

# CANCER ET TRAVAIL



Les Monographies du CIRC/OMS.  
Procédure d'évaluation de la cancérogénicité  
d'une substance.

Kurt Straif, MD MPH PhD

## SYMPOSIUM

INMA – IMTVL - SMTVL



# Identifying occupational causes of cancer

- Bernadino Ramazzini *De morbis artificum, 1700*  
Increased risk of breast cancer among nuns
- Percival Pott, 1775  
Scrotal cancer in chimney sweeps
- Haerting & Hesse, 1879  
Schneeberg lung cancer
- Rehn, 1895      *Blasengeschwülste bei Fuchsin-Arbeitern*

Von

**Dr. L. Rehn,**

Three bladder tumours in 45 workers involved  
in the manufacture of fuchsin

# PAHs, the Histories of Occupational Cancer and Carcinogenesis

1775 Percival Pott

Scrotal cancer in chimney sweeps

1912 Yamagiwa & Itchikawa

Skin Cancer induced by application of coal tar

1925 1. Ordinance of Occupational Diseases, Germany

Skin cancer related to soot paraffin, tar, anthracene & pitch

1933 Cook

Identification of benzo[a]pyrene in coal tar

1947 Kennaway & Kennaway

Lung cancer in coal gas & tar workers

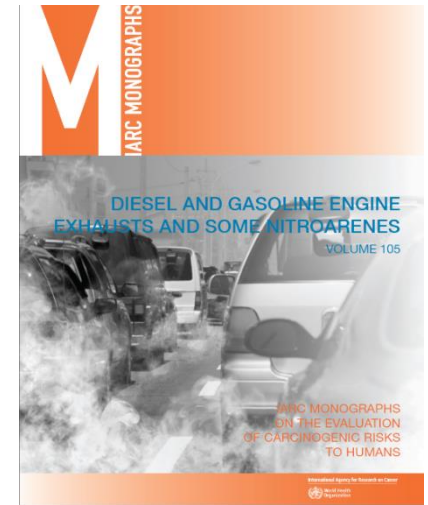
1964 Berenblum

2-Stage theory of carcinogenesis (benzo[a]pyrene & croton oil)



# IARC: Cancer Research for Cancer Prevention

- Rising burden of cancer: estimates by 2040 29.5 million new cases/a compared to 18.1 million in 2018
- Majority of the increase in cancer burden expected in low- and middle-income countries (LMIC)
- No country can treat its way out of the cancer problem
- Prevention probably the single most effective response to these challenges,
- The first step in cancer prevention is to identify the causes of human cancer (Monographs)



# “The encyclopaedia of carcinogens”

The *IARC Monographs* evaluate

- Chemicals
- Complex mixtures
- Occupational exposures
- Physical and biological agents
- Personal habits



Lorenzo Tomatis  
1929-2007

More than 1000 agents have been evaluated

- 120 are *carcinogenic to humans* (Group 1)
- 83 are *probably carcinogenic to humans* (Group 2A)
- 314 are *possibly carcinogenic to humans* (Group 2B)

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

# How Are Agents Selected?

- Agents with evidence of human exposure and suspicion of carcinogenicity are evaluated
- Public call for nominations  
<http://monographs.iarc.fr/ENG/Meetings/index.php>
  - Scientists, governments, NGOs, industry and individuals can nominate agents
- International expert Advisory Group on Priorities (ongoing)
  - Scientists and representatives of governments and health agencies
  - Advises IARC on priority of nominated agents

## **Call for nominations of agents for review in future IARC Monographs**

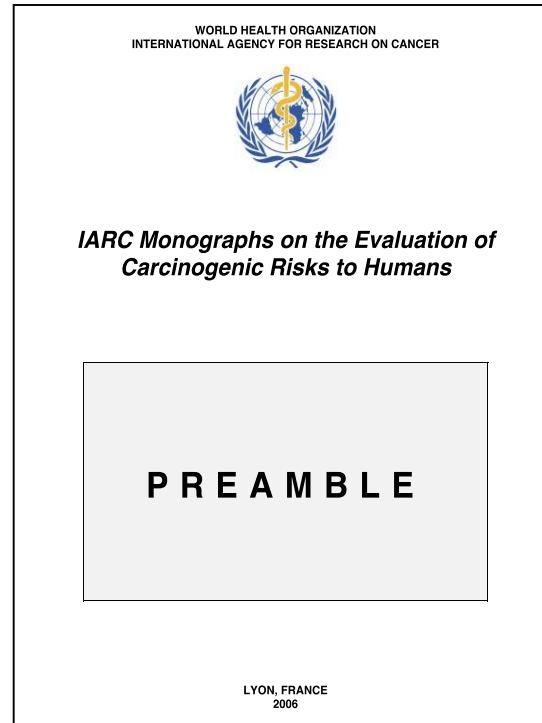
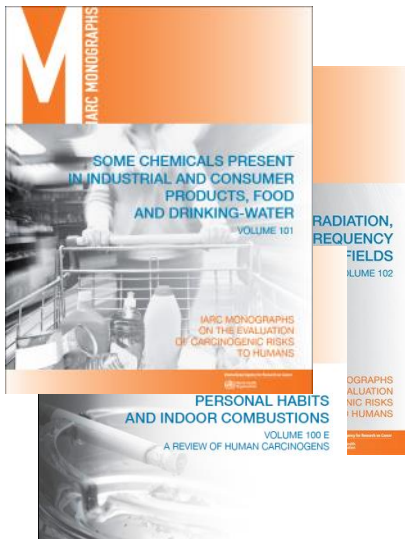
IARC encourages the general public, the scientific community, national health agencies, and other organizations, to nominate agents for review in future *IARC Monographs*. For details, please see:

[Information on nominations](#)

[Nomination form](#)

[WHO Declaration of Interests](#) (to be submitted with each nomination)

# How are Evaluations Conducted?



- Published guidelines for participant selection, conflict of interest & stakeholder involvement
- Criteria for data eligibility
- Guidelines for review of human, animal and mechanistic evidence
- Decision process for overall evaluations

<http://monographs.iarc.fr/ENG/Preamble/index.php>

# Conflicts of interest: management and disclosure

- Independent evaluations by the world's leading experts  
world's leading experts free from conflicts of interests
- Only these experts draft text and perform evaluations, BUT other scientists can participate in defined roles:
  - Invited Specialists
  - Representatives of national and international health agencies
  - Observers
  - IARC Secretariat
- Real or apparent conflicts of interest publicly announced:
  - In advance (2 months before the in-person meeting)
  - In the published *The Lancet Oncology* summaries
  - In the published volume of *Monographs*



