



OCCUPATIONAL EXPOSURE AS A FIREFIGHTER

VOLUME 132

This publication represents the views and expert opinions of an IARC Working Group on the Identification of Carcinogenic Hazards to Humans, which met in Lyon, France, 7–14 June 2022

LYON, FRANCE - 2023

IARC MONOGRAPHS
ON THE IDENTIFICATION
OF CARCINOGENIC HAZARDS
TO HUMANS

Table S1.29 Criteria for rating quality of exposure assessment of epidemiological studies of firefighters

| Exposure quality rating | Criteria | Description |
|--------------------------------|---|--|
| Excellent | No limitations, superior exposure assessment methods | No serious limitations, superior exposure assessment methods – unrealistic for firefighting studies as a result of the complexity of the exposures |
| Good | Exposure with a quantitative measure (e.g. duration, number of fires); one or two limitations; or limitations balanced with study strengths | High quality evidence of work as firefighter, with reliable measures of duration and intensity of firefighting exposures |
| Satisfactory | Exposure with a reliable quantitative measure (e.g. duration, number of fires, etc.) and had a few limitations | Reliable evidence for work directly fighting fires, excluding administrative and other less exposed tasks |
| Minimal | Major limitations that had an impact on the assessment quality (e.g. identified differential misclassification); only ever firefighter status | Ever/never worked as firefighter, but no evidence of direct firefighting activity and/or based on self-report at a single point in time |