Scientific Insights Gained from Reviewing 100+ Human Carcinogens with a focus on those related to Mining

Kurt Straif, MD MPH PhD
International Agency for Research on Cancer
Lyon, France

International Scientific Symposium

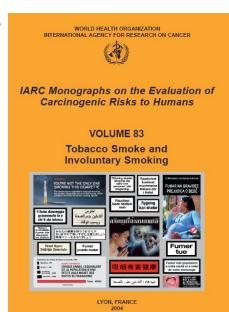
Emerging Issues in Environmental and Occupational Health: Mining and
Construction in Transition Economies
April 22-23, 2013 in Yerevan, Armenia

Global burden and control of cancer

- Rising burden of cancer: estimates by 2030 22.2 million new cases/a compared to 12.7 million in 2008
- Majority of the increase in cancer burden expected in low- and middle-income countries (LMIC)
- Prevention probably the single most effective response to these challenges, particularly in LMIC where health services are least able to meet the impending challenge.
- The first step in cancer prevention is to identify

 the causes of human cancer

 the causes of human cancer



"The encyclopaedia of carcinogens"

The IARC Monographs evaluate

- > Chemicals
- Complex mixtures
- Occupational exposures
- Physical and biological agents
- Lifestyle factors

More than 950 agents have been evaluated

- > 110 are *carcinogenic to humans* (Group 1)
- ➢ 65 are probably carcinogenic to humans (Group 2A)
- > 274 are possibly carcinogenic to humans (Group 2B)



Lorenzo Tomatis 1929-2007

National and international health agencies use the *Monographs*

- > As a source of scientific information on known or suspected carcinogens
- As scientific support for their actions to prevent exposure to known or suspected carcinogens

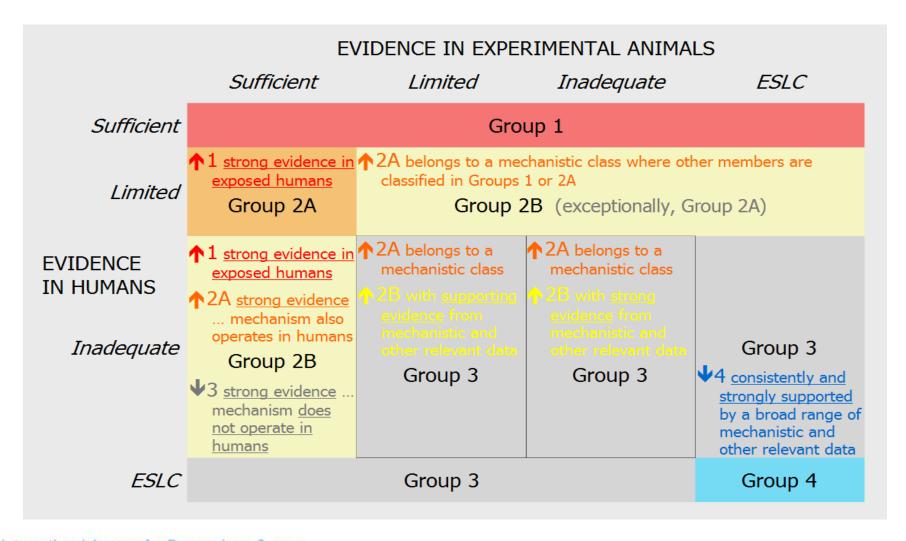




The IARC Monographs, a worldwide endeavour that since 1971 has involved over 1000 scientists from over 50 countries



Overall carcinogenicity evaluation







IARC Monographs, Volume 100 A Review of Human Carcinogens

- Scope of volume 100
 - Update the critical review for each carcinogen in Group 1
 - Identify tumour sites and plausible mechanisms
 - Compile information for subsequent scientific publications
- The volume was developed over the course of 6 meetings
 - A. Pharmaceuticals (23 agents, Oct 2008)
 - B. Biological agents (11 agents, Feb 2009)
 - C. Metals, particles and fibres (14 agents, Mar 2009)
 - D. Radiation (14 agents, June 2009)
 - E. Lifestyle factors (11 agents, Sept 2009)
 - F. Chemicals and related occupations (34 agents, Oct 2009)