# How is transparency assured before, during and after the evaluation?

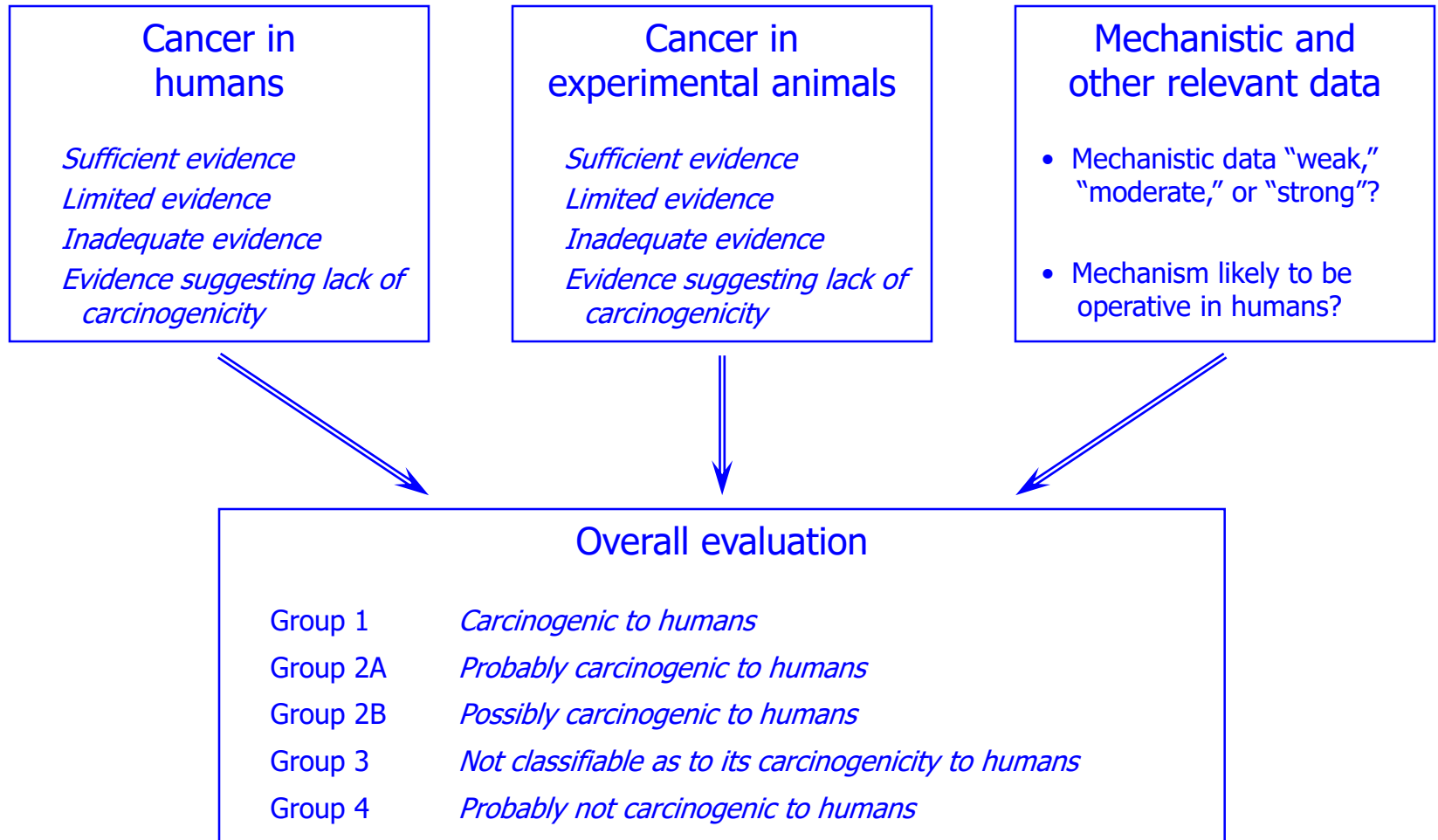
- Public announcements:
  - Methods (published online, in advance)
  - Topic and timing (1 year in advance)
  - Working Group and all other participants (2 months in advance)
  - Results (*The Lancet Oncology*, full *Monograph*)
- Public process open to scientific observers
- Fully referenced *Monograph* is published online for free download
  - Cites only peer-reviewed and published, publicly available data (available for independent scientific scrutiny)
  - All studies (positive and negative) are described
  - Rationale for conclusions is given

# Systematic scientific evaluation

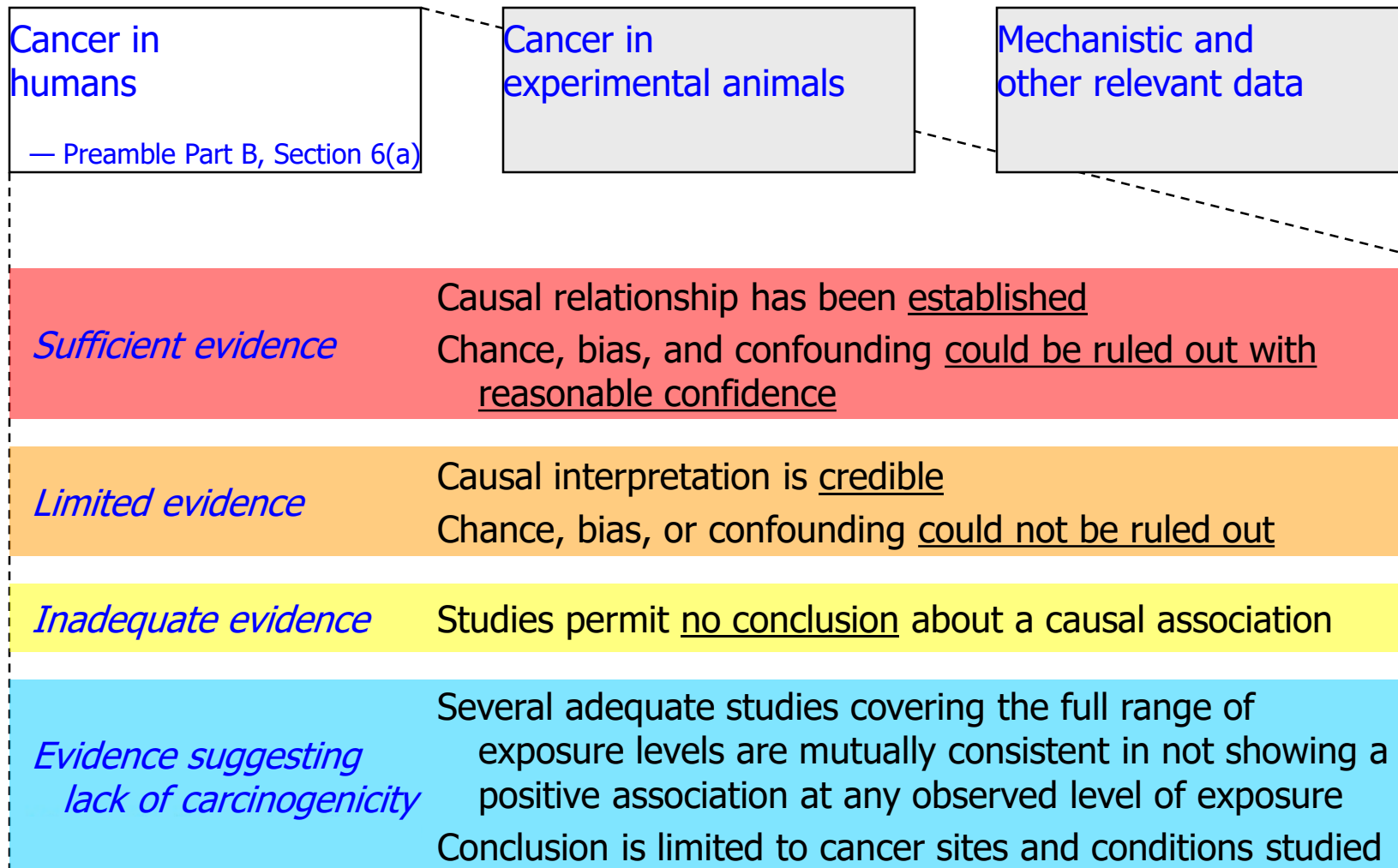
- Systematic gathering and evaluation of original research that is available in the **public domain for independent scientific review**
  - Published methods based on international guidance
  - Conclusions described using internationally defined terms
  - Uniform, hierarchic evaluation structure
    - Same criteria applied in all evaluations
    - Same criteria applied to all studies
    - Working Group comments [in square brackets]
- Fully referenced *Monograph* is published online for free download
  - All studies (positive and negative) are described
  - Rationale for conclusions is given

