Table 2. Health standards for silica dusts in the work environment and the diagnostic criteria for silicosis in China.

Year	Regulations	Issued by
1956	Temporary health standards for the design of industrial premises (101–56)	National Construction Committee Ministry of Health
1979	Temporary health standards for the design of industrial premises (TJ 36–79)	Ministry of Health Ministry of Labour National Labour Union Ministry of Finance Ministry of Commerce Ministry of Construction
1985	The measurement methods of dust concentration in workplaces (GB 5748–85)	Ministry of Health
1986	National standard of working classification in dust environment (GB 5817–86) The radiological diagnostic criteria and principles of management of pneumoconiosis (GB 5906–86)	Ministry of Health Ministry of Labour National Labour Union Ministry of Finance Ministry of Labour
1987	The pathological diagnostic criteria of pneumoconiosis (GB 8783–88)	Ministry of Health
1979–1989	Maximum Allowable Concentrations (MAC) for total dust (mg/m^3) Silicon dioxide (SiO_2>80%) 1.0 Silicon dioxide (SiO_2=50–80%) 1.5 Silicon dioxide (SiO_2>10%) 2.0 (quartz, quartzite etc.) Mixed dusts from fluorspar (SiO_2>20%) 2.0 Mica (SiO_2<10%) 4.0 Vermiculite (SiO_2<10%) 5.0 Graphite (SiO_2<10%) 6.0 Fur (SiO_2<10%) 10.0 Grinding wheel dust (SiO_2<10%) 10.0 Perlite (SiO_2<10%) 10.0 Silicon Carbide (SiO_2<10%) 10.0 Active carbon 10.0 Carbon black 8.0 Titanium dioxide 10.0 Asbestos or dust containing asbestos >10% 2.0 Talc dust containing free silica <10% 4.0 Cement dust containing free silica <10% 6.0 Coal dust containing free silica <10% 10.0 Aluminium, aluminium oxide & aluminium alloy dusts 2.0 Tobacco dust & tea dust 3.0 Glass wool & slag wool dusts 5.0 Other dusts 10.0 (refer to mineral or vegetable dusts have a free silica content below 10% and no toxicants)	China National Technical Committee of Health Standards (CNTCHS), Ministry of Health, P.R. China