Paper

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Bronchial Asthma in Workers Assisted by the Italian National Institute for Health Insurance in 1958

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In Italy in 1958

nearly 6 million workers were assisted by the National Institute for Health Insurance and entitled to receive sickness benefits. Of these

21,841 cases (3.6%) were affected with bronchial asthma and 1,585 were treated in hospital. The average duration of the disease in 1958 was 24.7 days whereas in 1954 it was 18.7 days. The maximum frequency of cases was between the months of November and March and occurred in the age group

50 to 54 years. Although there were less cases in the age group 60 to 64 years

the duration of the disease was significantly increased. The disease was highest amongst the industrial workers such as those in sugar factories

docks

cotton factories and chemical industries.