# The IARC Monographs Evaluations

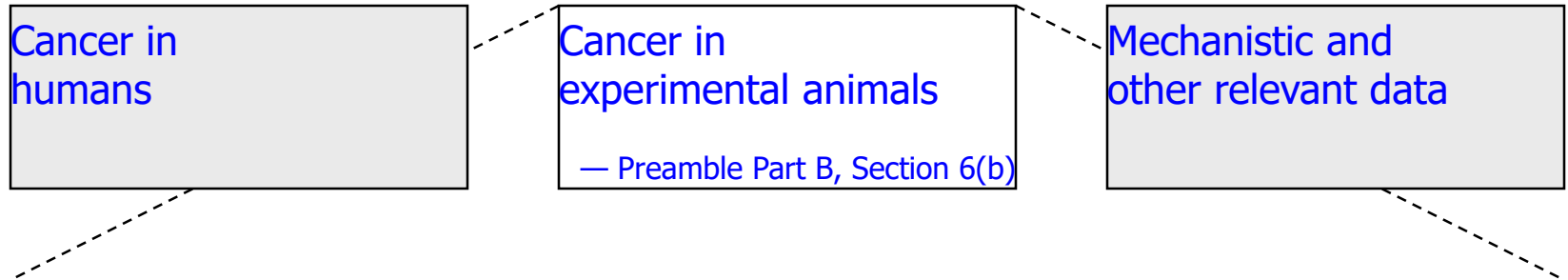
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# Evaluating human data (Subgroup 2)



# Evaluating experimental animal data (Subgroup 3)



## *Sufficient evidence*

Causal relationship has been established through either:

- Multiple positive results (2 species, studies, sexes of GLP)
- Single unusual result (incidence, site/type, age, multi-site)

## *Limited evidence*

Data suggest a carcinogenic effect but: (*e.g.*) single study, benign tumours only, promoting activity only

## *Inadequate evidence*

Studies permit no conclusion about a carcinogenic effect

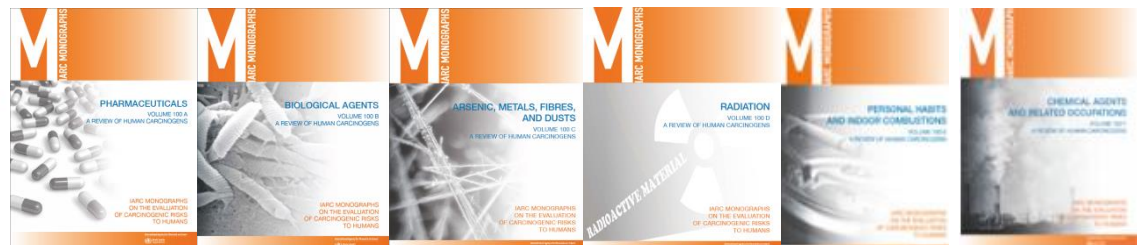
## *Evidence suggesting lack of carcinogenicity*

Adequate studies in at least two species show that the agent is not carcinogenic  
Conclusion is limited to the species, tumour sites, age at exposure, and conditions and levels of exposure studied

# 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)**



## 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

# Known and suspected causes of cancer

List of Classifications by cancer sites with *sufficient* or *limited evidence* in humans, Volumes 1 to 114\*

Cancer site	Carcinogenic agents with <i>sufficient evidence</i> in humans	Agents with <i>limited evidence</i> in humans
Lung	<p>Acheson process, occupational exposures associated with</p> <p>Aluminum production</p> <p>Arsenic and inorganic arsenic compounds</p> <p>Asbestos (all forms)</p> <p>Beryllium and beryllium compounds</p> <p>Bis(chloromethyl)ether; chloromethyl methyl ether (technical grade)</p> <p>Cadmium and cadmium compounds</p> <p>Chromium(VI) compounds</p> <p>Coal, indoor emissions from household combustion</p> <p>Coal gasification</p> <p>Coal-tar pitch</p> <p>Coke production</p>	<p>Acid mists, strong inorganic</p> <p>Art glass, glass containers and pressed ware (manufacture of)</p> <p>Biomass fuel (primarily wood), indoor emissions from household combustion of</p> <p>Bitumens, occupational exposure to oxidized bitumens and their emissions during roofing</p> <p>Bitumens, occupational exposure to hard bitumens and their emissions during mastic asphalt work</p> <p>Carbon electrode manufacture</p> <p><i>alpha</i>-Chlorinated toluenes and</p>

# 10 Key Characteristics of Human Carcinogens

## Key characteristic:

- 1. Is electrophilic or can be metabolically activated**
- 2. Is genotoxic**
- 3. Alters DNA repair or causes genomic instability**
- 4. Induces epigenetic alterations**
- 5. Induces oxidative stress**
- 6. Induces chronic inflammation**
- 7. Is immunosuppressive**
- 8. Modulates receptor-mediated effects**
- 9. Causes immortalization**
- 10. Alters cell proliferation, cell death, or nutrient supply**

- Established human carcinogens commonly exhibit one or more characteristics
- Data on these characteristics can provide evidence of carcinogenicity
- They can also help in interpreting the relevance and importance of findings of cancer in animals and in humans.

Smith MT, et al.. *Env Health Persp.*, 124(6):713-21



# High-Throughput Screening Data

## ToxCast iCSS dashboard

(<http://actor.epa.gov/dashboard/>)

- 821 assays
- 1860 chemicals



### 10 Key Characteristics of Human Carcinogens:

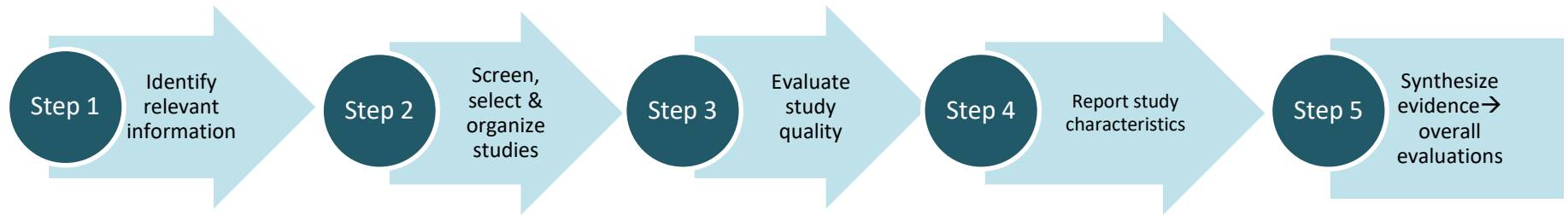
1. Is electrophilic or can be metabolically activated
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8. Modulates receptor-mediated effects
9. Causes immortalization
10. Alters cell proliferation, cell death, or nutrient supply

= ??

