RISK OF LEUKEMIA AMONG ONTARIO WORKERS

Key Insights

- Females and males employed in motor transportation operating and metal product fabricating had a higher risk of leukemia compared to other workers.
 This is consistent with known cancer-causing agents in these environments.
- Higher risks were also observed among female workers in sales, as well as male workers in mining, metal machining, protective services, and mechanical repairing.
- Differences in leukemia risk between female and male workers may be due to variations in work-related exposures, such as benzene, formaldehyde, and ionizing radiation, and non-occupational factors.

Our study identified

1,810 cases
among female workers

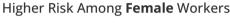
5,464 cases
among male workers

Select occupations with a higher risk of leukemia in comparison to other occupations

Higher Risk Among Male Workers



† 29% Metal Product Fabricating and Assembling





† 21% Motor Transport Operating



† **17%** Commodity Sales



† 28% Mining and Quarrying



† **23%**Metal Machining



† 17% Protective Services



14% Motor Transport Operating



† 10% Mechanics and Repairers (Excluding Electrical)



† 10% Metal Product Fabricating and Assembling



This fact sheet summarizes the risk of leukemia among workers in the Occupational Disease Surveillance System (ODSS) based on diagnoses identified in the Ontario Cancer Registry (OCR) from 1983 to 2019. Workers in each occupation group are compared to all other workers in the ODSS. This study also explored risks among the four major types of leukemia, including acute myeloid leukemia (AML), chronic myeloid leukemia (CML), acute lymphoblastic leukemia (ALL), and chronic lymphocytic leukemia (CLL). These findings, and additional details related to this study, can be found in our recent publication.

View the publication: mdpi.com/1660-4601/21/8/981

