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ICPEMC

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EPIDEMIOLOGICAL STUDIES INTO THE POSSIBLE CARCINOGENICITY
OF HAIR DYES

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Summary

As emphasized by Wynder et al. (1963): "With too broad a definition of an occupation, increased risks for specific job categories can be overlooked. On the other hand, with rather restrictive definitions, it becomes unlikely that any study of limited size will yield significant results." It follows that duration and intensity of exposure to hair dyes are difficult to determine and the latent period of a possible carcinogenesis is correspondingly difficult to define.

It is against this background that investigators have worked. With the exception of Wynder et al. (1963), Cole et al. (1972) and Kinlen et al. (1977), most authors have restricted themselves to brief communications of nonsignificant results.

Statistical significance is interpreted in most cases to be $P > 0.005$, which

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