

Appendix Table 1. Characteristics of study designs included in the review

Study name, first author, year and reference	Country	Birth cohorts	Age at baseline exam and follow-up period	Sample Characteristics	Childhood SEP indicators and when were ascertained	Adult SEP	Cancer Outcomes ^a
Collaborative Study Davey Smith (1997;1998) [39,36], Hart (2003) [32], Heslop (2001) [27], Metcalfe (2005) [49]	Scotland	1906-1938	35-64 years at baseline (1970-1973) Mortality follow-up: 21 to 25 years (most recent publication)	Men and women Sample selected from 27 workplaces N=5,766	<i>Adulthood</i> Father's occupation, number of siblings	Own occupation, area deprivation from census (men and women), car driver (men)	All cancer, stomach cancer, lung cancer, smoking-related cancer, other cancers mortality.
Boyd Orr Cohort Frankel (1998) [29], Dedman (2001) [30] Frijters (2010) [33]	England & Scotland	1928-1933 1937-39	6-9 years at baseline exam in 1937-1939 Mortality follow-up: from 1948 to 1997/1998 Children in Boyd Orr Cohort followed until 2005.	Men and women Sample of families living in deprived areas (low childhood SEP) N=4,301 Men and women. N=4460	<i>Childhood</i> Father's occupation, housing conditions (crowding, tapped water, toilet facilities, ventilation, cleanliness) <i>Childhood</i> Father's occupation, housing conditions (crowding, tapped water, toilet facilities, ventilation, cleanliness), household income.	Townsend index of area of residence	Lung cancer, cancer not related to smoking mortality. Life expectancy. Smoking and non-smoking related cancers, heart disease, other causes.

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Glasgow Alumni Cohort Davey Smith (2001) [38] Galobardes (2006) [14]	Scotland	1920-1952	Baseline at 20 (average) attending university between 1948-1968 Mortality follow-up until 1998 and 2005	Men Sample of Glasgow Alumni students (high young-adulthood SEP) N=11,755	<i>Young adulthood</i> Father's occupation		All cancer, lung, stomach, prostate, and colon cancer mortality.
Mothers of the 1958 Birth Cohort Power (2005) [12]	UK	1929-1938	14 to 49 years of age in 1958, 45 years mortality follow-up	Women (n=15,076) Mothers of the 1958 birth cohort	<i>Adulthood:</i> Father's occupation at time of leaving school	Husband's occupation as 1958	Lung, stomach, and breast cancer mortality.
Cohort from Finland Pensola (2003) [24]	Finland	1956-1960	Age 30-34 at baseline (1990) Linked to previous censuses in 1970, 1975, 1980, 1985 Mortality follow-up until 1998	Men and women Population based Men=112,735	<i>Childhood</i> Head household occupation, single parent family, number siblings	Own occupation for men, and husband's occupation for housewives, (education)	All cancer mortality.

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Oslo Mortality Study Claussen (2003) [21], Naess (2004;2007) [11,23]	Norway	1940-1959	Aged 31-50 (or 54) at baseline (1960), mortality follow-up from 1990 to 1994(48) Aged 30-54 at baseline (1960), mortality follow-up from 1990 to 1998(56)	Men and women Population based N=128,723 Men N=55,761	<i>Childhood</i> Housing score with dwelling type, rooms per household capita, dwelling ownership, telephone, toilet, bath	Household income and conditions	Smoking-related cancer, non-smoking related cancers, large bowel and rectum cancer, lung cancer, malignant melanoma mortality.
All Norwegians born 1940-1960 Naess 2007 [40] born 1955-1965 Strand (2007) [37]	Norway	1940-1960, 1955-1965	Aged 0-20 years at baseline in 1970. Mortality follow-up from 1990-2001	Men and women (n=795,324) Birth cohort of children of households with both parents (94.7% of all children) living in Norway in 1960.	Childhood Occupational class in 1960 ⁴ Mother and father's education, father's occupation and family income (1970 census) ²	Household income (1990 census)	All cancer, lung, stomach, large bowel and rectum, pancreatic, prostate, breast, ovary and cervix cancer mortality.

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Uppsala University Hospital Ekblom (1996) [26]	Sweden	1874-1946	Singletons born in Uppsala University Hospital Follow-up for prostate cancer mortality until 1994	Men N=941 <i>Case-control</i>	<i>Childhood</i> Maternal socio-economic status (indicators are not specified)		Prostate cancer <i>incidence & mortality</i>
All Swedish born 1944-1960 Lawlor (2006) [22]	Sweden	1944-1960	Birth cohort alive and in Sweden in 1970 with baseline in 1960 (0-16 years of age). Mortality follow-up until 2001	Men and women (n=1,824,064)	Childhood; Head of the household's occupation (census 1960)	Latest occupational group available (1970, 1980, 1990 census)	All cancers, stomach, liver, pancreatic and lung cancer mortality.
Danish Adoptees' study Osler (2006) [25]	Denmark	1924-1947	Birth cohort of adopted children, follow-up for mortality from 1969 to 1998	12,608 adopted children (5,954 males and 6,654 females)	Childhood: Own and adoptive father's occupation, adoptive family income at adoption time obtained from the adoption register	Current or latest occupation (median age of 34.5 years)	All cancer mortality.
Gazel cohort Melchior (2006) [10]	France	1939-1949 men, -1954 women	Men aged 40-50 and women aged 35-50 in 1989. Follow-up until end 2001	Men and women Occupational cohort of employees of the national gas and electricity company	Adulthood: Father's occupation	Occupation at age 35-50 from company records	Smoking-related cancer, non-smoking-related cancer mortality.

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De Kok (2008) [31]	Netherlands	1991	Cohort – mailed survey, 70.1% response rate; Eindhoven Cancer Registry	Men and women N= 12,978	Father’s occupational class by Erikson et al.	Respondent education and occupation.	Cancer <i>incidence</i> : lung, breast, colorectal, prostate, basal cell.
Pudrovska (2012) [28]	U.S.	1957	Baseline in high school	Men and women N= 10,317	Father and mother’s education level, father’s occupation	Woman’s education	Breast cancer <i>incidence</i> and mortality

a: All outcomes may not be reported in all publications from a particular study.