

Methods continued

RHODES TEST GROUP

- 200 volunteers - complete a brief questionnaire and donate 50ml blood at baseline
- Males 30-45, 45-60, 60+
- Females 45-60, 60+
- Collect another 50ml of blood from same people at 2 years and 5 years.

Methods continued

CONTROL GROUP

- 1100 volunteers from Red Cross Blood Bank (Clarence St) - complete a brief questionnaire and donate 5ml blood at baseline.
- Matched to test group by age and sex.
- Exclude postcodes 2138 and 2114.
- Collect another 5ml of blood from same people at 2 years and 5 years.

Dioxin analysis

- All blood samples frozen and stored
- Blood samples pooled at the end of the study
- Analysis of pooled samples dioxin levels performed

What results can we expect?

- We expect to see dioxin levels in these age groups to be quite stable, or to increase slightly over time.
- What we look for is if these levels increase at a rate greater than that seen in the control group.

Limitations:

- There are many.
- The study will not provide individual results.
- The study does not measure any health effects.
- The study cannot provide results until after the remediation has occurred.
- Dependant on adequate numbers of participants.
- Dependant on funding.

More information?

- Newsletter is available at:
www.health.nsw.gov.au
- Cancer study report is currently under peer review - will be available in early 2004
- Serum survey should commence in early 2004.
- Any questions/comments or to register interest in serum survey ph:9816 0244