

Professor M.R. Alderson

Current status of Hospital Inpatients Study

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Interviews so far completed

Numbers of case interviews achieved as at 17th August in each of the 32 disease/sex/age cells are listed in Appendix A. Target numbers are described in TA918. Interviewing in Newcastle is due to end on 7th November. Interviewers there will be told to try to match off all unmatched pairs, any unmatched interviews left on 7th November being ignored.

Negotiations in new areas

Prof. Alderson is going to Cambridge on September 24th for the first meeting in that area. Negotiations are ongoing with South Hampshire but Nottingham and Leicester have not yet been written to. Liverpool have agreed to allow interviewing but not until Spring 1980. The status of London will be discussed in December (see TA918).

Data processing

The Institute of Cancer Research have now received from RSGB a magnetic tape of data from the first 800 interviews in Newcastle. This tape contains all the interview information together with a number of derived variables as agreed. Mr. Rattan at the ICR has written a computer program to carry out preliminary analyses of the data (as described in R770) and this Newcastle data will be used to test this program and to iron out problems.

Vitamin A

Pilot interviews of Vitamin A questions have been tried out in Birmingham successfully and these additional questions (adding about 4 minutes in length to the interview) will be included in interviews of lung cancer cases and controls in the Cambridge and South Hampshire areas (and possibly in Leicester and Nottingham).

Passive smoking

It occurred to me that, though the estimates of risk in Dr. G.H. Miller's studies are methodologically unsound, it may be of interest to carry out on a

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sounder basis the passive smoking comparison he made - i.e. to compare risk of disease of non-smoking wives of smoking husbands with that of non-smoking wives of non-smoking husbands. Accordingly I discussed this with Prof. Alderson who is in agreement in principle. In fact he felt that one should generalise the approach and ask widowed, married and divorced men or women (regardless of smoking habits) the date of birth of the spouse, the date of death (for the widowed) and the spouse's current or latest smoking habits. This would allow other comparisons possibly indicative of a passive smoking effect (e.g. is the risk for a smoker greater if his or her spouse smokes also?). The possibility of assessing work exposure to passive smoking was also considered (e.g. is smoking allowed at work? do the majority of your colleagues at work smoke?). It was agreed Prof. Alderson would prepare draft questions and send them to me for comment in the first instance.

Brand data

As noted in TA987, there is a need for a regular system of supply of data on brand tar, nicotine and CO to Prof. Alderson. It is hoped this can be resolved at the Research Committee meeting on September 4th.

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HOSPITAL INPATIENTS STUDY

CUMULATIVE NO. OF 'CASES' INTERVIEWED (BY CELL TYPE)

Position as at 17.8.79

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		NEWCASTLE (WEEK 98)		LEEDS (WEEK 40)		MANCHESTER (WEEK 30)		BIRMINGHAM (WEEK 20)		BRISTOL (WEEK 10)		TOTAL
LUNG CANCER	MALES	35-44	9	10	12	2	0	33				
		45-54	20	20	30	6	2	78				
	55-64	21	20	32	14	5	92					
	65-74	21	20	32	17	10	100					
FEMALES	35-44	7	5	7	1	0	20					
	45-54	13	20	27	3	0	63					
55-64	20	18	30	9	2	80						
65-74	19	28	4	6	77							
CHRONIC BRONCHITIS	MALES	35-44	7	3	7	3	1	21				
		45-54	14	15	17	10	3	61				
	55-64	21	20	29	16	13	98					
	65-74	20	21	29	26	11	109					
FEMALES	35-44	6	3	4	4	3	19					
	45-54	13	7	10	4	2	36					
55-64	20	20	23	9	2	74						
65-74	15	20	24	18	6	82						
ISCHEMIC HEART DISEASE	MALES	35-44	21	21	23	13	6	84				
		45-54	29	22	31	24	18	124				
	55-64	26	20	32	30	24	131					
	65-74	20	20	30	27	18	115					
FEMALES	35-44	20	18	9	5	1	53					
	45-54	20	20	17	17	3	77					
55-64	22	20	27	28	10	107						
65-74	22	20	33	36	11	121						
STROKE	MALES	35-44	8	1	1	1	1	12				
		45-54	10	11	8	1	0	30				
	55-64	20	20	21	17	3	83					
	65-74	20	21	27	21	5	94					
FEMALES	35-44	6	0	1	6	1	14					
	45-54	15	5	7	4	1	32					
55-64	12	14	16	9	2	52						
65-74	20	20	14	19	6	79						
TOTAL NO. CASES INTERVIEWED		535	486	637	484	486	179	2251				
NO. CONTROLS INTERVIEWED		637	483	666	481	483	119	2256				