

Table 2.90. Description of cohort studies of the interaction of smoking and alcohol in the causation of cancer at various sites

Reference Place, year	Organ site	Cohort description	Observed cases	Definition of exposure	
				Tobacco	Alcohol
Friberg <i>et al.</i> (2007) Singapore, 1993-1998	Oropharynx and nasopharynx	34028 men, 27292 women, aged 45 to 74 years, from Singapore Chinese population	75 cases (56 in men; 19 in women) of oropharyngeal carcinomas 173 cases (118 men, 55 women) of nasopharyngeal carcinomas	Years of smoking	Drinks per week
Ide <i>et al.</i> (2008) Japan	Mixed upper aerodigestive tract (UADT)	34136 men, 43711 women, aged 40 to 79 years, from 45 geographical areas throughout Japan; baseline registration from 1988 to 1990, mean follow up period 12.5 years	52 deaths (41 men, 11 women) of oral and pharyngeal cancer (take together)	Subjects were classified as non-smokers, past-smokers, and current-smokers; no details about the definition criteria of smoker status	Subjects were classified as non-drinkers, past-drinkers, and current drinker; no details about the definition criteria of smoker status
Yen <i>et al.</i> (2008) Taiwan 2005-2007	Oral cavity	8356 men aged 18 years or more	191 cases of oral cavity cancer confirmed histologically	<i>Tobacco cigarettes</i> No smoking during the previous 6 months (those who smoked only on special occasions such as wedding banquets, family reunions, or birthday parties were considered no smokers) and habitual smokers <i>Betel quid</i> No chewed during the previous 6 months (those who chewed only on special occasions such as wedding banquets, family reunions, or birthday parties were considered no chewers) and habitual chewers	No drinking during the previous 6 months (those who drunk alcohol only on special occasions such as wedding banquets, family reunions, or birthday parties were considered no drinkers) and habitual drinkers

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Fan <i>et al.</i> (2008) People's Republic of China 1986-2006	Oesophagus	18244 men residents of four small, geographically defined communities from a wide area of Shanghai City, aged from 45 to 64 years and no history of cancer	101 cases of oesophageal cancer (68 Squamous cell carcinoma, 8 adenocarcinoma, 1 with other and 24 with unknown histological type). All cases of squamous cell carcinoma and adenocarcinoma were define by histology, except 6 cases of squamous cell carcinoma defined only on basis of cytology	Subject was classified as tobacco- smokers whether he had ever smoked at least one cigarette per day continuously for six months or longer. For the synergistic effect analysis the subjects were classified according to years of smoking (non-smokers, <40 years and 40 years and more of smoking)	Subject was classified as ever-drinkers if he had drunk alcoholic beverages at least once a week continuously for six months or longer. For the synergistic effect analysis the subjects were classified according to numbers of drinks per day (non-drinkers, <4 and 4 or more drinks per day)
Weikert <i>et al.</i> (2009) Six countries in Europe: Denmark, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Spain, United Kingdom	Mixed upper aerodigestive tract (UADT)	271253 subjects (36.4% men), aged from 35 to 70 years, mean follow up 8.6 years	392 incident cases of UADT squamous cell carcinoma (279 men, 113 women)	Subjects classified in never-smokers, ex- smokers, current smokers (<15 cigarettes per day and 15 or more cigarettes per day)	Never-drinkers were defined as subjects who did not report any consumption of alcoholic beverages at all points during their lifetime. Among drinkers, lifetime alcohol use was assessed as glasses of different beverages consumed at 20, 30, 40 and 50 years of age at baseline and established in total lifetime alcohol consumption in grams per day (g/d)
Ishiguro <i>et al.</i> (2009) Japan 1993-2004	Oesophagus	44970 men, aged 40 years or more	215 cases of oesophageal squamous cell carcinoma	Current and former smokers classified in categories of pack-years: <20, 20-29, 30-39, and 40 or more. For interaction analysis were used the classification: light (<300 g/week of ethanol) and heavy (300 g/week or more) smokers	Subjects were classified into five categories: non-drinkers (1 day/month), occasional drinkers (1-3 days/month), and three groups of regular drinkers (1-149 g/week ethanol, 10-299 g/week, and 300g/week or more). For interaction analysis were used the classification: light (<40 pack-years) and heavy (40 pack-years or more)