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Could anti-obesity medications affect survival in people with knee or hip osteoarthritis?

DECEMBER 06, 2023 - Among 6,524 participants with knee or hip osteoarthritis who were taking orlistat, sibutramine, or rimonabant, the 5-year death rate was 5.3%, 4.0%, and 5.4% for the “weight gain/stable”, “slow-to-moderate weight loss,” and “fast weight loss” groups, respectively. Compared with the “weight gain/stable” group, the risk of death was 28% lower for the “slow-to-moderate weight loss” group and only 1% lower for the “fast weight loss” arm.

“A slow-to-moderate rate of weight loss induced by anti-obesity medications may lower the risk of death in overweight/obese people with knee/hip osteoarthritis”, said first author Jie Wei, PhD, of Xiangya Hospital, Central South University, in China.

Full Citation: “Weight loss induced by antiobesity medications and all-cause mortality among patients with knee or hip osteoarthritis” Jie Wei, David Hunter, Nancy E. Lane, Jing Wu, Chao Zeng, Guanghua Lei, and Yuqing Zhang. ACR; Published Online: 06 December 2023 (DOI: 10.1002/art.42754).

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