How to Decrease the Diet and Lifestyle Risks of Bladder Cancer

Researched and Written by Keith D. Bishop Clinical Nutritionist, B.Sc. Pharmacy

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<u>Chemicals increase the risk of</u> <u>bladder cancer in all people.</u>

We are exposed to chemicals at home, at work, at play and in our food. The liver processes these chemical and changes them into water soluble chemicals so that they can be eliminated through the bladder and the urine. As these chemicals pass through the bladder some of them may damage bladder cells or damage the DNA in the bladder cells and initiates a cancer cell. If the body can not kill or remove the cancer cell it continues to grow, replicate and create a tumor. ⁱ

The goal of this report is to help you limit your exposure to known bladder cancer causing chemicals. Hopefully, by limiting your exposure to the chemicals you will decrease your risk of bladder cancer or reoccurrence of bladder cancer.

Certain foods and lifestyle may also lower the risk of bladder cancer. This report has both the good and the bad foods and lifestyle information so you can start making changes immediately.

The recommendations in this report can usually be implemented before, during and after cancer surgery and treatments.

More aggressive dietary supplement products and other Bishop Natural Cancer Reports should be integrated under the supervision of your healthcare provider. Additional natural cancer reports and information is available at <u>www.NaturalCancerReports.com</u>.

Information in this report is obtained from published medical research performed by doctors, government agencies, universities, hospitals and drug companies. This information and commentary is not comprehensive and is not meant to replace the advice given to you by your doctor. Consult with your doctor before making any changes to your treatment program.

Water Disinfectants

Chlorine, chloramine and bromine are used as a disinfectant in drinking water and pool water. Disinfectant products decrease bacterial growth and resulting diseases in water sources. When disinfectants come into contact with contamination they break down into trihalomethanes, nitrosamines. Exposure to the disinfectant byproducts of this disinfectant process increases the risk of bladder cancer. ^{2 3}

When disinfectants are exposed to urine and other body chemicals they change into nitrosamines. This is a common occurrence in public swimming pools and hot tubs. Nitrosamines increase the risk of bladder cancer. ⁴

We are exposed to disinfectant byproducts in our drinking water, showers⁵, baths⁶ and pools. Disinfectant byproducts are absorbed through the skin and by breathing the air above the water sources. ⁷

If you have bladder cancer you should filter your home water to remove chlorine. Swimming or showering/bathing with chlorinated water increases the risk of bladder cancer 1.6 to 2.0 fold.⁸

Can't filter your bath or shower water to remove chlorine? Turn on the exhaust fan and open the bathroom door! You

will breathe in and absorb more chemicals through your lungs than you will through your skin.

If you have bladder cancer you should avoid public swimming pools and hot tubs. These disinfectant byproducts are gasses that dissolve into the air above the water. Breathing the air above the water may also increase the risk of bladder cancer. Swimmers were found to have seven times higher disinfectant byproducts in their body than people that did not swim in the pool. They also had elevated levels of damaging chemicals in their urine.⁹

Indoor swimming pools and hot tubs may provide the highest risk of bladder cancer as the gasses are trapped inside the building. Outdoor pools may be a safer option as the gasses may not be as concentrated.

If you have a private pool or hot tub and get water from a public source you should filter your water to remove disinfectants and use a UV (ultraviolet) disinfecting system to decrease bacterial growth.

If you have a private well you may not need to filter your water to remove disinfectants. But you should test your water to make sure you do not have any arsenic, another known cause of bladder cancer.¹⁰ Additional information is located in the chapter on Metals.

