

Strength of Association

- Mesothelioma is rare if not non-existent among the population of people who have not been exposed to asbestos.
- Although no background incidence of mesothelioma has been firmly established, it is estimated that it occurs probably on the order of 1 case per 1,000,000 persons per year or less (Hildderdal, 1999)
- The rarity of the disease, coupled with the lack of mortality rates in the populations used as controls and problems in diagnosis and reporting, make the assessment of the actual risk for mesothelioma through the means of epidemiologic studies difficult (EHC 203).