

Chemo benefits patients after nephroureterectomy in UTUC

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(HealthDay)—For patients undergoing radical nephroureterectomy

(RNU) for pT3/T4 and/or pN+ upper tract urothelial carcinoma (UTUC), adjuvant chemotherapy (AC) use is associated with an overall survival benefit, according to a study published online Jan. 3 in the *Journal of Clinical Oncology*.

Thomas Seisen, M.D., from Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston, and colleagues identified 3,253 individuals within the National Cancer Database who received AC or observation after RNU for pT3/T4 and/or pN+ UTUC. Overall survival (OS) was compared for patients in the two treatment groups.

The researchers found that after RNU, 762 (23.42 percent) and 2,491 (76.58 percent) patients with pT3/T4 and/or pN+ UTUC received AC and observation, respectively. Median OS was significantly longer for AC versus observation (47.41 versus 35.78 months) in inverse probability of treatment weighting (IPTW)-adjusted Kaplan-Meier curves. For AC versus observation, the five-year IPTW-adjusted rates of OS were 43.90 and 35.85 percent, respectively. AC correlated with a significant OS benefit in IPTW-adjusted Cox proportional hazards regression analysis (hazard ratio, 0.77). Across all subgroups this benefit was consistent, with no significant heterogeneity of [treatment](#) effect.

"Although our results are limited by the usual biases related to the observational study design, we believe that the present findings should be considered when advising post-RNU management of advanced UTUC, pending level I evidence," the authors write.

Several authors disclosed financial ties to the pharmaceutical industry.

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