DISCUSSION

**Fact:** Firefighters have a 9% greater risk of being diagnosed with cancer than the general public and a 14% higher risk of dying from occupational cancer than the general public. Multiple scientific studies have repeatedly proven that higher rates of numerous types of cancers occur in firefighters compared to the general American population.

Exposures can subsequently have both short and long-term negative health impacts.

**Key Points:** Studies demonstrate further evidence that firefighters are at increased risk of certain types of cancer as a result of occupational exposure.

**Action:** Prevention is key both on the fireground and in the fire station, as well as personally with our health.

Take the needed actions to protect yourself and reduce your exposures.

Cancer is the most dangerous under-recognized threat to the health and safety to our nation’s firefighters. It is the #1 cause of firefighter line of duty deaths.

Many scientific studies have repeatedly proven that numerous types of cancers occur in firefighters at higher rate compared to the general population.

Exposures can have both short and long-term negative health impacts.

**Key Studies:**

- NIOSH Study
- LeMasters Meta-Analysis
- Nordic Study
- Jalilian Meta-Analysis

Multiple studies have demonstrated credible evidence and biologic credibility for statistically higher rates of cancer in firefighters than the general public. “While more studies will be helpful and provide more definitive information, we already know enough to take preventative actions to reduce exposure, especially for new firefighters, we now know enough to recommend and require changes.” Dr. Grace LeMasters