

A Meta-Analysis of Case-Control Studies of Bladder Cancer in Coffee Drinkers

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SUMMARY

A preliminary meta-analysis of case-control studies investigating the risk of bladder cancer in coffee drinkers was performed. Three investigators developed core criteria for studies to be included in the meta-analysis that included appropriate selection of cases and controls, ascertainment of exposure disease sequence, and adjustment for the confounding effects of smoking. Significant methodological heterogeneity was noted, and eight of 32 identified studies adhered to all these criteria and were included in the meta-analysis. Coffee drinkers were not found to be at substantially increased risk of lower urinary tract cancer, and this finding persisted at the highest levels of coffee exposure.