



# Curing Hepatitis C in Those With HIV May Cut Diabetes and Kidney Failure Risk

A hep C cure in those with HIV is tied to a lower rate of death, AIDS-defining illnesses, advanced cirrhosis and liver cancer.

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People with HIV and hepatitis C virus may reduce their risk of diabetes and possibly chronic kidney failure as well by curing HCV, Healio reports. These health benefits are in addition to a lowered risk of numerous liver- and AIDS-related health problems and death.

Publishing their findings in the journal *Hepatology*, researchers studied a group of 1,625 HIV/HCV-positive individuals who received interferon and ribavirin treatment for HIV between 2000 and 2008 and were followed through May 2014.

Thirty-six percent of the cohort achieved a sustained virologic response 12 weeks after completing therapy (SVR12, considered a cure). Additionally, 6.2 percent of the overall group developed cancer, 5.6 percent experienced cardiovascular health events, 5 percent experienced non-AIDS-related infections, 3.5 percent experienced bone-related health events and 2 percent experienced kidney-related health events.

The researchers found that curing hep C was associated with a 64 percent reduced risk of death, an 87 percent reduced risk of liver-related death, a 63 percent reduced risk of new AIDS-defining health events, a 90 percent reduced risk of decompensated cirrhosis, an 87 percent reduced risk of hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC, the most common form of liver cancer) and an 88 percent reduced risk of having a liver transplant.

Additionally, a cure was associated with a 43 percent reduced likelihood of diabetes as well as a 58 percent reduced risk of chronic kidney failure. However, the finding about kidney failure was not statistically significant, meaning it may have been driven by chance.

To read the Healio article, [click here](#).

To read the study abstract, [click here](#).

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