An examination, with a meta-analysis, of studies of childhood leukaemia in relation to population mixing

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Upon publication of the above recent paper in *British Journal of Cancer*, the author noticed an error in Figure 1 which had the effect of slightly underestimating the overall effect of rural population mixing at ages 0–4 years. The relative risk (RR) for the highest exposure category in the study of military concentrations

(study number 11) was given as 1.64 (1.28–2.07), whereas this should have been 1.92 (1.39–2.59). This change increases the overall RR from 1.72 (1.54–1.92) to 1.76 (1.57–1.97).

In addition, a footnote was omitted to indicate that the data given for ages 0–14 years for study number 12 (growth census tracts) in fact referred to ages 0–4 years, as data for 0–14 years were not provided. A revised Figure 1 is shown below.

The author apologises for the error and omission in the paper.

Figure 1. Marked rural population mixing and childhood leukaemia. *Acute lymphocytic leukaemia; [†]includes NHL; **lymphocytic and unspecified leukaemia; [#]ages 0–24; [‡]data for 0–4 not available, instead, study 5 refers to 2–6 years, study 7 to 1–6 years, and study 8 to 1–4 years; [@]refers to 0–4 years, as data were not available for 0–14 years. CI = confidence interval; E–W = England and Wales; RR = relative risk. + RR and CI given to one decimal place. Key: 1. Kinlen *et al* (1990); 2 and 3. Kinlen *et al* (1995); 4. Dockerty *et al* (1996); 5. Alexander *et al* (1997, and personal communication); 6. Kinlen and Balkwill (2001); 7. Boutou *et al* (2002); 8. Kinlen (2006); 9. COMARE (1996); 10. Todd (2004, personal communication); US Bureau of Census; 11. Kinlen and Hudson (1991); 12. Rodrigues *et al* (1991); 13. Kinlen *et al* (1993); 14. Laplanche and de Vathaire (1994); 15. Kinlen and John (1994); and 16. Koushik *et al* (2001); 17. Wartenberg *et al* (2004).