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National Testing Laboratories provides reasonable priced, quality water testing and analysis on many chemicals in residential and commercial water sources. <u>Click here to go the National</u> <u>Testing Laboratories website.</u>

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Dairy

A study in Europe found a higher intake of cheese indicated a "possible *increased* risk of bladder cancer." ¹¹

A study from the Netherlands found weak evidence that bladder cancer risk *decreases* with higher intake of fermented daily products (i.e., cheese, kefir, and yogurt). Higher intake of butter may increase the risk of bladder cancer. No change in risk was found with cheese, calcium, and lactose or nonfermented dairy intake.¹²

In 2011, the medical journal *Urology* published an analysis of 14 studies on milk and dairy products in 324,241 individuals throughout the world. They found there was no significant association between milk and dairy intake and bladder cancer. Although in the United States they found higher milk intake decreased the risk of bladder cancer. In Japan they found higher dairy intake may decrease the risk of bladder cancer. ¹³

Another 2011 study evaluated 19 previous studies and found high milk intake was significantly associated with decreased risk of bladder cancer. The inverse association was stronger in Asia than North America, and no association was observed in Europe.¹⁴ An evaluation of 82,002 Swedish women and men found high intake of cultured milk (sour milk and yogurt) decreased the risk of developing bladder cancer.¹⁵

In summary, dairy consumption does not appear to increase the risk of bladder cancer.

Hair Dye

Using hair dye increases the risk of bladder cancer.¹⁶

The International Journal of Cancer published research showing women with a college degree, who used hair dye and had a genetic issue (NAT2) removing toxins had an increased risk of bladder cancer.¹⁷

The college degree issue is an interesting issue that is not modifiable. Perhaps a person with a college degree has a tendency to use more hair coloring or dyes to help hide the gray and to compete in the business world.

Another study demonstrated that hair dressers that held their jobs for 10 or more years had a significantly increased risk for bladder cancer.¹⁸

Another study indicated that hair dressers are at an increased risk of lung cancer, larynx cancer, bladder cancer and multiple myeloma.¹⁹

Another study of Chinese women that used hair dye demonstrated a slight (17%) but not significant increased risk of bladder cancer.²⁰

If you dye you hair quit. Go natural!

If you are a hair dresser you need to avoid the chemicals, dyes and fumes.

Wear gloves when dealing with chemical.

You may have to change shops if adequate ventilation is not available.

Meat

An analysis of 20 medical research studies revealed:

- High red meat consumption increased the risk of bladder cancer by 17%
- Processed meat consumption increased the risk of bladder cancer by 10%

Compared to those people with low meat intake. These risks are even more apparent for people in the United State and Canada.²¹

Eating barbequed meats increases the risk of bladder cancer.²² Browning and blackening of meats during cooking causes the formation of heterocyclic amines (HCAs).

The NIH-AARP Diet and Health Study (NIH – National Institutes of Health; AARP – American Association of Retired Persons) evaluation of the diet in 300,933 men in the U.S. Researchers found an increased risk of bladder cancer with total dietary nitrite and nitrate plus nitrite from processed meat. Results also suggested a positive association between red meat HCAs and bladder <u>carcinogenesis</u>.

Based on research I recommend:

- Avoid processed meats with nitrates or nitrites in the ingredient list. This includes most lunch meat, ham, bacon and hot dogs. <u>Read the</u> <u>ingredient labels.</u> More and more meat processing companies are offering preservative free meats.
- 2. Limit the consumption of red meat to once or twice a week.
- 3. Do not over brown or blacken any type of meat.
- 4. Cook meats at lower temperatures, over lower flames or further away from flames or heat source. This will extend your cooking times but is well worth it.
- 5. Trim excess fat and skins from meat before cooking. To decrease burning or flames.
- When grilling do not allow flames to touch the meat and limit the smoke. Do not breathe in the smoke. The smoke may contain the HCAs.
- 7. Use marinades to decrease the browning and burning of meat.
- Do a genomic test to see if you have an issue detoxifying and safely removing HCAs and other dangerous chemicals from the body. <u>SmartDNA</u> Even if you have a genetic risk issue, targeted supplements, diet and lifestyle may

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lessen the potential damage to your body.

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Metals

Arsenic,^{23 24} cadmium,²⁵ chromium, lead and nickel exposure increases the risk of bladder cancer. ^{26 27 28} These metals can be found in drinking water.

