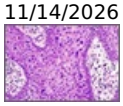
Anti-arthritis drug may prevent development of non-melanoma skin cancers.

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Celecoxib (brand name Celebrex®) is currently used as a pain medication and is frequently used to treat arthritis, but new research published in the *Journal of the National Cancer Institute* indicates the drug may be effective at preventing the development of cutaneous squamous cell carcinomas (SCCs) and basal cell carcinomas (BCCs). In a double-blind, randomized, placebo-controlled trial, 240 patients were tested over an 11-month period, after which researchers discovered the patients receiving celecoxib had a significantly smaller number of cases of non-melanoma skin cancer. Researchers believe the drug may be effective for high-risk patients and work is being done to study possible negative effects.

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