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cancer in airline pilots and crew**

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EXPOSURE TO LOW LEVEL IONIZING RADIATION AND
INCIDENCE OF CANCER IN AIRLINE PILOTS AND CREW

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ABSTRACT

Airline personnel are exposed to cosmic radiation to a varying degree, depending primarily upon flight altitude. Civil aviation registers contain the amount of hours flown per year, although in Norway this information is only easily available for pilots. In the project described here, the intention is to link data from the Cancer Registry to estimated radiation exposure histories of individual airline pilots to reveal a possible dose-health-effect relationship. The presentation given at this Symposium will focus on the radiation dose estimation; present some alternative approaches, and describe in some detail the approach finally chosen in the Norwegian project. ‡

The Norwegian project is now in its final stage, and it is expected that conclusions can be drawn later this year. A number of similar projects are presently in the start-up stage in a number of European countries and in the USA, and an international project group has already been established since some years back.

‡ This work was performed in close cooperation with and with considerable practical assistance from the Norwegian Pilots Association.

Full paper available from the first author

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