

BRENT Robert 18 April 2012

Comment on The Claus Paper

Dear Dr. Roberts, Remember that a case control study that is positive is a statistical association. But since radiation at high exposures have been definitely been responsible for an increased risk of cancer you cannot say that the study should not have been performed. On the other hand since 1990 Ct scans of the head have increased exponentially and the National Cancer Inst has not reported an increase in the incidence of brain tumors and the dose of the CT scan is much greater than dental x-rays. Another concern about this report is why would only meningiomas be increased. Radiation would not have any specificity for producing this brain tumor and not affecting the incidence of other brain tumors. While the authors are correct that exposures have decreased over time, the exposures 30 to 40 years ago were still very low and would not be expected to double the incidence of meningiomas. The atomic bomb data concludes that 1 Gray (100 rads ) increased the risk of cancer 5%. 100 mrad, using this figure would increase the risk 0.005%. You would need >100,000 people in the study to demonstrate this risk. This paper should have never been published without a great deal of re-writing.

Warm regard, Bob Brent

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