Chromium (III, IV, VI) found in some water supplies is different than the safe form of chromium found in many dietary supplements.

Copper blood levels tend to be higher in patients with bladder cancer compared to people without bladder cancer.^{29 30}

Copper levels in bladder tumors are much higher compared to normal bladder tissue.³¹

Copper is a necessary nutrient. But excessive intake should be avoided if you have cancer. Copper is used by many different types of cancer tumors to grow blood vessels (<u>angiogenesis</u>) to support their rapid growth.^{32 33 34}

Green tea brewed with water containing copper changed the green tea and copper into damaging oxidized chemicals.³⁵ Additional information is found in the beverage section of this document.

Toxic metals can be absorbed via drinking water, through the skin via bath water, shower water, bathing and pools and via the lungs in steam from bathing and saunas. National Testing Laboratories provides reasonable priced, extensive quality water testing and analysis on many chemicals in residential and commercial water sources. <u>Click here to go the</u> <u>National Testing Laboratories website.</u> Local laboratories rarely test for the same number of toxins in water.

If your water has the toxic metals copper or lead your faucets and or the pipes in your house are probably the source of the contamination. You will need to install a carbon based filter at the outlet source, i.e., the faucet, the refrigerator, the shower head or tub faucet.

Check to see if you have copper pipes in your home. Go out to the hot water tank. If you have white or gray plastic pipes going into your home you probably don't have copper pipes. If you have copper pipes going into the home you probably have copper pipes.

If you have copper pipes and you have not used the water for more than an hour turn on the water long enough to flush the standing water out of the pipes. This may take a few minutes. Wasting water is better than exposing you to the toxic metals.

If you have gray pipes you may have brass elbow fixtures. If you have not used the water for more than an hour turn on the water long enough to flush the standing water out of the pipes. This

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may take a few minutes. Wasting water is better than exposing you to the toxic metals.

If you have white plastic water pipes you may only have to be concerned about your brass faucets.

Brass faucets can be a source of metal contaminates. Brass contains copper, zinc, tin and lead. Water sitting in the faucet will leach out the metals into the water. <u>Turn on the hot and cold water</u> for a just a moment to flush out the contaminated water before collecting or using the water. Do not use the first portion of the water that is setting in the faucet as it may be the most contaminated source of metals.

Do not use KDF filters. They contain brass (copper, zinc, tin and lead shavings). I have measured higher levels of copper after water has gone through a KDF filter.

If your water has toxic arsenic, cadmium, chromium, or nickel but no copper or lead you should install a filter for your whole house. Your local filter company can guide your decisions.

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Beverages

Consumption of wine and liquor/spirits decreased the risk of bladder cancer by 51% and 35% respectively. onsumption of beer did not affect the risk of bladder cancer.

Consumption of water, fruit juice, green tea and black tea did not affect the risk of bladder cancer.

Daily consumption of milk decreased the risk of bladder cancer by 51%. ³⁶

A study of 49,566 men and 54,874 women in Japan demonstrated coffee slightly increased the risk of bladder cancer in the men. ³⁷ A study in California of found coffee consumption was associated with an increased risk of bladder cancer.³⁸

Numerous laboratory studies demonstrate green tea extracts stop bladder cancer cell growth and even kill bladder cells. Additional dietary supplement information is available in a separate report. Dietary consumption of green tea does not decrease the risk of bladder cancer and in some studies may increase the risk. Brewing the green tea with unfiltered water, water high in copper from copper water pipes and brass faucets, may be the problem. Researchers in India found green tea moves damaging copper into cells. The higher levels of copper in the cells caused oxidative damaged to the DNA. The damaged DNA increased the risk of bladder cancer.³⁹

Use carbon filters, to remove copper and other metals from your drinking water or consume bottled water proven to be free of copper!

Most water companies can prove an assay of the contaminants in their water.

Brass faucets are typically made of copper, tin, lead and zinc. The longer water sits in the metal the higher the amount of toxic heavy metals leached into the water.

