

Predicting residential radon concentrations in Finland: Model development, validation, and application to childhood leukemia ¹

by Atte Nikkilä, MD, PhD,² Hannu Arvela, PhD, Juha Mehtonen, MS, Jani Raitanen, MS, Merja Heinäniemi, PhD, Olli Lohi, MD, PhD, Anssi Auvinen, MD, PhD

1. *Supplementary tables*

2. *Correspondence to: Atte Nikkilä, Faculty of Medicine and Health Technology, Tampere University
Arvo Ylpön katu 34, 33520 Tampere, Finland. [E-mail: atte.nikkila@tuni.fi]*

Supplementary table 1 – The percentage of missing data on each predictor before multiple imputation

	Apartments	Hosues
Building material	0.1%	0.7%
Basement	0%	0%
Number of floors	0.4%	1.1%
Soil's uranium concentration	4.3%	4.1%
Elevation	10.6%	12.6%
Exhaust fan	0.0%	0%
Soil permeability	35%	3.3%
Formation by ice-age	0%	0%
Year of completion	0.1%	1.4%
Floor area	0.0%	0.5%
Total area	31%	36%
Total volume	20%	34%
Median radon (county)	0.1%	-
Median radon (postal code)	-	3.5%

For some predictors (exhaust fan, basement, formation by ice-age) missing data and other-group were combined as the distinction between them was not possible and we did not impute for those values.

Supplementary table 2 – The characteristics of cases and controls before any exclusions

	Cases (<i>n</i> =1093)	Controls (<i>n</i> =3279)	OR (95% CI)
Gender			
female	48.0% (525)	48.0% (1575)	
male	52.0% (568)	52.0% (1704)	
Large for gestational age			
no	86.7% (788)	90.1% (2493)	
yes	13.3% (121)	9.9% (275)	1.44 (1.14, 1.81)
missing	184	511	
Mother's smoking during pregnancy			
no	83.1% (742)	84.5% (2296)	
yes	16.9% (151)	15.5% (420)	1.15 (0.94, 1.42)
missing	200	563	
Down syndrome			
no	96.3% (1053)	99.9% (3277)	
yes	3.7% (40)	0.1% (2)	60 (14.5, 248)
Parents' education			
<u>Mother</u>			
Upper secondary	48.5% (530)	50.6% (1659)	ref.
Bachelor's degree	22.3% (244)	23.1% (756)	1.02 (0.84, 1.23)
Master's or doctor's degree	10.2% (112)	9.8% (321)	1.11 (0.87, 1.42)
missing	18.9% (207)	16.6% (543)	
<u>Father</u>			
Upper secondary	52.0% (568)	51.4% (1685)	ref.
Bachelor's degree	15.2% (166)	16.2% (532)	1.09 (0.74, 1.14)
Master's or doctor's degree	10.0% (110)	10.2% (334)	0.98 (0.79, 1.31)
missing	22.8% (249)	22.2% (728)	
Parents' socioeconomic status			
<u>Mother</u>			
Self-employed	7.7% (84)	8.3% (273)	ref.
Upper level employees	16.1% (176)	15.7% (514)	1.11 (0.83, 1.50)
Lower level employees	34.8% (380)	34.5% (1130)	1.09 (0.83, 1.44)
Manual workers	21.4% (231)	20.6% (674)	1.11 (0.83, 1.47)
others	18.2% (199)	20.3% (664)	0.97 (0.72, 1.31)
missing	2.1% (23)	0.7% (24)	
<u>Father</u>			
Self-employed	13.9% (152)	12.0% (395)	ref.
Upper level employees	17.6% (192)	18.2% (596)	0.85 (0.66, 1.08)
Lower level employees	18.3% (197)	17.9% (587)	0.87 (0.68, 1.12)
Manual workers	34.0% (372)	35.0% (1148)	0.86 (0.69, 1.07)
others	12.4% (135)	14.3% (469)	0.75 (0.58, 0.98)
missing	4.1% (45)	2.6% (84)	
Age at leukemia diagnosis, years			
0 – 2	14.3% (156)		
2 – 7	55.5% (605)		
7 – 15	33.4% (332)		
Leukemia type			
pre-B-ALL	75.6% (826)		
pre-T-ALL	5.9% (64)		
unclassified ALL	1.8% (20)		
AML	13.6% (149)		
other	3.1% (34)		

The reported ORs and their respective confidence intervals are from an univariate conditional logistic regression model. The non-binary variables were treated as factors and the reference categories are marked with “ref”. An alternate version of this table has been previously published ([Nikkilä et al. Haematologica. 2018](#))

Supplementary Table 3 – The odds ratios and their confidence intervals from conditional logistic regression analyses on the effect of predicted indoor radon concentration on childhood leukemia and its several subgroups

	N	Cumulative indoor radon exposure (Bq/m ³ -years)				Average indoor radon concentration (Bq/m ³)			
		<i>Log-linear</i>		<i>Random forests</i>		<i>Log-linear</i>		<i>Random forests</i>	
		OR	95 % CI	OR	95 % CI	OR	95 % CI	OR	95 % CI
<u>All subjects</u>	922	1.06	0.59, 1.92	1.02	0.99, 1.05	0.93	0.42, 2.05	1.01	0.98, 0.98
<u>By leukemia subtype</u>									
ALL	806	1.32	0.67, 2.60	0.99	0.38, 2.58	1.03	1.00, 1.05	1.02	0.98, 1.05
Others	183	0.42	0.09, 1.89	0.51	0.09, 2.87	0.98	0.89, 1.07	0.99	0.89, 1.10
pre-B ALL	735	1.59	0.74, 3.38	1.11	0.39, 3.18	1.03	1.00, 1.06	1.02	0.98, 1.05
<u>By age-group (years)</u>									
2 – 5.99		3.53	0.80, 15.5	2.86	0.52, 15.9	1.03	1.00, 1.07	1.02	0.99, 1.06
6 – 15		0.79	0.40, 1.57	0.67	0.25, 1.77	0.98	0.93, 1.04	0.98	0.93, 1.04

Only subjects with non-zero exposure were included. All estimates are from adjusted models.