THREE AUTHORS REPLY

We appreciate the comments by Eluf-Neto (1) on our paper (2). We agree that nondifferential misclassification rather than confounding should be regarded as the main explanation for the effect we find on the risk estimates, and this was the main message of our paper. We also evaluated the quality of interview as a potential confounding variable, because we had a slightly higher proportion of “short” interviews (interview of critical items that was done when the subjects indicated that they could dedicate only a limited amount of time to the study) among cases. We did not suggest that quality of interview should be regarded as a confounder but, given that there are very few papers on this topic, we simply evaluated different explanations.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Conflict of interest: none declared.

REFERENCES

Cristina M. Villanueva1,2,3, Debra T. Silverman4, and Manolis Kogevinas1,2,3,5 (e-mail: cvillanueva@creal.cat)

1 Centre for Research in Environmental Epidemiology (CREAL), 08003 Barcelona, Spain
2 Municipal Institute of Medical Research (IMIM-Hospital del Mar), 08003 Barcelona, Spain
3 CIBER Epidemiologı´a y Salud Pública (CIBERESP), 08003 Barcelona, Spain
4 Occupational and Environmental Epidemiology Branch, Division of Cancer Epidemiology and Genetics, National Cancer Institute, Bethesda, MD 20892-7335
5 National School of Public Health, 11521 Athens, Greece

DOI: 10.1093/aje/kwp286; Advance Access publication September 15, 2009