At most, 274 ToxCast/Tox21 assays could be mapped to a “key characteristic”:

Key characteristic	1. Is electrophilic or can be metabolically activated	4. Induces epigenetic alterations	5. Induces oxidative stress	6. Induces chronic inflammation	8. Modulates receptor-mediated effects	10. Alters cell proliferation, cell death and nutrient supply
Assay Endpoints	31 assays: • CYP inhibition (29) • Aromatase inhib. (2)	11 assays: • DNA binding (4) • Transformation (7)	18 assays: • Metalloproteinase (5) • Oxidative stress (7) • Oxidative stress marker (6)	45 assays: • Cell adhesion (14) • Cytokines (29) • NFkB (2)	81 assays: • AhR (2) • AR (11) • ER (18) • FXR (7) • PAR (6) • Others (18) • PPAR (12) • PXR_VDR (7)	68 assays: • Cell cycle (16) • Cytotoxicity (41) • Mitochondrial toxicity (7) • Proliferation (4)

# Monographs Preamble Update, 2019



WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION  
INTERNATIONAL AGENCY FOR RESEARCH ON CANCER



*IARC Monographs on the Identification of Carcinogenic  
Hazards to Humans*

## PREAMBLE

### Highlights:

- Enhanced transparency
- Increased rigor
- Modernized methods

### Key features:

- Strong procedures for conflict of interest management, public engagement and stakeholder involvement
- Robust systematic review methodology
- New section on critical review of exposure methods in epidemiologic studies of cancer and mechanisms
- Refined evaluation criteria for mechanistic evidence
- Rigorous and transparent integration of human cancer, animal bioassay and mechanistic evidence streams

Preamble to the IARC Monographs ([amended January 2019](#)):

<https://monographs.iarc.fr/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/Preamble-2019.pdf>

# How Are Overall Evaluations Determined?

Evidence of Cancer in Humans	Evidence of Cancer in Experimental Animals	Mechanistic Evidence	Evaluation
Sufficient			Carcinogenic (Group 1)
	Sufficient	Strong (exposed humans)	
Limited	Sufficient		Probably carcinogenic (Group 2A)
Limited		Strong	
	Sufficient	Strong (human cells or tissues)	
		Strong (mechanistic class)	
Limited			Possibly carcinogenic (Group 2B)
	Sufficient		
		Strong (experimental systems)	
	Sufficient	Strong (does not operate in humans)	Not classifiable (Group 3)
All other situations not listed above			

# Vol. 105: Diesel engine exhaust: exposure

- Diesel engines are used for **on-road and non-road transport** (eg, trains, ships) and (heavy) **equipment** in various industrial sectors (eg, mining, construction), and in electricity generators, particularly in developing countries.
- Emissions from these engines are complex, with varying composition.
- The **gas phase** consists of carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxides, and volatile organic compounds such as benzene and formaldehyde.
- **Particles** consist of elemental and organic carbon, ash, sulfate, and metals.
- **Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons** and **nitroarenes** are distributed over the gas and the particle phase.

# Diesel engine exhaust and lung cancer

- In a large **US miners study** diesel engine exhaust was quantified via estimated elemental carbon as a proxy of exposure
- Cohort and nested case–control analyses **adjusted for tobacco smoking** showed **positive trends in lung cancer** risk with increasing exposure to diesel exhaust, with 2–3-fold increased risk in the highest categories of cumulative or average exposure. (Attfield et al 2012, Silverman et al 2012).
- In **US railroad workers** exposed to diesel exhaust a 40% increased risk for lung cancer was observed.
- A large cohort study in the **US trucking industry** reported a 15–40% increased lung cancer risk
- Findings of above cohort studies were supported by those in **other occupational groups and by case–control studies including various occupations** involving exposure to diesel-engine exhaust.

# SYNERGY: Diesel engine exhaust

## Cumulative DME exposure and lung cancer risk

Cumulative DME exposure $\Sigma(\text{level}^2 * \text{duration})$	Cases	Controls	OR1	95% CI	OR2	95% CI
Never	7676	10320	1.00	Reference cat.	1.00	Reference cat.
<6	1270	1514	0.92	0.78 – 1.08	0.88	0.74 – 1.03
6-17.33	1325	1499	1.00	0.88 – 1.12	0.92	0.82 – 1.04
17.34-34.5	1441	1502	0.99	0.85 – 1.15	0.91	0.79 – 1.05
>34.5	1594	1450	1.27	1.14 – 1.41	1.14	1.03 – 1.26
<i>Test for trend, p-value</i>			0.001		0.070	
<i>Trend among exposed, p-value</i>			0.000		0.002	
>34.5, never smokers	47	314	1,27	0.90 - 1.79	1.14	0.81 - 1.62
>34.5, never List A job	1449	1337	1.35	1.23 - 1.48	1.21	1.10 - 1.33
>34.5, women	35	45	1.61	0.98 - 2.65	1.41	0.86 - 2.32

Random effect model based on study specific results OR1 adjusted for age, sex, smoking pack years, time since quitting smoking, ever employed in "List A" job OR2 in addition adjusted for education

# Diesel engine exhaust, cancer bioassays Evaluation

- The Working Group concluded that there was “sufficient evidence” in experimental animals for the carcinogenicity of whole diesel-engine exhaust, of diesel-engine exhaust particles and of extracts of diesel-engine exhaust particles.



# DEE, mechanisms of carcinogenicity

- DEE, DEE particles, DEE condensates, and organic solvent extracts of DEE particles induced in vitro and in vivo, various forms of DNA damage
- Increased expression of genes involved in xenobiotic metabolism, oxidative stress, inflammation, antioxidant response, apoptosis, and cell cycle regulation in mammalian cells was observed.
- Positive genotoxicity biomarkers of exposure and effect were also observed in humans exposed to diesel engine exhaust.

The Working Group concluded that there is “strong evidence” for the ability of whole diesel-engine exhaust to induce cancer in humans through genotoxicity.



# Diesel engine exhaust

## Overall Evaluation

- There is **sufficient evidence** for the carcinogenicity in humans of diesel engine exhaust. Diesel engine exhaust causes **lung cancer**. Also, a positive association between diesel engine exhaust and **bladder cancer** has been observed.
- There is sufficient evidence for the carcinogenicity in experimental animals of whole diesel engine exhaust.