International Agency for Research on Cancer



search

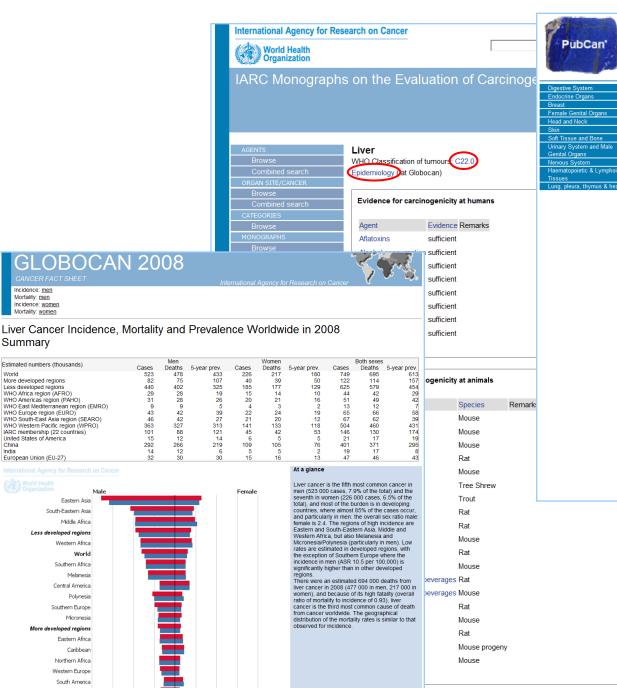
IARC Monographs on the Evaluation of Carcinogenic Risks to Humans

AGENTS	Organs
Browse	
Combined search	liver adenocarcinoma
ORGAN SITE/CANCER	Liver
Browse	liver (HCC)
Combined search	
CATEGORIES	
Browse	
MONOGRAPHS	
Browse	

International Agency for Research on Cancer



LOGIN



Northern Africa

Western Europe South America Northern America Australia/New Zealand

PubCan'

Mouse

International Agency for Research on Cancer

Search: Organ site C22.0

Search: Tu

WHO Classification of

Tumours

WHO Classification of Tumours of the Digestive System 🛭

C22 - Liver and intrahepatic bile ducts:

Epithelial tumors Epithelial tumors: biliary Malignancies of mixed or uncertain origin Mesenchymal tumors Germ cell tumors Secondary tumours

Epithelial tumors

Non-neoplastic lesion

Focal nodular hyperplasia (FNH)

Benign

8170/0 Hepatocellular adenoma

Malignant

8170/3 Hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC), NOS

8171/3 Hepatocellular carcinoma, fibrolamellar

8970/3 Hepatoblastoma

8020/3 Undifferentiated carcinoma

Epithelial tumors: biliary Benign

8160/0 Bile duct adenoma 8202/0 Microcystic adenoma

9013/0 Biliary adenofibroma

Premalignant lesions

8148/2 Biliary intraepithelial neoplasia, grade 3

8503/0 Intraductal papillary neoplasm (IPN) with low- or intermediate grade intraepithelial neoplasia

8503/2 Intraductal papillary neoplasm (IPN) with high-grade intraepithelial neoplasia

8470/0 Mucinous cystic neoplasm (MCN) with low- or intermediate-grade dysplasia

8470/2 Mucinous cystic neoplasm (MCN) with high-grade dysplasia

Malignant

8160/3 Intrahepatic cholangiocarcinoma

8503/3 Intraductal papillary neoplasm (IPN) with an associated invasive carcinoma

8470/3 Mucinous cystic neoplasm (MCN) with an associated invasive carcinoma

Malignancies of mixed or uncertain origin

8975/1 Calcifying nested epithelial stromal tumor

8980/3 Carcinosarcoma, NOS

Preventable Exposures Associated With Human Cancers

Vincent James Cogliano, Robert Baan, Kurt Straif, Yann Grosse, Béatrice Lauby-Secretan, Fatiha El Ghissassi, Véronique Bouvard, Lamia Benbrahim-Tallaa, Neela Guha, Crystal Freeman, Laurent Galichet, Christopher P. Wild



Further research often finds additional cancer sites

- Burden of cancer: Alcohol drinking & breast and colorectal cancers
- Multiple mechanistic pathways: Formaldehyde and leukemia
 Further research confirmed carcinogenic potential under

Further research confirmed carcinogenic potential under conditions of lower exposure

Radon: Vol 43, evaluation based on studies of miners,
 Vol 100, residential exposure & lung cancer.

