WoRLD Report

WORK-RELATED LUNG DISEASE SURVEILLANCE REPORT 1994

Division of Respiratory Disease Studies
National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
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Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

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PREFACE

The 1994 Work-Related Lung Disease Surveillance Report is the third in a series of major surveillance reports compiled by the Division of Respiratory Disease Studies (DRDS), National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The purpose of this report is to provide a summary of surveillance data for various occupational respiratory diseases, from a variety of sources, in a readily available format. The majority of the data in this report is for the time period 1968-1990. However, the time period covered varies for some of the data sources. A portion of the data originate from programs and activities administered by DRDS, e.g., information from the Coal Workers' X-ray Surveillance Program (CWXSP), the National Occupational Health Survey of Mining (NOHSM), and the Sentinel Event Notification System for Occupational Risks (SENSOR). Other data were obtained from publications, reports, and analysis of data provided by the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), the Department of Labor (DOL), the Social Security Administration (SSA), the Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA), the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), the Bureau of Mines (BOM), and the Association of Occupational and Environmental Clinics (AOEC).

The organization of this edition of the Work-Related Lung Disease Surveillance Report differs from earlier editions. It is divided into 11 major sections. The first ten sections present data on specific occupational lung diseases or conditions, summarizing mortality and morbidity data, and other available information, such as occupational exposures or numbers of workers at risk. The remaining section provides data from the AOEC database. Most segments contain an initial section of figures, followed by tables. The appendices contain a description of each major data source, and methods used for computation of specific statistics.

The 1994 Work-Related Lung Disease Surveillance Report contains major additions, both in the addition of previously unreported data such as that from the National Health Interview Survey (NHIS) and AOEC, and in supplementing the data with selected statistical measures, such as proportional mortality ratios, both crude and age-adjusted rates at national and state levels, and years of potential life lost to age 65 and to life expectancy.

Surveillance information including that contained in this report derives from various sources which differ in completeness of reporting, case definitions, and populations of interest. Nevertheless, surveillance information is useful for establishing priorities, for investigation and intervention, and for tracking progress toward elimination of preventable disease.

Comments and suggestions from users of earlier editions of the report have been incorporated into this 1994 edition. In order to increase the utility of future editions, we continue to encourage comments on the current report as well as descriptions of how the data are used. Please return the tear out card enclosed or send comments and suggestions directly to:

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