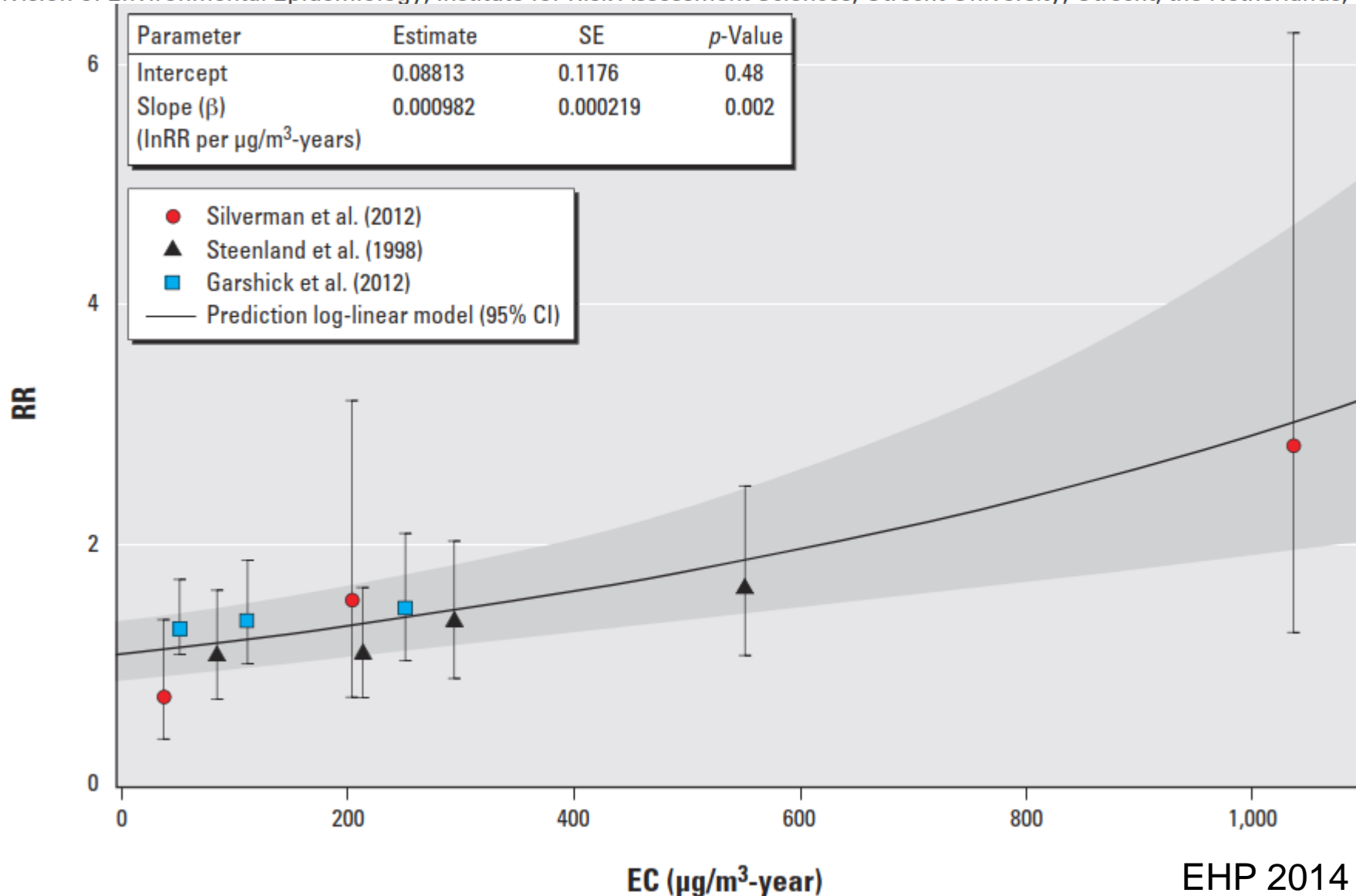
### Overall evaluation

- Diesel engine exhaust is carcinogenic to humans (Group 1).

# Exposure-Response Estimates for Diesel Engine Exhaust and Lung Cancer Mortality Based on Data from Three Occupational Cohorts

Roel Vermeulen,<sup>1</sup> Debra T. Silverman,<sup>2</sup> Eric Garshick,<sup>3</sup> Jelle Vlaanderen,<sup>1,4</sup> Lützen Portengen,<sup>1</sup> and Kyle Steenland<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Division of Environmental Epidemiology, Institute for Risk Assessment Sciences, Utrecht University, Utrecht, the Netherlands;



# IARC Monographs Vol. 111, CNT

- MWCNT-7 caused **peritoneal mesotheliomas** in rats & mice
- 2 other types of MWCNTs with physical dimensions **similar** to those of **MWCNT-7** caused **mesotheliomas** in male and female rats in one intraperitoneal study, (Nagai et al., 2011).
- Two studies with **SWCNTs** in rats were inconclusive.

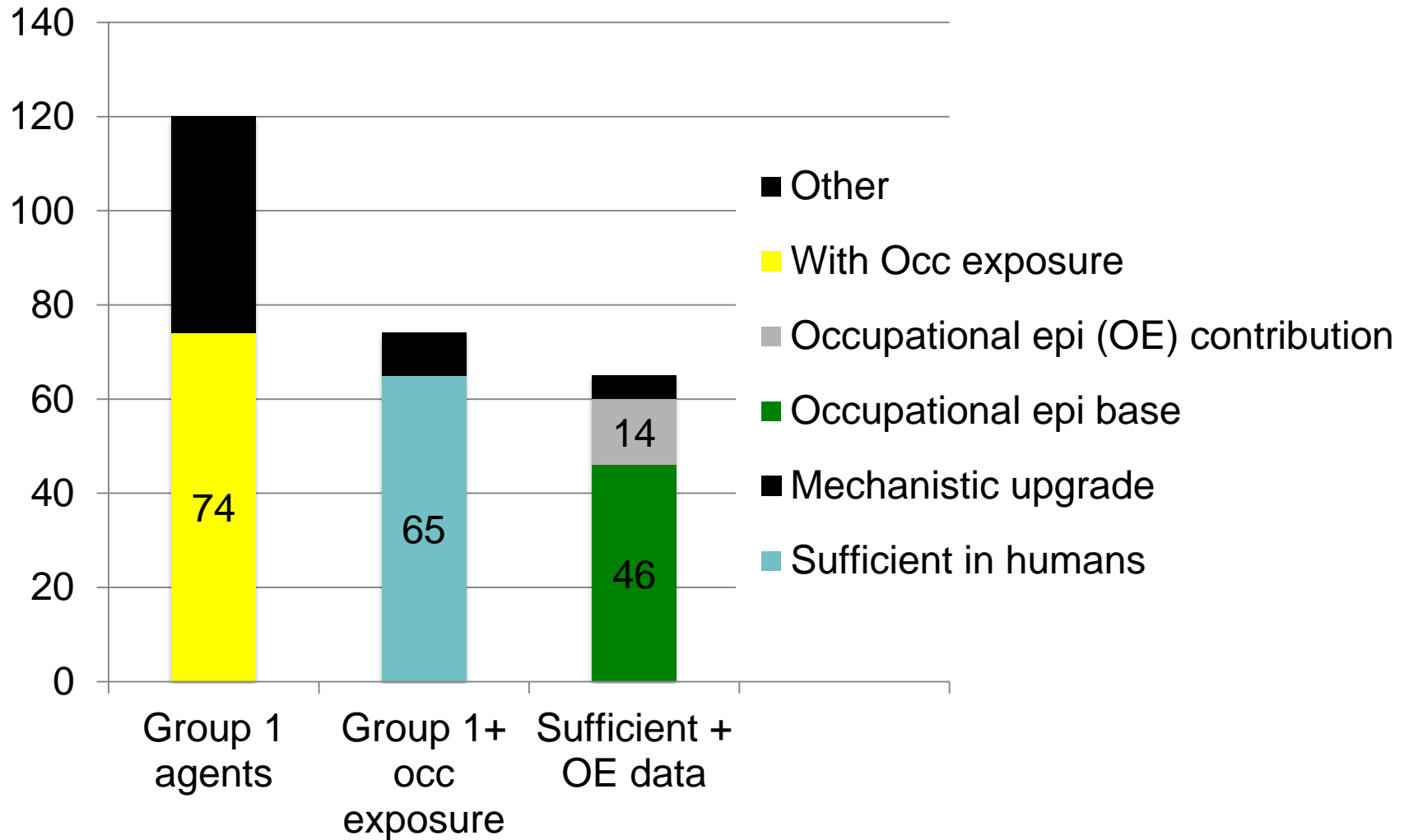
## Carcinogenicity in experimental animals

- **sufficient evidence** for MWCNT-7,
- **limited evidence** for the two other types of MWCNTs with dimensions similar to MWCNT-7,
- **inadequate evidence** for SWCNTs.

