

Peer Review

Review of: "Notification and Recordkeeping of Occupational Mesothelioma in India"

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This is an important manuscript, thoroughly addressing the complete failure of asbestos-induced cancer registration in India. To obtain a better picture of the devastating effects of (occupational) exposure to asbestos, I would like to recommend that the authors add a short paragraph about other asbestos-related cancers (asbestos-related lung cancer is more frequent than mesothelioma!) and the difficulties in making the pathological diagnosis of mesothelioma. Significant experience is needed to make the mesothelioma diagnosis, and better mesothelioma registration (present in most western countries) has been effectuated by involving experienced pathologists. Moreover, when cancer registration is carried out accurately, the carcinogenic effects of asbestos will be noticed not only in occupational populations but also in people living in the neighbourhood of asbestos industries (bystanders). Simply living in a house insulated with asbestos-containing materials has already been shown to be sufficient to cause (asbestos-related) cancer a few decades later.

Declarations

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.