

Table 17. Derivation of correction factor for reported mean exposure using assumed relative exposure and weighting factors by year of first employment in asbestos mines

Data item	Year of first employment					Mean weighted by	
	Before 1940	1941-50	1951-60	1961-70	1971-80	Persons	Expected lung cancer
Relative exposure							
Crocidolite	1	1	0.5	0.25	0.15	0.35	0.6
Amosite	1	1	0.6	0.35	0.25	0.44	0.68
Weighting factors						Totals	
Persons	62	404	2355	2408	2088	7317	
Expected lung cancers >10 yr from 1st exposure	1.68	6.75	17.59	4.36	0	30.38	

expected lung cancers in the five date of start groups is shown in Table 17.

Table 17 also shows the numbers of individuals in each group, and the assumed relative levels of exposure. Mean exposures are calculated using the two alternative weightings. The expected lung cancer weighted means are larger than the corresponding person weighted means by a factor of 1.71 for crocidolite and 1.55 for amosite. The reported mean

exposures have been adjusted using these factors for use in this review.

Similar calculations for all cause deaths imply that the proportion of expected all cause deaths falling in the first 10 yr of follow up is 33%. The all cause mortality denominator for the observed mesotheliomas in the two subcohorts has therefore been reduced by a factor of 0.67.