Lung cancer incidence among workers biologically monitored for occupational exposure to lead: a cohort study ¹

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- 1. Supplementary material
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Supplementary table S1. Definitions of FINJEM agents (unit of level, definition of unit and assessment threshold) used as occupational confounders.

| FINJEM agent Unit of level | | Definition of unit | Assessment threshold | | | |
|--|--------------------|---|---|--|--|--|
| Asbestos | f/ cm³ | Fibers (length over 5μm, diameter be- low 3μm, aspect ratio at least 3:1) of as- bestos in cubic centimeter of workroom air. | Possibly at least 5% of the occupation exposed to an annual mean level of 0.01 f/cm ³ of the agent at any time in 1945-95. | | | |
| Chromium | µg/m³ | Microgram of agent in cubic meter of workroom air. | Possibly at least 5% of the occupation exposed to an annual mean level of 0.5 μ g/m ³ of the agent at any time in 1945-95. | | | |
| Nickel | µg/m³ | Microgram of agent in cubic meter of workroom air. | Possibly at least 5% of the occupation exposed to an annual mean level of $1 \mu g/m^3$ of the agent at any time in 1945-95. | | | |
| Arsenic | µg/m³ | Microgram of agent in cubic meter of workroom air. | Possibly at least 5% of the occupation exposed to an annual mean level of 0.5 μ g/m ³ of the agent at any time in 1945-95. | | | |
| Cadmium | µg/m³ | Microgram of agent in cubic meter of workroom air | Possibly at least 5% of the occupation exposed to an annual mean level of 0.5 μ g/m ³ of the agent at any time in 1945-95. | | | |
| Quartz dust | mg/m ³ | Milligram of agent in cubic meter of workroom air. | Possibly at least 5% of the occupation exposed to an annual mean level of 0.02 mg/m ³ of the agent at any time in 1945-95. | | | |
| Respirable dust | mg/ m ³ | Milligram of agent in cubic meter of workroom air. | Possibly at least 5% of the occupation exposed to an annual mean level of 0.02 mg/m ³ of the agent at any time in 1945-95. | | | |
| Gasoline engine exhaust | mg/m ³ | Milligrams of carbon monoxide in cubic meter of workroom air. | Possibly at least 5% of persons in the occupa- tion exposed at work to an annual mean level of at least 2 mg/ m ³ of carbon monoxide at some time in 1945-95. | | | |
| Diesel engine exhaust | mg/m ³ | Milligrams of nitrogen dioxide in cubic meter of workroom air. | Possibly at least 5% of persons in the occupa- tion exposed at work to an annual mean level of at least 0.05 mg/ m ³ of nitrogen dioxide at some time in 1945-95. | | | |
| Polycyclic aro- matic hydrocar- bons | µg/m³ | Microgram of all PAH-compounds in cubic meter of workroom air. | Possibly at least 5% of the occupation exposed to an annual mean level of 0.1 μ g/m ³ of the agent at any time in 1945-95. | | | |
| Benzo(a)pyrene | µg/m³ | Microgram of benzo(a)pyrene in cubic meter of workroom air. | Possibly at least 5% of the occupation ex- posed to an annual mean level of 0.005 µg/m ³ of the agent at any time in 1945-95. | | | |

Supplementary table S2. Internal analyses by the studied potential confounding occupational exposures, without and with the grouped mean personal blood lead level. For blood lead level, results only for the highest category (2.0+ μ mol/L) is shown in the table in the right, compared with the lowest BL group. Cox regression, hazard ratios (HR) with 95% confidence intervals (CI) adjusted for age, gender, year of the last measurement and socio-economic status in 1975. Each of the potential occupational confounder was fitted in a set of separate models.

