

Table 2.12. Case-control studies of betel quid chewing and hepatocellular carcinoma

Reference, study location and period	Characteristics of cases	Characteristics of controls	Exposure categories	No of exposed cases	Relative risk (95% CI)*	Adjustment for potential confounders	Comments
Wu <i>et al.</i> (2009) Kaohsiung, Southern Taiwan, China	258 (153 men; 105 women; mean age 63.1 years) newly diagnosed, pathologically proven cases of hepatocellular carcinoma	533 controls (331 males and 202 females) matched on sex and age, the majority of whom were diagnosed with allergic rhinitis or otolaryngological infectious diseases; one or two controls per case	<i>Betel nut chewing</i>		Table 4	Age, education level, ethnicity and consumption of vegetables and fruits. Cigarette smoking was included in the model.	No dose response relationship seen for starting age or years of consumption
			Non chewers		1.0 (reference)		
			Males	129			
			Females	103			
			Overall	232			
			Chewers				
			Men	24	1.1 (0.5-2.2)		
			Women	2	2.7 (0.8-8.8)		
			Overall:	26			
			<i>p</i> for interaction		0.277 (NS)		
			<i>Type of betel quid</i>				
			With betel inflorescence/stem				
			Men	5	1.2 (0.3-4.7)		
Overall	5	1.4 (0.4-5.2)					
With betel leaf							
Men	5	0.3 (0.1-1.1)					
Overall	5	0.4 (0.1-1.4)					
Mixed							
Men	14	2.0 (0.8-5.0)					
Overall	14	2.3 (1.0-5.2)					