

Marks

Question 18 (4 marks)

Investigators gathered data on a group of 100 smokers for a period of 10 years. During this time 12 people in the group developed lung cancer, two died in traffic accidents, and three died of heart attacks. The investigators used this data to state that smoking caused lung cancer.

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Describe how this investigation could be improved.

- Gather data on a more diverse number of smokers.
- Carry out research regarding how long the patients have been smoking and how many cigarettes per day they smoke. This will allow classification into 'light', 'medium' and 'heavy' categories.
- Ensure that the patients do not have inherited disorders such as high susceptibility to disease (heart attacks)
- Gather data on smokers of varying age.