Use of mechanistic data to identify carcinogens is accelerating

 DNA adducts and A:T→T:A transversions in TP53 identified aristolochic acid as the carcinogen in herbal remedies



IARC Monographs, Vols 105–107 THE LANCET Oncology

News

Carcinogenicity of diesel-engine and gasoline-engine exhausts and some nitroarenes

In June, 2012, 24 experts from seven countries met at the International Agency for Research on Cancer The most influential epidemiological studies assessing cancer risks associated with diesel-engine exhausts

with 20 years of employment roughly doubling the risk after adjusting for tobacco smoking. When this study



Published Online June 15, 2012

Carcinogenicity of trichloroethylene, tetrachloroethylene, some other chlorinated solvents, and their metabolites

News

Carcinogenicity of polychlorinated biphenyls and polybrominated biphenyls

News







IARC MONOGRAPHS - MEETINGS

Upcoming Meetings

Volume 108: Some drugs and herbal medicines (4-11 June 2013)

Preliminary List of Agents to be Reviewed
Preliminary List of Participants
Call for Data (closes 4 May 2013)
Call for Experts (closed 14 December 2012)
Request for Observer Status (closed 4 February 2013)
WHO Declaration of Interests for this volume

Volume 109: Ambient air pollution (8-15 October 2013)



Advisory Group, June 2008 Volumes 101 and beyond

Acetaldehyde

Acrylamide and furan

Air pollution

Bitumen (Vol 103)

Carbon-based nanomaterials

Crystalline fibres other than asbestos

Growth hormone

Iron and iron oxides

Malaria (Vol 104)

Motor vehicle engine exhausts (V 105)

Nucleoside-analogue antiviral drugs

PFOA, other perfluorinated compounds

Polyomaviruses (SV40, BK, JC, Merkel cell virus) (Vol 104)

Radiofrequency electromagnetic fields and radar (includes mobile telephones) (Vol 102)

Sedentary work

Statins

Stress

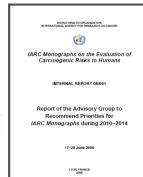
Testosterone, other androgenic steroids

Ultrafine particles

Welding

Agents recently tested in experimental animals (Vol 101)

Never before reviewed





Ionising radiation, Vol 100D

- One of the best studied and most ubiquitous carcinogens in our general environment
 - Radon: high lung cancer rates in miners reported since 16th century
 - X-rays: first animal experiments: 1903-1904
 - Cancers among pioneer radiologists
 - Cancers among survivors of atomic bombs
- Evaluations of health effects
 - US NAS BEIR / BEAR since 1956
 - IARC Monographs: radon (vol 43,1988), external radiation(75,2000), internally deposited radionuclide (78,2001)
- IARC Monographs, Vol 100D, 2009
 International Agency for Research on Cancer



Dose-response analyses of occupational and residential radon exposure and lung cancer

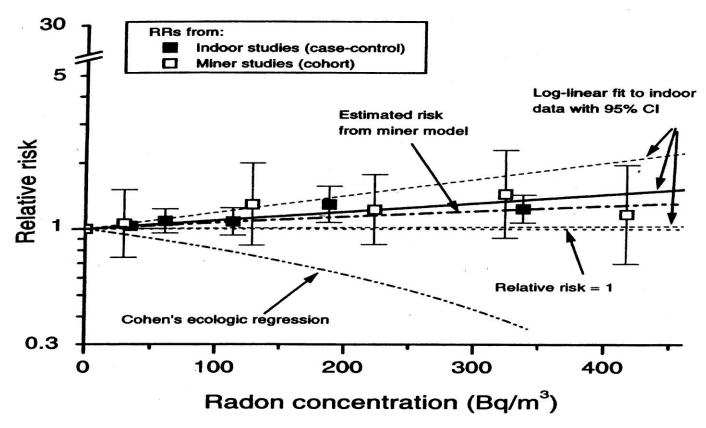


FIGURE 3-2 Summary relative risks (RR) from meta-analysis of indoor-radon studies and RRs from pooled analysis of underground-miner studies, restricted to exposures under 0.175 Jhm⁻³ (50 WLM). Included are RR of 1, fitted exposure-response and its 95% confidence interval from indoor-radon studies, and estimated linear RR based on ecologic analysis by Cohen (1995).



Asbestos, Vol 100C: Carcinogenic to humans



- There is sufficient evidence in humans for the carcinogenicity of all forms of asbestos (chrysotile, crocidolite, amosite, tremolite, actinolite and anthophyllite). All forms of asbestos cause mesothelioma and cancers of the lung, larynx and ovary.
- The Working Group classified the evidence for colorectal cancer as *limited* although the Members were evenly divided as to whether the evidence was strong enough to warrant classification as *sufficient*.
- There is limited evidence in humans for cancers of the pharynx and of the stomach.



