

PROSTATE CANCER NEWS BRIEFS

Music Eases Pain, Anxiety

Researchers at the Duke Cancer Institute in North Carolina have found that listening to classical music through headphones during a prostate biopsy may reduce pain and anxiety. "It's a matter of shifting attention, so the music provides a distraction from the procedure," says Matvey Tsivian, lead author of the study published in *Urology*, inherited genetics plays a role with the cancer.

A Pesticide/Cancer Link?

The *Los Angeles Times* reports that University of Southern California researchers have found an increased prevalence of prostate cancer among 173 older men exposed to certain pesticides in Central Valley neighborhoods. The study found that those who lived within 500 meters of places where methyl bromide, captan, and eight other organochlorine pesticides had been applied were statistically more likely to have developed prostate cancer than the control group.

Urine Test Developed

Scientists at the University of Michigan Medical School Department of Urology have developed a noninvasive urine test for prostate cancer, reports *Science Translational Medicine*. The Michigan study wanted to find a new biomarker that eliminates the need for invasive testing and that more efficiently sorts benign from malignant prostate conditions.



Kidney Stones Linked to Heart Disease

There appears to be an association between kidney stones and the development of heart disease, notes *Internal Medicine News*. An analysis of data from the Coronary Artery Risk Development in Young Adults (CARDIA) study—started in 1985—shows that individuals who developed kidney stones also had an increased risk of developing atherosclerosis (a build-up of plaque) in the carotid artery.

Twenty years after they were recruited, almost 4% of subjects had reported forming kidney stones, and stones were associated with a 60% increased risk of carotid atherosclerosis.

This study complements another that finds an association between kidney stones and heart attacks. Following up on almost 4,600 Minnesota subjects who had formed stones in the past, investigators discovered that stone-formers had a 31% increased risk of having a heart attack.



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