## Overall evaluation

- **MWCNT-7 is possibly carcinogenic to humans** (Group 2B);
- **SWCNTs and MWCNTs** excluding MWCNT-7 are **not classifiable as to their carcinogenicity to humans** (Group 3)

# Identifying occupational carcinogens



# Future Priorities for the IARC Monographs

## Rationale

### Agents not previously evaluated by IARC Monographs

Haloacetic acids (and other disinfection byproducts)	Relevant human cancer, bioassay, and mechanistic evidence
Metalworking fluids	Relevant human cancer and bioassay evidence
Cannabis smoking, fertility treatment, glucocorticoids, <i>Salmonella typhi</i> , sedentary behaviour*, tetracyclines and other photosensitising drugs	Relevant human cancer and mechanistic evidence
Cupferron, gasoline oxygenated additives, gentian violet, glycidamide, malachite green and leucomalachite green, oxymetholone, pentabromodiphenyl ethers, vinclozolin	Relevant bioassay and mechanistic evidence
Breast implants, dietary salt intake*, neonatal phototherapy*, poor oral hygiene*	Relevant human cancer evidence
Aspartame	Relevant bioassay evidence
Arecoline, carbon disulphide, electronic nicotine delivery systems and nicotine*, human cytomegalovirus, parabens	Relevant mechanistic evidence

### Agents previously evaluated by IARC Monographs†

Automotive gasoline (leaded and unleaded), carbaryl, malaria	New human cancer, bioassay, and mechanistic evidence to warrant re-evaluation of the classification
Acrylamide*, acrylonitrile, some anthracyclines, coal dust, combustion of biomass, domestic talc products, firefighting exposure, metallic nickel, some pyrethroids (ie, permethrin, cypermethrin, deltamethrin)	New human cancer and mechanistic evidence to warrant re-evaluation of the classification
Aniline, acrolein, methyl eugenol and isoeugenol*, multi-walled carbon nanotubes*, non-ionising radiation (radiofrequency)*, some perfluorinated compounds (eg, perfluorooctanoic acid)	New bioassay and mechanistic evidence to warrant re-evaluation of the classification
Oestrogen:oestradiol and oestrogen-progestogens‡, hydrochlorothiazide, Merkel cell polyomavirus, perchloroethylene, very hot foods and beverages	New human cancer evidence to warrant re-evaluation of the classification
1,1,1-trichloroethane weapons-grade alloy (tungsten, nickel, and cobalt)	New bioassay evidence to warrant re-evaluation of the classification
Acetaldehyde, bisphenol A*, cobalt and cobalt compounds, crotonaldehyde, cyclopeptide cyanotoxins, fumonisin B <sub>1</sub> , inorganic lead compounds, isoprene, o-anisidine	New mechanistic evidence to warrant re-evaluation of the classification

# Global, regional, and national comparative risk assessment of 84 behavioural, environmental and occupational, and metabolic risks or clusters of risks for 195 countries and territories, 1990–2017: a systematic analysis for the Global Burden of Disease Study 2017

Risk factors and outcomes	2007 deaths (thousands)	2017 deaths (thousands)	Percentage change in deaths, 2007–17	Percentage change in age-standardised death rate, 2007–17	2007 DALYs (thousands)	2017 DALYs (thousands)	Percentage change in DALYs, 2007–17	Percentage change in age-standardised DALY rate, 2007–17
3 Occupational carcinogens: all causes	271 (220 to 322)	334 (271 to 397)	23.3% (19.1 to 27.1)*	-7.4% (-10.5 to -4.5)*	5600 (4560 to 6710)	6750 (5490 to 8120)	20.6% (16.5 to 24.5)*	-8.0% (-11.3 to -5.0)*
4 Occupational exposure to asbestos: all causes	194 (148 to 243)	232 (177 to 289)	19.6% (14.6 to 23.6)*	-10.5% (-14.2 to -7.5)*	3410 (2570 to 4310)	3930 (2980 to 4950)	15.3% (9.9 to 19.8)*	-12.7% (-16.7 to -9.4)*
4 Occupational exposure to diesel engine exhaust: all causes	12 (11 to 13)	18 (16 to 20)	48.9% (41.6 to 55.4)*	13.5% (8.5 to 18.1)*	344 (304 to 386)	494 (434 to 559)	43.9% (36.8 to 50.5)*	10.8% (5.7 to 15.3)*

**GBD 2017 Risk Factor Collaborators, Lancet 2018**

# Occupational cancer: AF

“Occupational cancer, moreover, tends to be concentrated among relatively **small groups** of people among whom the **risk** of developing the disease may be **quite large**, and

such risks can usually be **reduced or even eliminated**, once they have been identified.

The detection of occupational hazards should therefore have a **higher priority in any program** of cancer prevention than their proportional importance might suggest.”

Doll & Peto, 1981

# CANCER ET TRAVAIL



**Merci!**

**Questions?**

**SYMPOSIUM**

**INMA – IMTVL - SMTVL**





# Declaration of Interests

2001 – 11/2018, Senior Epidemiologist and **Head of the IARC Monographs programme**, Head of Section of Evidence Synthesis and Classification (WHO Classification of Tumours, IARC Monographs, IARC Handbooks of Cancer Prevention)

12/2018 – 04/2019, Consultant to IARC, Section of Evidence Synthesis and Classification

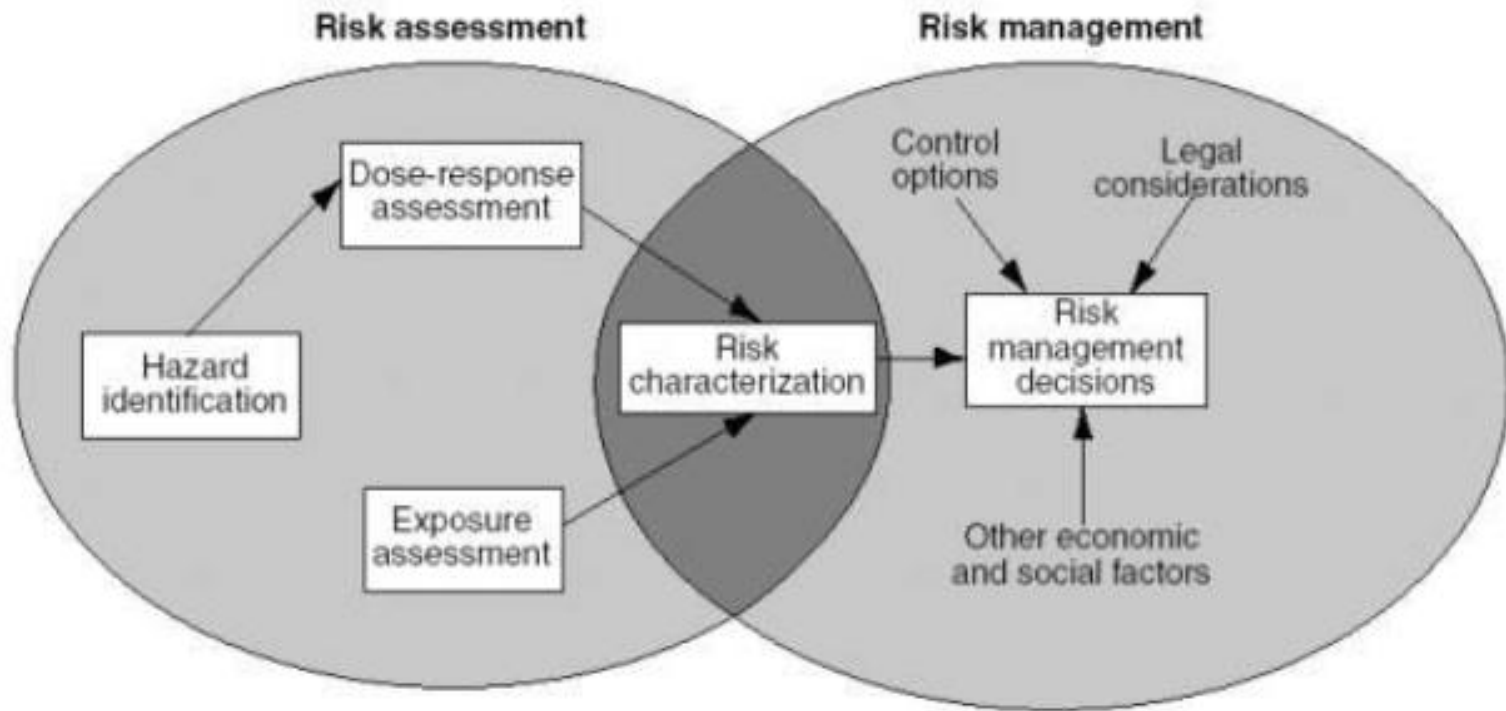
The **IARC Monographs are supported by grants** from

U.S. National Cancer Institute (since 1982)

European Commission, Employment and Social Affairs (since 1986)

U.S. National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (since 1992)

# Hazard Identification, Risk Assessment and Risk Management



Source: EPA Office of Research and Development.

