FILE NAME: Brakes (BRK)

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Subject: Re: Mechanics/Mesothelioma
Date: Fri, 18 Jan 2002 09:18:06 +1100
From: "Claudz" <jleigh@bigpond.com>
To: "Barry Castleman, ScD" <bcastle@bcpl.net>

Dear Barry

The Australian paper is J Occ Health and Safety ANZ 2001; 17:453-470. Leigh J Davidson P Hendrie L Berry D. Malignant Mesothelioma in Australia 1945 to 2000.
Give me your Fax again and Ill fax it.

It has estimated lifetime risks in selected occupational groups.

A very similar paper will soon be out in Am J Ind Med.
The book chapter will also soon be out. These omit the lifetime risk material.

It will also be in Inhaled Particles proceedings (Ann Occ Hyg 2002)

The demand for statistics on brake mechanic or vehicle mechanic risk was also made when I presented this at Inhaled Particles Cambridge in Sept 2001.

G Gibbs there plus Gee plus Eternit people.

The problem is denominators. Labour statistics give numbers of vehicle mechanics Australia 1997: 82964 Australia 1933: 15326.

You can compare incidence rates in vehicle mechanics to overall meso rate or "background rate" or any other group.

On any binomial or Poisson analysis they have highly significant increased rate. eg annual incidence from meso register 1986-2000 = 12 annual inc rate = 12/ 82964 =
144 per million per year cf australia overall 35 per million per year cf backgound < 1 per million per year.

this assumes all vehicle mechanics get brake lining exposure but also excludes other groups who may get it eg do it yourself brake changers.

Doug H used this argument at WTO. Also used in leading case here.

Lifetime risk in relation to historic exposures are more difficult but can be approximated.

There are quite a few critical cases on here at present and scheduled. Im also working on the Fairchild appeal (UK).

I'll let you know on India next week.

jim

----- Original Message -----
From: "Barry Castleman, ScD" <bcastle@bcpl.net>
To: "Leigh, James" <jleigh@bigpond.com>
Sent: Thursday, January 17, 2002 3:23 PM

Subject: Re: Mechanics/Mesothelioma
Date: Sat, 19 Jan 2002 08:26:12 +1100
From: "Claudz" <jleigh@bigpond.com>
To: "Barry Castleman, ScD" <bcastle@bcpl.net>

one comparison is lifetime risk of brake mechanics compared to lifetime risk of all Australian men, including occ env exposed and background exposed, the other is annual incidence rate , based on current population ,compared to accepted background incidence of 1 per million per year(ie not recognizably occupationally or non occupationally exposed above ambient air levels). really should compare lifetime risk of brake mechanics with lifetime background risk approx 70 per million or .007% ie about 100 fold greater.

----- Original Message -----
From: "Barry Castleman, ScD" <bcastle@bcpl.net>
To: "Claudz" <jleigh@bigpond.com>
Sent: Friday, January 18, 2002 3:56 PM
Subject: Re: Mechanics/Mesothelioma

> Dear Jim,
>
> Thanks for faxing the paper, I just want to ask one thing about that.
> Below you indicate that mechanics have about 144 times the likelihood of
> developing mesothelioma as men in the general population. On a
> different basis, however, you indicate that (Table 3, p. 468) lifetime
> mesothelioma risk of a vehicle mechanic is 0.7 and that of All
> Australian Men is 0.39, which looks like less than two-fold the
> background risk for mechanics. Can you please explain this discrepancy?
>
> Barry
>
>
> > Dear Barry
> >
> > The Australian paper is J Occ Health and Safety ANZ 2001; 17:453-470.
Leigh
> > J Davidson P Hendrie L Berry D. Malignant Mesothelioma in Australia 1945
to
> > 2000.
> > Give me your Fax again and Ill fax it.
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> > It has estimated lifetime risks in selected occupational groups.
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