The longer the water sits in the metal pipes the higher the amount of copper or other metal contamination.

If you must drink or bathe in water that comes through brass faucets or copper pipes that has been sitting for more than a couple of hours, flush the pipes before using the water. Turn the hot and or cold faucet on and let the water run through long enough to get fresh water.

Additional water information is found in the Metals section of this report.

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Olive Oil

In one study olive oil appears to decrease the risk of bladder cancer. ⁴⁰

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Vegetables and Fruit

Consumption of

cruciferous vegetables (CVs) is inversely correlated to many human diseases including cancer (breast, lung, and bladder⁴¹), diabetes, and cardiovascular and neurological disease. ⁴²

Extracts from cruciferous vegetables and garlic are being used in research to treat bladder cancer. ^{43 44 45} Additional information is available in dietary supplement report available through <u>www.NaturalCancerReports.com</u>.

Increased vegetable and fruit intake provided a modest decrease in the risk of bladder cancer. ⁴⁶ While increased consumption of green, orange and yellow vegetables decreases the risk of bladder cancer by about 50%. ⁴⁷

Another study published by the medical journal Urology, states carrots, cruciferous vegetables and fruit decreases the risk of bladder cancer.⁴⁸

Agents associated with decreased risk of bladder cancer include carrots, selenium, cruciferous vegetables, and fruits.

Sulforaphane, a chemical found in broccoli, decreased the development of bladder cancer in human bladder cells grown in a laboratory test and exposed to a known cancer causing toxin. ⁴⁹ <u>Sulforaphane is available as a dietary</u> <u>supplement.</u>

Generally dark colored fruits and vegetables contain more antioxidants than light colored fruits and vegetables and may provide better cancer protection. Dark colored berries contain more antioxidants than apples and bananas. Sweet potatoes contain more antioxidants than white potatoes.

Salt

A European evaluation of 19,732 patients with cancer found: Compared with never adding salt at the table, <u>always or often adding salt at the table</u> <u>was associated with an increased risk of</u> <u>stomach, lung, testicular and bladder</u> <u>cancer.</u> Processed meat was significantly related to the risk of the stomach, colon, rectum, pancreas, lung, prostate, testis, kidney and bladder cancer and leukemia.⁵⁰

Processed meat is high in salt (sodium) and preservatives (nitrates and nitrites).

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Smoking

Smoking increases the risk of bladder cancer. $^{\rm 51\ 52\ 53}$

If you smoke, you must stop!

I you are exposed to passive smoke you must remove the source or remove yourself!

Vitamin D

A low intake of vitamin D is related to an increased risk of bladder cancer. ⁵⁴

Low blood levels of vitamin D3 increases the risk of bladder cancer. ⁵⁵

The risk of bladder cancer decreases in populations that live closer to the equator and increases in populations that live further North and South of the equator. ⁵⁶

The vitamin D polymorphism, VDR Fok-I, increases the risk of bladder cancer. ⁵⁷ Genetic VDR polymorphism test is available through <u>Smart DNA</u>. Please contact <u>Flourish Pharmacy</u> if interested in doing a Smart DNA test.

In simple terms vitamin D3 attaches to cells in the body and controls abnormal cell growth. A vitamin D polymorphism does not allow vitamin D to attach to the receptor or does not allow the receptor to work properly and increases the risk of a cancer cell growth into a tumor.

Low vitamin D3 levels increase the risk of most cancers, diabetes I & II, depression, Alzheimer's disease, Autism Spectrum Disorder, autoimmune diseases, heart attacks and strokes.

Ask your doctor for a 25-Hydroxyvitamin D3 blood test. Normal vitamin D3 levels range from 30 to 100 ng/ml. An optimal level is 65 ng/ml. Flourish Pharmacy offers a finger stick

blood drop test kit for \$75. Prick your finger, place drops of blood on a test pad and mail the test pad to the laboratory. You will receive your results typically within two weeks.

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