

31st October, 1958.

Dear Bradford Hill,

~~Dear~~ What a stuffy letter! I thought I had given the impression that you were rather honest, though mistaken. However, if you are willing to give the data on which the results in the B.M.J. September 30th 1950 were based, I am sure it will remove any impression of concealment.

On page 743, Table VI gives the distribution by amount smoked daily of lung-carcinoma patients (647 males and 41 females) in contrast to control patients (622 males and 28 females). On page 744 under 'Inhaling' you give that of the 688 lung-carcinoma patients 61.6% said they inhaled, and of 650 patients with other diseases 67.2% were inhalers. These, of course, include both males and females at all levels of tobacco consumption. What is wanted, and what I asked for nearly a year ago, is the breakdown showing how many of each entry in Table VI declared themselves to be inhalers.

Without this breakdown there is no valid test of significance for the effects of inhaling, and I suppose that given on page 744 refers to the gross proportions, with men and women at all levels of smoking thrown together. I cannot think that you suppose this to supply an adequate test.

Sincerely yours,

*Donald A. Fisher*

Prof. A. Bradford Hill, C.B.E., F.R.S.