

## NSAIDs and Chemoprevention of Lung Cancer

Results from another trial by Harris and colleagues<sup>[8]</sup> on chemoprevention of lung cancer suggests that COX-2 may indeed represent a critical target for tumor prevention. This case-controlled study of the effects of NSAIDs (aspirin, ibuprofen, and other drugs) in 489 lung cancer patients included only heavy smokers (also in controls) to evaluate the effect of NSAIDs on tobacco-associated tumors.

**Daily use of NSAIDs for more than 2 years was associated with a 68% reduction in lung cancer risk** (RR, 0.32; CI, 0.23-0.44;  $P < .01$ ), and such beneficial effect increased with increasing length of NSAID treatment. Aspirin appeared to be slightly more effective than ibuprofen (RR, 0.22 with aspirin vs 0.39 with ibuprofen), and men (RR, 0.41) seemed more chemoprotected than women (RR, 0.22), but these differences were not significant. More trials are needed to confirm these initial findings in larger numbers of patients and in patients with lung tumors unrelated to tobacco consumption.