

Table 2.8. Cohort studies of tamoxifen use and ovarian cancer

Reference, location, name of study	Cohort description	Exposure assessment	Exposure categories	No. of cases of ovarian cancer	Relative risk (95% CI)	Comments
Cook et al. (1995), United States	Cohort of women under the age of 85 years registered in the Washington State Cancer Registry with a diagnosis of breast cancer between 1978 and 1990.	Medical records of tamoxifen use (mainly 20 mg/day)	Tamoxifen use			Nested case-control study. Exposure of cases compared to that of 89 matched controls.
			No	28	1.0 (ref)	
Curtis et al. (1996), United States	Cohort of 87 323 women reported to the US SEER Program diagnosed with early-stage (localized or regional) breast cancer between 1980 and 1992, aged at least 50 years at diagnosis who had not been given chemotherapy as an initial treatment, mean follow-up of [4.4] years	The SEER database indicated that 14 358 had received hormonal therapy (which for over 90% was tamoxifen treatment) and 72 965 had not.	Tamoxifen use		SIR	Expected rates relative to the general SEER population
			No	203	1.14 (0.99–1.31)	
			Yes	20	0.97 (0.59–1.50)	
Newcomb et al. (1999), United States	Cohort of 85 411 women with local or regional breast cancer diagnosed from 1983–1990, followed to December 31, 1994	Reported as receiving hormonal therapy at the time of initial registration. 14 984 women received hormonal therapy (nearly all tamoxifen) and 70 427 did not.	Tamoxifen use Overall		SIR	Expected rates from SEER incidence rates, adjusted for age, race, stage, registry site, year of diagnosis, tumour size, and treatment (radiation/chemotherapy)
			No	195	1.0 (ref)	
			Yes	33	0.86 (0.58–1.28)	

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Matsuyama et al. (2000), Japan	Retrospective cohort study of 6 148 women treated for breast cancer during 1982–90 in nine institutions in Japan	Medical records or a prospectively compiled computer database at each institution. 3 358 women received tamoxifen, mainly for 2 years or less, and were followed for a mean of 7.64 years, 2 560 women did not receive tamoxifen and were followed for 8.10 years.	No	3	1.0 (ref)	Incidence rate ratio
			Yes	5	1.51 (0.35–6.61)	
Ursic Vrscaj et al. (2001), Slovenia	Cohort of 630 women diagnosed with breast cancer from 1987 to 1994 from a population-based registry, and followed for 8.5 years (range 5–12 years)	Reported use of tamoxifen – 440 patients (median treatment duration of 40 months, range 1–97 months); 190 no tamoxifen.	Tamoxifen use			
			No	2	1.0 (ref)	
			Yes	1	0.22 (0.02–2.37)	