

NEW: Find **great deals** on the latest gadgets and more in the **ScienceDaily Store!**

Science News

from research organizations



Removal of ovaries during hysterectomy linked to increase in heart disease, cancer and premature death

Date: February 6, 2017

Source: University of Warwick

Summary: A link has been found between removal of both ovaries at the time of hysterectomy and premature death. Increase in incidence of heart disease and cancer, and of deaths from heart disease and cancer when ovaries were removed. More than 113,000 hysterectomy cases were studied and the ovaries were removed in about a third of these.

Share:

FULL STORY



Woman after a hysterectomy surgery.

Credit: © PK289 / Fotolia

Related Stories

Hysterectomy With Ovary Conservation Doubles Odds of Hot Flashes, Night Sweats

Aug. 3, 2016 — Hysterectomy doubles the odds of a woman enduring persistent hot flashes and night sweats, even if they retain their ovaries, new research ...

read more »

Saving Ovaries Does Not Help Prevent Prolapse for Women After Menopause

Nov. 26, 2014 — Removing ovaries at hysterectomy does not increase a woman's risk of pelvic organ prolapse after menopause. In fact, removing ovaries lowers the risk of prolapse. This surprising finding from a ...

read more »

Hysterectomized Women May Benefit from Testosterone

Nov. 27, 2013 — New research has found that testosterone administration in women with low testosterone levels, whom previously had undergone hysterectomy with or without oophorectomy, was associated with ...

read more »

Hysterectomy Does Not Increase Risk of Cardiovascular Disease, Study Finds

May 14, 2013 — Having a hysterectomy with or without ovary removal in mid-life does not increase a woman's risk of cardiovascular disease compared to

A study led by the University of Warwick has found a link between the removal of ovaries during hysterectomy and an increase in heart disease, cancer and premature death.

The study is the largest of its kind conducted on the subject and covered a ten year period. It compared women who were treated for a benign disease who had both ovaries removed with those who had one or none removed.

The work looked at 113,679 cases of women aged 35-45 during the period April 2004 to March 2014. A third of the patients studied had both ovaries removed. Titled Removal of all ovarian tissue versus conserving ovarian tissue at time of hysterectomy in premenopausal patients with benign disease: study using routine data and data linkage the study has been published in the BMJ.

It found that women who had one or no ovaries removed were less likely to develop ischaemic heart disease (coronary artery disease) or cancer after hysterectomy than those who had both (bilateral) ovaries removed. The researchers also found that fewer women who retained one or both ovaries compared to those who had both removed died within the duration of the study -- 0.6% compared to 1.01%.

Although removal of both ovaries protects against subsequent development of ovarian cancer, the researchers believe premenopausal women should be advised that this benefit comes at the cost of an increased risk of cardiovascular disease and of other (more prevalent) cancers and higher overall mortality.

The study was led by Richard Lilford, Professor of Obstetrics and Gynaecology and Chair in Public Health at the University of Warwick's Warwick Medical School. He said: "The combination of biological plausibility and the massive 'effect size' make a compelling case that women can be advised that their risk of ovarian cancer is greatly reduced by surgical removal of both ovaries.

"However, the lifetime risk of developing ovarian cancer is one in 52 in the UK, and the removal of a metabolically active organ such as the ovary may have harmful effects in the long term.

"If so, these long term disadvantages (combined with the unpleasant shorter term effects of acute oestrogen deprivation) must be offset against the benefit conferred by protection from ovarian cancer."

A national database of hospital admissions was examined by the researchers and linked to the national register of deaths to conduct this nationwide study. Unlike the previous, smaller Nurses' Health Study, it was conducted on a countrywide basis rather than in a sample, and examined associations between operation type and subsequent hospital admissions, as well as mortality.

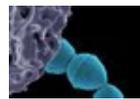
Forty per cent of women with no specific risk factors for reproductive cancer had their ovaries removed during abdominal hysterectomy in the 35-45 age group. Professor Lilford said: "This might be a higher proportion than would be expected among women who were fully aware of the worse health outcomes with bilateral removal that we've reported. In that case, we might expect the proportion of women who select bilateral ovarian removal to decline as the health risks that must be traded for a reduced incidence of ovarian cancer come into sharper focus." Another point of interest the research team

women who reach natural menopause, contrary to many ...
[read more »](#)

Strange & Offbeat

HEALTH & MEDICINE

Wired for Sound: Enraging Noises Caused by Brain Connection Overdrive



Cytotoxins Contribute to Virulence of Deadly Epidemic Bacterial Infections

Spider Silk Demonstrates Spider Man-Like Abilities



How Stressful Will a Trip to Mars Be on the Human Body?

