

Journal Article



Mortality among chemical workers at Texas City plant: 1940–2001

Journal	International Archives of Occupational and Environmental Health
Publisher	Springer Berlin / Heidelberg
ISSN	0340-0131 (Print) 1432-1246 (Online)
Category	Original Article
DOI	10.1007/s00420-008-0316-2
Subject Collection	Medicine
SpringerLink Date	Wednesday, March 26, 2008



PDF (369.8 KB)



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Received: 17 September 2007 **Accepted:** 12 March 2008 **Published online:** 26 March 2008

Abstract

Objectives To evaluate the mortality experience of workers at a major chemical manufacturing site and to examine brain and liver cancers excesses reported at this site in previous studies.

Methods This study included 9,730 employees at the Texas City location who worked between 1940 and 2001. Standardized mortality ratios and confidence intervals were calculated.

Results There was less than expected deaths due to all cause mortality and no increase in all cancer mortality. Brain tumor mortality, which did exceed expected rates in past years, was at expected levels in recent years. Liver cancer mortality was greater than expected.

Conclusion Brain tumor mortality was either due to chance in the early years or the cause of the brain tumors has been eliminated. Mortality due to liver cancer is higher than expected but only among men hired before 1950.

Keywords Brain cancer - Brain tumors - Liver cancer - General mortality study - Texas City

Eugenio Salazar is deceased.

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References secured to subscribers.

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