

Pre-transplant depression may impair post-HCT outcomes

January 30 2017



(HealthDay)—For adult patients undergoing hematopoietic cell

transplantation (HCT), pre-transplant depression is associated with worse post-transplantation outcomes, according to a study published online Jan. 19 in *Cancer*.

Areej El-Jawahri, M.D., from the Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston, and colleagues analyzed data from the Center for International Blood and Marrow Transplant Research (CIBMTR) to compare outcomes for [adult patients](#) with hematologic malignancies with and without depression after autologous (3,786 [patients](#)) or allogeneic (7,433 patients) HCT.

The researchers found that among patients who underwent allogeneic HCT between 2008 and 2012, 15 and 85 percent, respectively, had pre-transplant depression and no depression. Pre-transplant depression correlated with lower overall survival (hazard ratio, 1.13; 95 percent confidence interval [CI], 1.04 to 1.23; P = 0.004) and with increased incidence of grade 2 to 4 acute graft-versus-host disease (hazard ratio, 1.25; 95 percent CI, 1.14 to 1.37; P hospital (means ratio, 0.98; 95 percent CI, 0.97 to 0.99; P = 0.002).

"Patients with pre-transplant [depression](#) represent a population that is at risk for post-transplant complications," the authors write.

The CIBMTR was partially funded by several pharmaceutical companies.

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Citation: Pre-transplant depression may impair post-HCT outcomes (2017, January 30) retrieved

14 July 2023 from <https://medicalxpress.com/news/2017-01-pre-transplant-depression-impair-post-hct-outcomes.html>

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