

Table 2.8. Epidemiologic studies of asbestos exposure and ovarian cancer (and, for comparison, lung cancer and mesothelioma)

Cohort Studies – Occupational	Location	Endpoint	Number exposed (fibre type)	No of cases	Obs/Exp	Ovarian cancer SMR (95% CI)	Lung Cancer SMR	Mesothelioma
Acheson et al. (1982)	2 United Kingdom factories (Lancashire) producing gas masks in WW II	Mortality	757 (Crocidolite and chrysotile)	12	12/4.4	2.75 (1.42–4.81)	2.41	O/E: 5/0.2
			570 (Chrysotile)	5	5/3.4	1.48 (0.48–3.44)	1.45	1/0.1
Wignall and Fox (1982)	United Kingdom factory (Nottingham) producing gas masks in WWII	Mortality	535 (Crocidolite)	Total 6	6/2.8	2.13 (0.96–4.80)	2.73	12/0.16
				Subgroups				
				Heavy exposure before 1942	4/0.27	14.81		
				Some exposure before 1942	1/1.70	0.59		
			Some exposure	1/0.36	2.78			
			No exposure	0/0.4	0.0			
Berry et al. (2000)	London – Insulation board manufacturing plant	Mortality	700 (Crocidolite and chrysotile)	Total 9	9/3.56	2.53 (1.16–4.8)	3.01	SMR: 61.00
				Subgroups				
				”Severe” exposure > 2 yrs	5/0.9	5.35		
				”Severe” exposure < 2 yrs	2/___	2.12		
				”Low/moderate” exposure	2/___	0.22		
			Exposure trend: <i>P</i> = 0.18					
Reid et al. (2009)	Western Australia – Asbestos mine and mill workers	Incidence	416 (Crocidolite)	1	___	SIR: 0.49 (0.01–2.74)	No data	No data
Pira et al. (2005)	Italy – Asbestos-textile factory workers	Mortality	1077 (Mixed fibres including Crocidolite)	Total 5	5/___	2.61	2.82	SMR: 18.17
				Subgroups:				
				Duration < 1 yr	2/___	4.41		
				1–5 yrs	0/___	0.00		
				5–10 yrs	0/___	0.00		
> 10 yrs	3/___	5.74						

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Magnani et al. (2008)	Italy – asbestos cement workers	Mortality	777 women in cohort of 3 434 (Crocidolite and chrysotile)	Total 9 Subgroups: Duration < 1 yr 1–4 yrs 5–9 yrs 10–19 yrs 20–29 yrs > 30 yrs	9/4.0 0/0.1 1/0.4 0/0.5 3/1.1 3/1.1 2/0.7	2.27 0.00 2.38 0.00 2.71 2.75 2.97	2.20	SMR: 62.08
Germani et al. (1999)	Women workers compensated for asbestosis Subset: Asbestos-textile industry Subset: Asbestos-cement industry	Mortality	631 (Fibre type not specified) 276 (Fibre type not specified) 278 (Fibre type not specified)	9 4 5	9/___ 4/___ 5/___	4.77 (2.18–9.04) 5.26 (1.43–13.47) 5.40 ((1.75–12.61)	4.83	SMR: 64.04
Rösler et al., 1994	German asbestos workers	Mortality (Proportionate)	616 (Chrysotile 95%; Crocidolite cannot be excluded)	2	2/1.8	PMR: 1.09 (0.13–3.95)	PMR: 3.39	20% of all deaths due to mesothelioma
Census-based cohort studies								
Vasama-Neuvonen et al. (1999)	Finland census cohort, job-exposure matrix	Incidence	(Fibre type not specified)			SIR: Low exposure 1.1 (0.8–1.3) Medium/high exposure 1.30 (0.9–1.80)	N/A	N/a
Pukkala et al., (2009)	Plumbers in Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway & Sweden	Incidence	?? (Fibre type not specified)	4	—	SIR: 3.33 (0.91–8.52)	2.10 (0.43–6.14)	

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Cohort Studies – Non-Occupational								
Reid et al. (2008)	Western Australia – Community exposure in mining town	Mortality	2552 (Crocidolite)	9	—	1.26 (0.58–2.40)	2.15	O/E: 30 deaths
Reid et al. (2009)	Western Australia – Community exposure in a mining town	Incidence	2552 (Crocidolite)	10	—	SIR: 1.18 (0.45–1.91)	No data	No data
Ferrante et al. (2007)	Italy – family member of asbestos-cement workers – non-occupational	Mortality	1780 (Chrysotile and crocidolite)	11	11/7.7	1.42 (0.71–2.54)	1.17	SIR: 25.19
Case-control studies				Exposed cases		Estimated RR		
Langseth & Kjærheim (2004)	Nested case-control study within a cohort of pulp and paper workers	Incidence	(Fibre type not specified)	6	–	2.02 (0.72–5.66)	N/A	N/a