## Introduction

Mesothelioma deaths are strongly associated with the past use of asbestos which in turn suggests that current use of asbestos is associated with future mesothelioma deaths.

Widely referenced paper that showed about 170 tons of produced and consumed asbestos will cause at least one death from mesothelioma based on average calculation.

Global, mesothelioma

## Abstract

In Western Europe, Scandinavia, North America, and Australia the manufacture and use of asbestos products peaked in the 1970s. Current incidences of mesothelioma range from 14 to 35 cases/million/year in 11 industrialized countries that had used asbestos 2.0 to 5.5 kg/capita/year about 25 years earlier. A significant linear correlation ($r=0.80$, $p=0.01$) exists between the two variables. Accordingly, about 170 tons of produced and consumed asbestos will cause at least one death from mesothelioma, most often as a consequence of occupational exposure.
Fact 1
Data on asbestos use and mesothelioma mortality (as a surrogate for incidence) during 1995-2000 were analyzed for 11 industrialized countries (Australia, Finland, France, Germany, Great Britain, Italy, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Sweden and United States). A significant linear relationship (r=0.8, p=0.01) exists between the mortality of mesothelioma and the preceding per capita consumption of asbestos.

Fact 2
In 1995-2000, death number (as a surrogate for incidence) of mesothelioma ranged from 14 (Norway) to 35 (Australia) per million/year, with a mean of 18 cases/million/year.

Fact 3
About 25 years earlier, those 11 countries had used asbestos in amounts of 2.0 to 5.5 kg/capita/year, with a mean of 2.8 kg/capita/year.

Fact 4
The national use of 2.8 kg of asbestos per capita induced 18 mesothelioma cases/million people, resulting in that 170 tons of produced and consumed asbestos may cause one death from pleural or peritoneal mesothelioma.

Fact 5
Even with a 170 ton per case ration, conditions such as heterogeneity of technologic applications, types of products, industrial structures, workplace conditions and consumer exposures may cause variation in mesothelioma incidence.