

OK to continue aspirin therapy up to pancreatic surgery

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Patients on aspirin therapy do not have higher rates of perioperative bleeding, transfusion, or major procedure-related complications following elective pancreatic surgery, according to research published online July 26 in *Surgery*.

(HealthDay)—Patients on aspirin therapy do not have higher rates of perioperative bleeding, transfusion, or major procedure-related complications following elective pancreatic surgery, according to research published online July 26 in *Surgery*.

Andrea M. Wolf, M.D., of Spectrum Health in Grand Rapids, Mich., and colleagues conducted a retrospective, observational study using data from 1,017 patients who underwent pancreatic resection. Of these, 289 (28.4 percent) were continued on prescribed [aspirin therapy](#) through the morning of the surgery.

The researchers found that patients in the aspirin cohort were older than

those in the non-aspirin cohort (median age, 69 versus 62 years; P
"Despite many surgeons' fears that preoperative aspirin use increases
bleeding, this study (among others in non-[pancreatic surgery](#)) shows that
this [apprehension](#) appears unfounded," the authors write.

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