

Table 2.1. Cohort studies of occupational exposure as a chimney sweep and cancer

Reference, location, name of study	Cohort description	Exposure assessment	Organ site (ICD code)	Exposure categories	No. of cases/deaths	Relative risk (95% CI)*	Adjustment for potential confounders
Kennaway & Kennaway (1947), United Kingdom	Register-based national mortality analysis of all deaths in England and Wales 1921–38	Occupational titles	Lung		21	SMR 1.19 [0.74–1.82]	No
Hansen <i>et al.</i> (1982), Copenhagen, Denmark	106 chimney sweeps active in Copenhagen any time between 1958 and 1977 followed for mortality up to 1977	–	Cancer		11	SMR 1.77 [0.88–3.16]	No
Hansen (1983), Denmark	713 Danish chimney sweeps active in 1970 followed for mortality 1970–75	–	Cancer		12	SMR [2.27 (1.17–3.97)]	No
Evanoff <i>et al.</i> (1993), Sweden	5313 Swedish chimney sweeps active any time between 1917 and 1980 followed for mortality up to 1990 and cancer incidence up to 1987	Employment duration	Incidence Lung	All	50	2.09 (1.55–2.76)	SIRs for lung and urinary bladder cancer were still significantly elevated after group-level adjustment for smoking.
				1–9 years of employment	4	0.89 [0.24–2.28]	
				10–19 years of employment	16	2.16 [1.24–3.51]	
				20–29 years of employment	15	2.68 [1.50–4.42]	
				> 30 years of employment	15	2.34 [1.31–3.87]	
			Oesophagus	All	11	3.87 (1.93–6.93)	
			Bladder	All	37	2.53 (1.78–3.49)	
			Skin (non-melanoma)	All	4	0.61 (0.17–1.57)	
			Haemato-lymphatic	All	36	1.51 (1.06–2.09)	

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Haldorsen <i>et al.</i> (2004), Norway	All men aged 25–64 years in the Norwegian census 1970 followed for cancer incidence 1971–91	Occupational titles	Lung		14	1.19 (0.7–2.0)	Adjusted for tobacco smoking habits at the group level by indirect method
Pukkala <i>et al.</i> (2009), Nordic countries	5498 male chimney sweeps were identified from the census records in 1960, 1970, 1980/81 and 1990 in Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden. They were followed for cancer in the respective national cancer registries from inclusion up to 2005.	Occupational titles	Lung		212	1.49 (1.30-1.70)	Country, sex.
			Bladder		105	1.49 (1.23-1.81)	
			Colon		104	1.52 (1.25-1.84)	
			Oesophagus		24	1.86 (1.19-2.76)	
			Pharynx		17	2.41 (1.40-3.85)	
			Mesothelioma		8	1.95 (0.84-3.85)	
NMSC		35	1.02 (0.71-1.43)				