

Smoking duration, intensity tied to bladder cancer recurrence

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Longer duration and more pack-years of cigarette smoking are

associated with a higher risk for recurrence of non-muscle-invasive bladder cancer (NMIBC), according to a study published online Nov. 30 in *JAMA Network Open*.

Marilyn L. Kwan, Ph.D., from Kaiser Permanente Northern California in Oakland, and colleagues examined associations of use of tobacco ([cigarettes](#), pipes, and cigars), e-cigarettes, and marijuana with the risk for recurrence and progression of NMIBC. The analysis included 1,472 [patients](#) with NMIBC diagnosed from 2015 to 2019 and followed for 26.4 months.

The researchers found that longer cigarette smoking duration and more pack-years were associated with a higher risk for recurrence in a dose-dependent manner, with the highest risks for patients who had smoked for ≥ 40 years (hazard ratio, 2.36) or ≥ 40 pack-years (hazard ratio, 1.97). Recurrence risk was not associated with having ever smoked, being a former or current cigarette smoker, and years since quitting smoking.

Furthermore, there were no associations observed for pipes, cigars, e-cigarettes, or marijuana. Just over half of 102 patients offered a smoking cessation intervention (53.8 percent) received an intervention after diagnosis. Female patients were more likely than [male patients](#) to participate in such interventions (76.7 versus 44.7 percent).

"Cigarette smoking remains a critical exposure before and after diagnosis in survivors of NMIBC," the authors write.

More information: Marilyn L. Kwan et al, Smoking Behaviors and Prognosis in Patients With Non–Muscle-Invasive Bladder Cancer in the Be-Well Study, *JAMA Network Open* (2022). [DOI: 10.1001/jamanetworkopen.2022.44430](#)

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