

Task 7: Cancer Records and Tissue Confirmation.

The histology, where and when available, will be examined for all "brain cancer" cases identified. The histological examination by nationally recognized expert brain pathologists (Armed Forces Institute of Pathology (AFIP) and University of Louisville faculty) will be performed and the computerized analysis of the pathology will be obtained for final analysis. A verification and confirmation of the histological cell type for each brain cancer case will have been conducted by two independent nationally-recognized pathologists. This task is estimated to take 640 working hours over a nine month period. This task involves both (a) the identification, by death certification and pathological report, of each cancer cell type for all 178 cancer cases (to exclude any misdiagnosed brain cancer cases) and (b) the acquisition of the brain cancer pathological material for examination and analysis by the two independent pathology groups. This will be a very time consuming task and in some cases it will require us to obtain consent from the employee's relatives (cases before 1974). We feel confident, however, that this task can be totally accomplished due to our excellent rapport with both the industrial workers, the unions and their family members. Status reports will be given at the completion of the death certificate verifications, at the completion of the biopsy tissue collection, and finally after the pathological analysis has been completed.

The data analysis for this study will begin at approximately halfway through the data collection (Month 7-8) and will continue through completion of the study (Month 12). A draft report is to be submitted by Month 13. Allowing 60 days for the draft report to be disseminated, reviewed and returned, we expect that this study's data will be ready for submission for publication approximately Month 15 from the onset of the study's initiation.

A tabular outline of the above tasks and the timing of their progress reports is shown in Study Timetable 1.