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

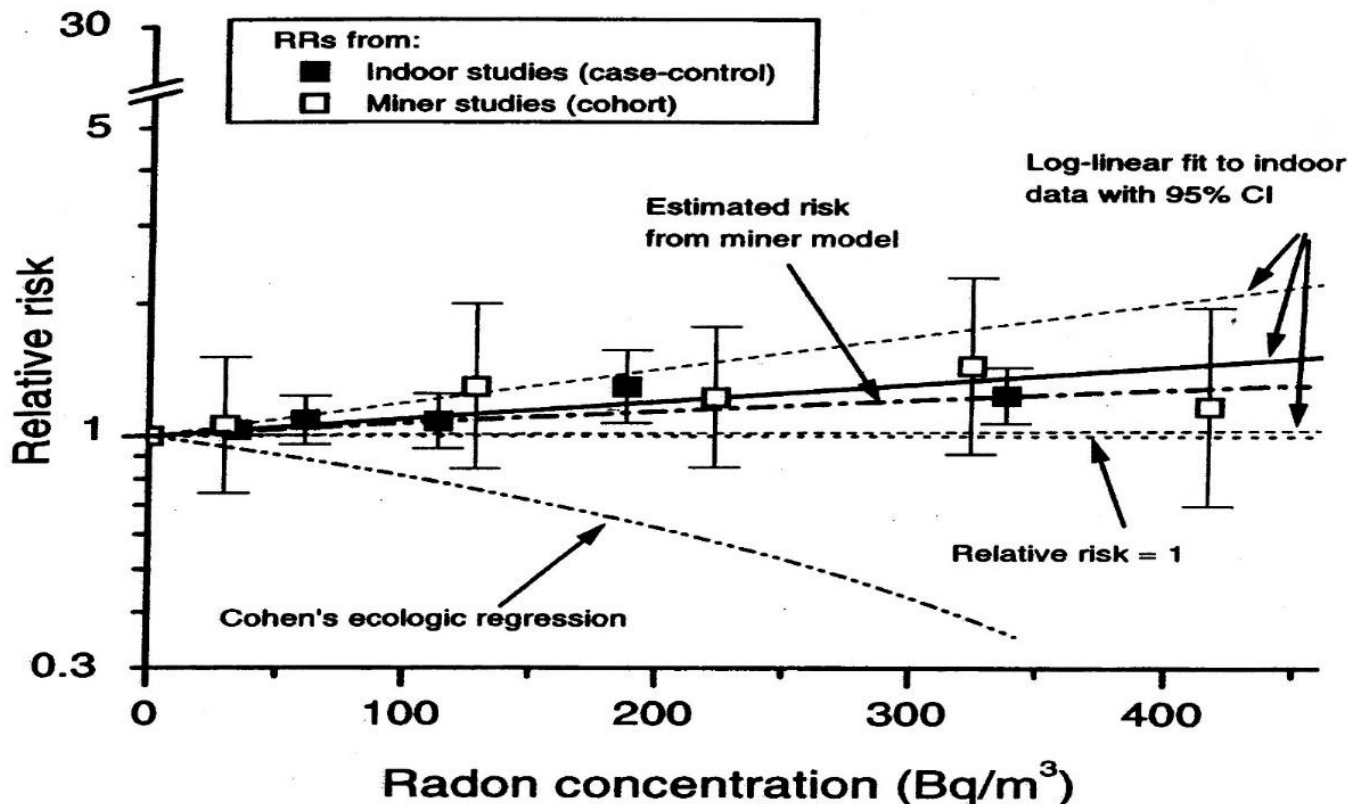


FIGURE 3-2 Summary relative risks (RR) from meta-analysis of indoor-radon studies and RRs from pooled analysis of underground-miner studies, restricted to exposures under  $0.175 \text{ Jhm}^{-3}$  (50 WLM). Included are RR of 1, fitted exposure-response and its 95% confidence interval from indoor-radon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

# Evaluating mechanistic and other data (Subgroup 4)



- Are the mechanistic data “weak,” “moderate,” or “strong”?

Have the mechanistic events been established? Are there consistent results in different experimental systems? Is the overall database coherent?

Has each mechanism been challenged experimentally? Do studies demonstrate that suppression of key mechanistic processes leads to suppression of tumour development?

- Is the mechanism likely to be operative in humans?

Are there alternative explanations? Could different mechanisms operate in different dose ranges, in humans and experimental animals, or in a susceptible group?

Note: an uneven level of support for different mechanisms may reflect only the resources focused on each one

# Overall carcinogenicity evaluation

		EVIDENCE IN EXPERIMENTAL ANIMALS			
		<i>Sufficient</i>	<i>Limited</i>	<i>Inadequate</i>	<i>ESLC</i>
EVIDENCE IN HUMANS	<i>Sufficient</i>	Group 1			
	<i>Limited</i>	↑ 1 <u>strong evidence in exposed humans</u> Group 2A	↑ 2A belongs to a mechanistic class where other members are classified in Groups 1 or 2A Group 2B (exceptionally, Group 2A)		
	<i>Inadequate</i>	↑ 1 <u>strong evidence in exposed humans</u> ↑ 2A <u>strong evidence</u> ... mechanism also operates in humans Group 2B ↓ 3 <u>strong evidence</u> ... mechanism <u>does not operate in humans</u>	↑ 2A belongs to a mechanistic class ↑ 2B with <u>supporting evidence</u> from mechanistic and other relevant data Group 3	↑ 2A belongs to a mechanistic class ↑ 2B with <u>strong evidence</u> from mechanistic and other relevant data Group 3	Group 3 ↓ 4 <u>consistently and strongly supported</u> by a broad range of mechanistic and other relevant data
	<i>ESLC</i>	Group 3			Group 4

# Systematic Approach Using Key Characteristics of Carcinogens

Targeted searches for each key characteristic

**Is Genotoxic (#2)** Actions -

Description: First three characteristics

Search type: Search

Search database: PubMed

Search text: Benzene[Mesh] AND ("Mutation"[Mesh] OR "Cytogenetic Analysis"[Mesh] OR "Mutagens"[Mesh] OR "Oncogenes"[Mesh] OR "Genetic Processes"[Mesh] OR "genomic instability"[Mesh] OR "chromosomes" OR "clastogen" OR "genetic toxicology" OR "strand break" OR "unscheduled DNA synthesis" OR "DNA damage" OR "DNA adducts" OR "SCE" OR "chromatid" OR "micronucle" OR "mutagen" OR "DNA repair" OR "UDS" OR "DNA fragmentation" OR "DNA cleavage")

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**Induces Epigenetic Alterations (#4)** Actions -

Description: Epigenetics

Search type: Search

Search database: PubMed

Search text: Benzene[Mesh] AND ("rna"[MeSH] OR "epigenesis, genetic"[Mesh] OR ma OR "ma, messenger"[MeSH] OR "ma" OR "messenger ma" OR rma OR "histones"[MeSH] OR histones OR epigenetic OR miRNA OR methylation)

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**Induces oxidative stress (#5)** Actions -