MIND & BRAIN

Positive Social Support from a Spouse Could Have Negative Consequences, New Research Shows

Don't Smile Too Big to Be Effective in Online Marketing Ads, Study Finds



Autism Symptoms Improve After Fecal Transplant, Small Study Finds

Psychological 'Vaccine' Could Help Immunize Public Against 'Fake News' on Climate Change, Study Suggests

LIVING & WELL



Why the Lights Don't Dim When We Blink



Raw Materials for Meatballs, Falafel from Mealworms and Crickets



Frankly, We Do Give a Damn: Study Finds Links Between Swearing and Honesty

Retail Therapy for Jealous Partners

found was a decline, albeit a slow one, in the number of hysterectomies performed; nearly 9,000 women had a hysterectomy for a benign condition in the target age range in 2014, compared to almost 13,000 in 2004-05.

The researchers admit the data available wasn't as detailed as they would have liked, in particular they didn't have information on the use of hormone replacement therapy. However they plan to re-examine the cohort at a later date to examine trends over the long term.

Story Source:

Materials provided by **University of Warwick**. *Note: Content may be edited for style and length.*

Journal Reference:

1. Jemma Mytton, Felicity Evison, Peter J Chilton, Richard J Lilford. **Removal of all ovarian tissue versus conserving ovarian tissue at time of hysterectomy in premenopausal patients with benign disease: study using routine data and data linkage.** *BMJ*, 2017; j372 DOI: 10.1136/bmj.j372

Cite This Page:

 MLA

 APA

 Chicago

University of Warwick. "Removal of ovaries during hysterectomy linked to increase in heart disease, cancer and premature death." ScienceDaily. ScienceDaily, 6 February 2017. <www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2017/02/170206130604.htm>.

Powered by Google



Metastatic cancer - Tumor molecular...

Ad oncodna.com

Total darkness at night key to...

sciencedaily.com

Evita questi 5 cibi

Ad BodyFokus

Radiotherapy in girls and the risk...

sciencedaily.com



Potty Train Your Dog

Ad TrainPetDog.com



Older women still suffer from hot...

sciencedaily.com



Alcohol intake increases the...

sciencedaily.com



Jefferson Lab Accelerator...

sciencedaily.com

Recommended Articles

Young Early Stage Ovarian Cancer Patients Can Preserve Fertility

American Cancer Society, [ScienceDaily](#) , 2009

New study questions benefits of elective removal of ovaries during hysterectomy

Elsevier Health Sciences, [ScienceDaily](#) , 2010

Hysterectomy does not increase risk of cardiovascular disease, study finds

American College of Cardiology, [ScienceDaily](#) , 2013

Sparing ovaries, removing fallopian tubes may cut cancer risk, but few have procedure

Yale University, [ScienceDaily](#) , 2016

Preventive Ovary Removal Linked To Early Death In Younger Women, Mayo Clinic Discovers

Mayo Clinic, [ScienceDaily](#) , 2006

Uterine Cancer Risk Increased for Women With BRCA1 Mutations, Suggesting Benefit From Hysterectomy [↗](#)

[GenomeWeb](#) , 2016

Ovarian Cancer Prognostic Signature Reveals Key Pathways [↗](#)

[GenomeWeb](#) , 2009

Upcoming Film, Studies to Highlight BRCA-Positive Male Breast Cancer Stories [↗](#)

[GenomeWeb](#) , 2015

Goserelin (Zoladex) Protects Fertility In Women With Breast Cancer [↗](#)

Omudhome Ogburu, PharmD, [RxConsult](#)

Team Begins Defining Cancer Risk Patterns for Distinct BRCA1, BRCA2 Mutations [↗](#)

[GenomeWeb](#) , 2015

Powered by [Trend MD](#)

Free Subscriptions

Get the latest science news with ScienceDaily's free email newsletters, updated daily and weekly. Or view hourly updated newsfeeds in your RSS reader:

 Email Newsletters

 RSS Feeds

Mobile Apps

Get the latest news from ScienceDaily via our free mobile apps, available for download on the following platforms:

 iPhone/iPad

Follow Us

Keep up to date with the latest news from ScienceDaily via social networks:

 Facebook

 Twitter

 Google+

 LinkedIn

Have Feedback?

Tell us what you think of ScienceDaily -- we welcome both positive and negative comments. Have any problems using the site? Questions?

 Leave Feedback

 [Android](#)

 [Contact Us](#)

[About This Site](#) | [Editorial Staff](#) | [Awards & Reviews](#) | [Contribute](#) | [Advertise](#) | [Privacy Policy](#) | [Terms of Use](#)

Copyright 2016 ScienceDaily or by third parties, where indicated. All rights controlled by their respective owners.

Content on this website is for information only. It is not intended to provide medical or other professional advice.

Views expressed here do not necessarily reflect those of ScienceDaily, its staff, its contributors, or its partners.