small blood vessels) among those with the condition. Sixteen studies showed a 21-fold increased likelihood of improvement of the condition among those who were cured of HCV.

Among those without diabetes, 11 studies showed a 58 percent reduced chance of developing insulin resistance if individuals were cured of HCV. Seven studies showed that the rate of diagnosis of diabetes was reduced by 66 percent among those cured of hep C.

One study found that curing hep C was linked to a 63 percent lower risk of major adverse health events related to cardiovascular disease. Another study showed a 30 percent reduced risk of ischemic heart events (restriction of blood supply to tissues).

As for kidney-related health outcomes, three studies showed that beating HCV reduced the risk of such health problems by 85 percent.

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