Reviewer’s report

Title: Cumulative Asbestos exposure and Mortality from Asbestos Related Diseases in a Pooled Analysis of 21 Asbestos Cement Cohorts in Italy

Version: 0 Date: 10 Jun 2019

Reviewer: Pietro Comba

Reviewer's report:

This is well written, most interesting studies proving a detailed insight on the health impact of asbestos on workers engaged in the manufacture of asbestos-cement products in Italy.

The design and analysis of the study fulfill the standards of validity requested in epidemiological studies. Aims, methods and results are clearly reported.

In this frame, a few points appear to deserve a more thorough discussion, namely:

- In the evolving international scenery of asbestos production and use, what is the state of the asbestos-cement industries? Are there reports suggesting that the work procedures described in this paper may still be present somewhere?

- Why does the different behavior of pleural and peritoneal mesothelioma after exposure cessation appear to be such a crucial point?

- With regards to the negative (or prevailing non-positive) findings about laryngeal and digestive tract cancers, could the Authors expand the discussion and more address the core issue of presence or absence of a causal link?

Level of interest
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An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable
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