| | | Lead and daily smoking preva- | Lead and daily smoking prevalence included in the model | | | | |
|--|---------|---|---|-----------|--------------------------------------|-----------|--|
| | | lence not in- cluded in the model | | | | | |
| | | Studied potential confounder | Studied potential con- founder | | Mean blood lead level 2.0+ μmol/l | | |
| Studied potential counfounder, | N cases | HR and | HR and | CI | HR | CI | |
| unit and exposure category | | trend | trend | | | | |
| | | test | test | | | | |
| Asbestos ((f/cm ³)*year) | | | | | | | |
| [0,0.001) | 235 | 1.00 | 1.00 | | | | |
| [0.001,2) | 328 | 0.95 | 0.91 | 0.77-1.09 | | | |
| [2,Inf) | 124 | 1.23 | 1.15 | 0.91-1.45 | | | |
| Continuous (P for trend) | | 0.03 | 0.09 | | | | |
| | | | | | 2.58 | 1.85-3.59 | |
| Chromium and its compounds ((µg/m³)*year) | | | | | | | |
| [0,0.001] | 242 | 1.00 | 1.00 | | | | |
| [0.001,100] | 404 | 1.14 | 1.05 | 0.88-1.24 | | | |
| [100,Inf] | 41 | 1.10 | 0.90 | 0.63-1.28 | | | |
| Continuous (P for trend) | | 0.42 | 0.55 | | | | |
| | | | | | 2.60 | 1.86-3.62 | |
| Nickel ((µg/m³)*year) | | | | | | | |
| [0,0.001] | 305 | 1.00 | 1.00 | | | | |
| [0.001,40] | 300 | 1.18 | 1.09 | 0.93-1.29 | | | |
| [40,Inf) | 82 | 1.09 | 0.94 | 0.72-1.21 | | | |
| Continuous (P for trend) | | 0.11 | 0.81 | | | | |
| | | | | | 2.57 | 1.84-3.59 | |
| Arsenic ((µg/m³)*year) | | | | | | | |
| [0,0.001] | 567 | 1.00 | 1.00 | | | | |
| [0.001,1] | 53 | 1.24 | 1.25 | 0.94-1.66 | ļ | | |
| [1,Inf) | 67 | 1.54 | 1.26 | 0.97-1.64 | ļ | | |
| Continuous (P for trend) | | 0.14 | 0.96 | | | | |
| | | | | | 2.57 | 1.84-3.59 | |
| Cadmium ((µg/m³)*year) | | | | | | | |
| [0,0.001) | 299 | 1.00 | 1.00 | | 1 | | |
| [0.001,2] | 318 | 0.94 | 0.89 | 0.76-1.05 | 1 | | |
| [2,Inf) | 70 | 1.26 | 1.06 | 0.80-1.39 | | | |
| Continuous (P for trend) | | 0.21 | 0.85 | | | | |
| | | | | | 2.57 | 1.84-3.59 | |
| Quartz dust ((mg/m3)*year) | | | | | | | |
| [0,0.001) | 530 | 1.00 | 1.00 | | | | |

| [0.001,1] | 81 | 1.39 | 1.33 | 1.05-1.68 | | |
|--|-----|-------|------|-----------|------|-----------|
| [1,Inf) | 76 | 1.57 | 1.29 | 1.00-1.66 | | |
| Continuous (P for trend) | | 0.001 | 0.12 | | | |
| | | | | | 2.49 | 1.78-3.48 |
| Respirable dust ((mg/m3)*year) | | | | | | |
| [0,0.001) | 140 | 1.00 | 1.00 | | | |
| [0.001,40) | 447 | 1.24 | 1.18 | 0.97-1.44 | | |
| [40,Inf) | 100 | 1.33 | 1.17 | 0.88-1.54 | | |
| Continuous (P for trend) | | 0.007 | 0.22 | | | |
| | | | | | 2.52 | 1.80-3.52 |
| Gasoline engine exhaust | | | | | | |
| ((mg/m ³)*year) | 470 | 1.00 | 1.00 | | | |
| [0,0.001) | 479 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 0.00.1.07 | | |
| [0.001,100] | 183 | 1.06 | 1.07 | 0.89-1.27 | | |
| [100,Inf) | 25 | 0.75 | 0.75 | 0.50-1.13 | | |
| Continuous (P for trend) | | 0.03 | 0.05 | | | |
| | | | | | 2.56 | 1.83-3.56 |
| Diesel engine exhaust | | | | | | |
| ((mg/m ³) [*] year) | | | | | | |
| [0,0.001) | 478 | 1.00 | 1.00 | | | |
| [0.001,0.5] | 142 | 1.18 | 1.18 | 0.98-1.43 | | |
| [0.5,Inf) | 67 | 0.77 | 0.78 | 0.60-1.01 | | |
| Continuous (P for trend) | | 0.19 | 0.22 | | | |
| | | | | | 2.56 | 1.83-3.57 |
| Polycyclic aromatic hydrocar- | | | | | | |
| bons ((µg/m³)*year) | | | | | | |
| [0,0.001) | 339 | 1.00 | 1.00 | | | |
| [0.001,20) | 280 | 0.93 | 0.88 | 0.74-1.04 | | |
| [20,Inf) | 68 | 1.49 | 1.17 | 0.88-1.55 | | |
| Continuous (P for trend) | | 0.04 | 0.57 | | | |
| | | | | | 2.55 | 1.83-3.57 |
| Benzo(a)pyrene ((µg/m³)*year) | | | | | | |
| [0,0.001) | 411 | 1.00 | 1.00 | | | |
| [0.001,1] | 211 | 0.96 | 0.92 | 0.78-1.09 | | |
| [1,Inf) | 65 | 1.54 | 1.22 | 0.92-1.61 | | |
| Continuous (P for trend) | | 0.004 | 0.21 | | | |
| | | | | | 2.51 | 1.80-3.51 |