Silica dust, Vol 100C

- There is sufficient evidence in humans for the carcinogenicity of silica dust.
 Sufficient evidence: cancer of the lung;
- There is sufficient evidence in experimental animals for the carcinogenicity of quartz
- Mechanistic data: most genotoxicity studies negative; oxidative stress, inflammatory response, carcinogenicity may depend on inherent characteristics of the crystalline silica, or external factors affecting its biological activity

Overall evaluation

Silica dust is carcinogenic to humans (Group 1).



Arsenic and arsenic compounds, Vol 100C

- Arsenic and inorganic arsenic compounds are carcinogenic to humans (Group 1).
 Sufficient evidence: cancer of lung, urinary bladder, and skin. Limited evidence: cancer of the kidney, liver, and prostate.
- Dimethylarsinic acid and monomethylarsonic acid are possibly carcinogenic to humans (Group 2B).
- Arsenobetaine and other organic arsenic compounds not metabolized in humans, are not classifiable as to their carcinogenicity to humans (Group 3).
- Overall evaluation on arsenic and inorganic arsenic compounds based on the combined results of epidemiological studies, carcinogenicity studies in experimental animals, and other relevant mechanistic data.

VOLUME 84
Some Drinking-water Disinfectants

 The metabolite monomethylarsonic acid is extensively metabolized to dimethylarsinic acid.



Chromium(VI) compounds, V100C

- There is sufficient evidence in humans for the carcinogenicity of chromium (VI) compounds. Sufficient evidence: cancer of the lung; Limited evidence: sinonasal cancer
- There is sufficient evidence in experimental animals for the carcinogenicity of chromium (VI) compounds.

Overall evaluation

 Chromium (VI) compounds are carcinogenic to humans (Group 1).

Cadmium and Cd compounds, V100C

- There is sufficient evidence in humans for the carcinogenicity of cadmium & Cd compounds. Sufficient evidence: cancer of the lung; Limited evidence: cancers of prostate & kidney
- There is sufficient evidence in experimental animals for the carcinogenicity of Cd compounds

Overall evaluation

 Cd and Cd compounds are carcinogenic to humans (Group 1).

PAHs & Industrial Coal Tarderived PAH-mixtures

WG for Vol 92 evaluated 59 PAH and 9 related industries

Occupational exposures to benzo[a]pyrene up to 100 µg/m³ compared with levels in ambient air of a few ng/m³

Highest reported levels of exposure to benzo[a]pyrene in the aluminium production (Söderberg process)

Diet is the major source of exposure to PAH in the nonsmoking, non-occupationally exposed population

Meta-analysis: Exposure to PAH and lung cancer

- 39 cohort studies included
- Additional exposure assessment by industrial hygienists
- URR at 100 µg/m^{3*}years B[a]p estimated

Industry	Studies (n)	B[a]p μg/m ³	URR (95% CI)
Coke ovens	10	0.5 – 20	1.17 (1.1.2-1.22)
Coal gasification	4	0.5 – 10	1.15 (1.11-1.20)
Alumimum	8	0.05 - 15	1.16 (1.05-1.28)



Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons, Vol 100F

Special Report: Policy

A review of human carcinogens—Part F: Chemical agents and related occupations

	Tumour sites or types with sufficient evidence in huma		th Evidence of genotoxicity as the main mechanism
PAH-related exposures			
Benzo[a]pyrene			Strong*
Soot (chimney sweeping)	Skin, lung	Urinary bladder	Moderate
Coal gasification	Lung		Strong
Coal-tar distillation	Skin		Strong
Coke production	Lung		Strong
Coal-tar pitches (paving, roofing)	Lung	Urinary bladder	Strong
Aluminium production	Lung, urinary bladder		Weak/moderate†‡



Acknowledgements



IARC MONOGRAPHS SECTION - STAFF

The IARC Monographs are supported by grants from

- U.S. National Cancer Institute (since 1982)
- European Commission, DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion (since 1986)
- U.S. National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (since 1992)



Other carcinogens, other routes of exposure

- Asbestos (all forms), carcinogenic to humans, sufficient evidence for mesothelioma, cancers of lung, larynx, ovaries; limited evidence: cancers of colorectum, pharynx and stomach
- Nickel, carcinogenic to humans, sufficient evidence for cancers of lung and sinonasal cavities
- Lead, probably carcinogenic to humans, limited evidence for stomach cancer (lung cancer, glioma)
- Cobalt, possibly carcinogenic to humans, inadequate evidence in humans, sufficient evidence in bioassays
- WHO-FERG: Food-related burden of disease, Arsenic and cancer of the lung, skin and urinary bladder Cadmium and kidney disease (lung cancer), Lead and cognitive development, methyl mercury
- Chromium in drinking water, consultation Greek Minister of Environment – CAL-EPA

