

Table 2.10. Case-control studies of wood dust and cancer of the upper respiratory and digestive tract other than the nose

Reference, study location and period	Organ site (ICD code)	Characteristics of cases	Characteristics of controls	Exposure assessment	Exposure categories	Relative risk (95% CI)*	Adjustment for potential confounders	Comments
Brown <i>et al.</i> (1988) Gulf Coast of Texas, US, 1975–1980	Larynx (161)	303 (220 living, 83 dead) men, from 56 hospitals in 6 counties, age 30–79, response rate 69.5% (living cases) to 67.5% (dead cases); proportion of histologically confirmed cases not stated	271 living, 113 deceased population controls, excluding persons with respiratory cancers, matched to cases by age, vital status, race, county of residence; response rate 67%	Interview-administered standardized questionnaire	Ever/never employment as woodworker or furniture maker	8.1 (1.0–68.8)	Smoking and drinking	Furniture making is not analysed separately from woodworking
					Potential exposure to wood dust, as rated by an industrial hygienist	1.5 (0.9–2.7)		
Huebner <i>et al.</i> (1992) Los Angeles County, metropolitan Atlanta, Santa Clara and San Mateo Counties, US, 1984–1985	Oral cavity and pharynx (141, 143–146, 148, 149)	1114 incident cancers from population-based cancer registries, age 18–79; response rate 75%; 100% histologically confirmed	1268 population controls, frequency matched by sex, age, race, and study area; response rate 76%	Interview-administered standardized questionnaire	Ever/never employment in furniture/fixture industry	1.2 (0.6–2.2)	Smoking, alcohol consumption, study location, age, race	
					Ever/never woodworking machine worker	0.9 (0.4–2.8)		
Pollán & López-Abente G (1995) Madrid, Spain, 1982–1985	Larynx (161)	50 male residents in Madrid, first diagnosed at the Ramon y Cajal Hospital; response rate 100%; 100% histologically confirmed	50 hospital controls, matched by sex, age, and admission date, excluding patients with tobacco- or alcohol-related diseases; response rate 90%	Interview-administered standardized questionnaire	Ever/never furniture workers:		Age, smoking, alcohol consumption, and other occupational exposures	
		50 population controls, matched by sex, age, and census section of residence; response rate 92%			- overall	5.4 (1.2–23.1)		
					- 1–20 years at work	3.9 (0.4–36.4)		
					- > 20 years at work	6.7 (1.1–42.6)		