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Reproductive Epidemiology of Aluminium Foundry Workers

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ABSTRACT 160 non-smoking male workers engaged in the production of aluminium alloys were studied for their reproductive performance. The reproductive parameters studied included number of pregnancies, stillbirths, abortions in their wives and number of neonatal deaths, premature births, congenital abnormalities in their offspring. For comparison, 150 controls belonging to the same age group and socio-economic status and with no occupational exposure to any known physical or chemical agent were also studied. A significant increase in the percentage of abortions, congenital defects and a significant decrease in the percentage of livebirths were observed in the exposed group when compared with the control group. This could be due to occupational exposure to fumes of aluminium at the workplace.

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