Do Cancer and Its Treatment Affect Later Pregnancy Outcomes?

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An International Journal of Cancer study found that female survivors of certain types of cancer have higher risks of poor outcomes in pregnancies conceived after diagnosis than women without cancer.

In the study, diagnoses from cancer registries were linked to pregnancy outcomes from birth certificates in three US states. Cervical cancer survivors had higher risks of preterm birth, as did survivors of invasive breast cancer and leukemia. Investigators observed a higher risk of small for gestational age infants (<10% of weight for age based on a national distribution) in survivors of brain cancer and extranodal non-Hodgkin lymphoma. They did not see an increased risk of infants born preterm, low birth weight, or small for gestational age in pregnancies conceived after ductal carcinoma in situ, thyroid cancer, melanoma, or Hodgkin lymphoma.

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The risk of preterm birth and growth restriction in pregnancy after cancer

Additional Information


About Journal

The International Journal of Cancer invites submissions under a broad scope of topics relevant to experimental and clinical cancer research and publishes original research articles, mini reviews, short reports, and letters to the editor. The article categories within the journal are: carcinogenesis, cancer cell biology, cancer genetics, infectious causes of cancer, tumor immunology, early detection and diagnosis, epidemiology, and cancer therapy.

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