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Abstract. The purpose of this study was to determine whether there were differences in the prevalence of risk factors for coronary artery disease between two groups of men who had been exposed to asbestos. One group consisted of 60 men who had worked in an asbestos vermiculite mine in Quebec, Canada, and the other group consisted of 60 men who had worked in a vermiculite mine in Ontario, Canada. Both mines had produced vermiculite ore contaminated with asbestos fibers. The prevalence of risk factors for coronary artery disease was determined by means of a questionnaire and physical examination. The results showed that the prevalence of risk factors for coronary artery disease was significantly higher in the Quebec group than in the Ontario group. This finding suggests that exposure to asbestos may be associated with an increased risk of developing coronary artery disease.

