Erratum to: The human bitumen study hits the headlines

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Unfortunately, the original publication of this editorial article contains an error in Table 1. The text “upper airways” in last sentence of first row under “Key result” should read as “lower airways”. The correct Table 1 is provided below:

The online version of the original article can be found under doi:[10.1007/s00204-012-0959-3](https://doi.org/10.1007/s00204-012-0959-3).

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Table 1 Key messages of the cross-shift design study of bitumen-exposed workers

Key result	Reference
This article summarises the most important findings of the Human Bitumen Study which includes 500 workers from 80 construction sites. The results in a nutshell: Bitumen exposure did not cause genotoxicity but subchronic inflammation of the lower airways	Raulf-Heimsoth et al. (2011a)
Quantification of bitumen-derived matter in aerosols still remains a challenge and differences in sampling and analytical methods should be considered. PAH exposure for mastic asphalt workers was higher compared to construction sites without bitumen application. However, the exposure of coke-oven workers is at least one order of magnitude higher when compared to bitumen workers	Breuer et al. (2011)
Processing temperature of bitumen is critical for exposure. Therefore, reducing the processing temperature represents an efficient protective measure	Spickenheuer et al. (2011)
Urinary levels of PAHs are only of limited value when it comes to the biomonitoring of bitumen-exposed workers, because (1) the PAH content of bitumen is relatively low, (2) cigarette smoking has a strong influence, and (3) additives are increasingly used in asphalt mixtures	Pesch et al. (2011)
Bitumen-exposed workers showed potentially (sub) chronic irritative inflammatory effects in the lower airways	Raulf-Heimsoth et al. (2011b)
DNA adducts and strand breaks in bitumen workers were within the range found in healthy individuals, although slightly higher in exposed workers compared to non-exposed controls. Overall, it is unlikely that bitumen exposure at the workplaces causes DNA damage	Marczynski et al. (2011)
Bitumen exposure did not cause a relevant increase in micronucleus frequencies in peripheral blood lymphocytes of workers	Welge et al. (2011)
The influence of 18 SNPs on urinary PAH metabolites was relatively weak, with the GSTM1 deletion and NAT2- and CYP1A1-associated variants showing borderline significant effects	Rihs et al. (2011)
Mastic asphalt application led to significantly higher bitumen vapour exposure than rolled asphalt application	Raulf-Heimsoth et al. (2011c)