

*PNLee. Occupational and Environmental Medicine (2001) Vol.58 #3 p.145.*

A quantitative analysis of the links between asbestos exposure and smoking, with lung cancer.

The aim is to assess the evidence for the additivity or mutiplicability of excess risk from smoking or asbestos exposure (if any).

Many studies were analysed, but it was found that they were not directly comparable and meta analysis was not realistic. Types and duration of exposures were too varied.

However, in spite of the limitations of the data the author concluded that the relative risk from smoking is around 10 and, from asbestos exposure around 5 and, from combined exposure around 50.

Comment

Further support for a conclusion that has been arrived at many times in the last 20 years.