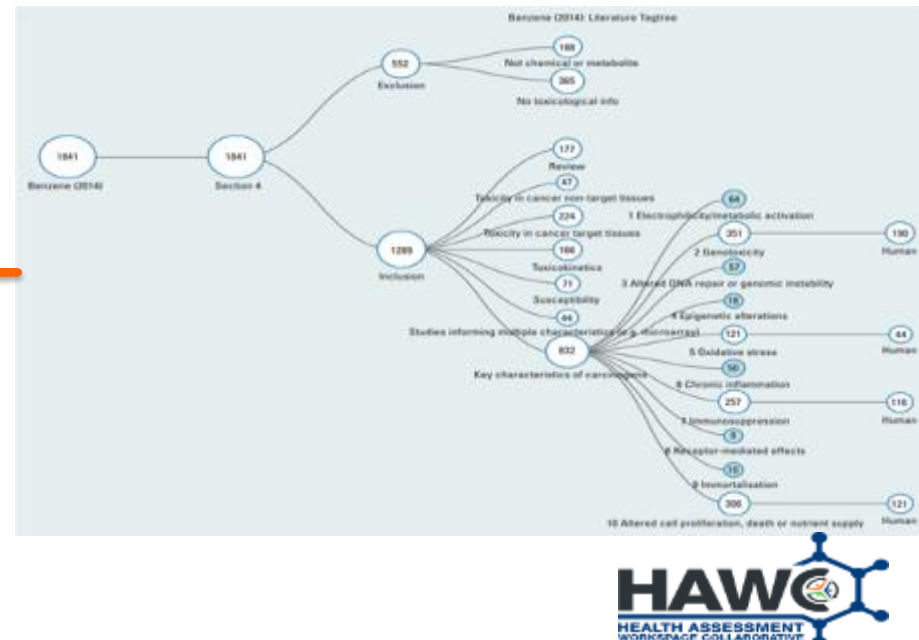
Description: Oxidative stress

Search type: Search

Search database: PubMed

Search text: Benzene[Mesh] AND ("reactive oxygen species"[MeSH] OR "reactive nitrogen species"[MeSH] OR "reactive oxygen species" OR "oxygen radicals" OR "oxidative stress"[MeSH] OR oxidative OR "oxidative stress" OR "free radicals")

Organize results by key characteristics, species, etc

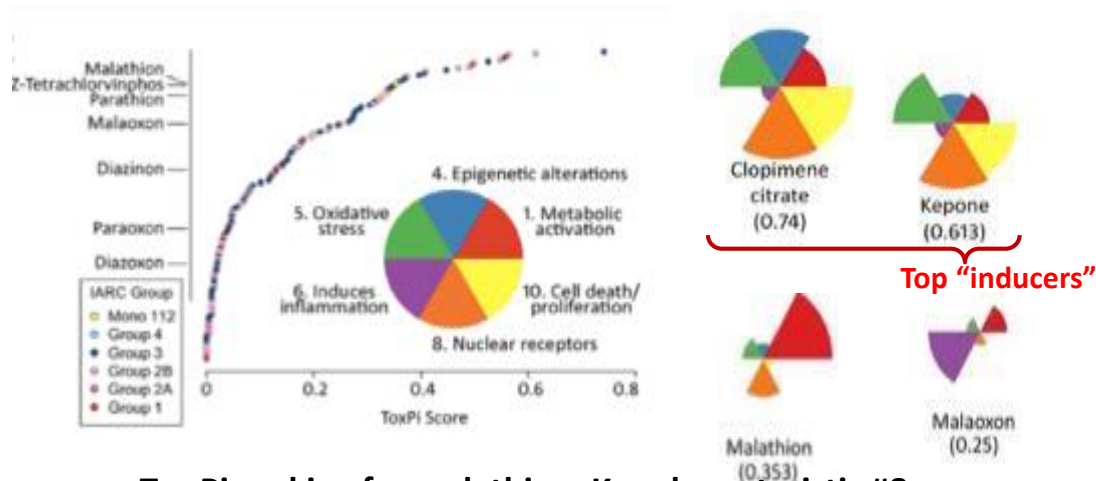


Smith MT, Guyton KZ, Gibbons CF, Fritz JM et al.. *Env Health Persp.*, 124(6):713-21

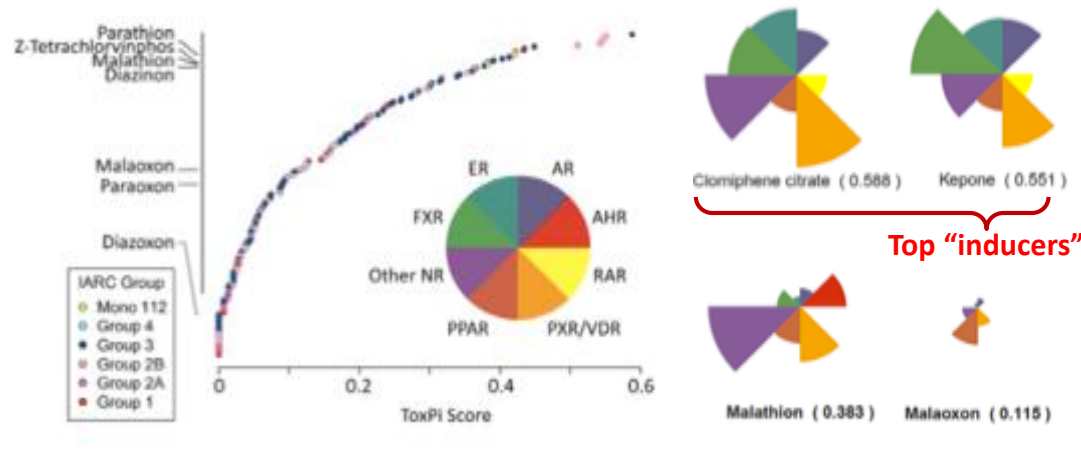
# High Throughput Screening Data: Questions

- How does activity compare across—and within—key characteristics, and across all Tox21 compounds evaluated by IARC?
- Is activity more closely associated with the parent compound or metabolite(s)?

Tox Pi ranking for malathion: All key characteristics



Tox Pi ranking for malathion: Key characteristic #8



# Group-1 agents with less than *sufficient evidence* in humans

- Ethylene oxide (vol 60, 1994, Vol 97, 2007)
- 2,3,7,8-Tetrachlorodibenzo-para-dioxin (vol 69, 1997)
- Neutron radiation (vol 75, 2000)
- Areca nut (Vol 85)
- Gallium Arsenide (Vol 86, 2003)
- Tobacco-specific nitrosamines NNN and NNK (Vol 85)
- **Benzo[a]pyrene** (vol 92, 2005)
- Ethanol in alcoholic beverages
- Dyes metabolized to benzidine (Vol 99, 2007)
- MOCA (Vol 99, 2007)
- **Aristolochic acid** (Vol 100A)
- Acetaldehyde associated with consumption of alcoholic beverages (Vol 100E)
- pentachloro-dibenzofuran and pentachloro-biphenyl (Vol 100F, 2009), Dioxin-like PCBs (Vol 107)



# IARC Monographs Vol. 111, CNT

- The Working Group acknowledged that the above mechanisms are all relevant to humans.
- However, a majority did **not** consider the mechanistic evidence for carcinogenicity - especially concerning chronic endpoints – to be **strong for any specific CNT**.
- Furthermore, the **lack of coherent evidence across the various distinct CNTs** precluded generalisation to other types of CNTs.

## Overall evaluation

- **MWCNT-7 is *possibly carcinogenic to humans*** (Group 2B);
- **SWCNTs and MWCNTs excluding MWCNT-7 are *not classifiable as to their carcinogenicity to humans*** (Group 3).

# Epidemiologic data for occupational carcinogen risk assessment

