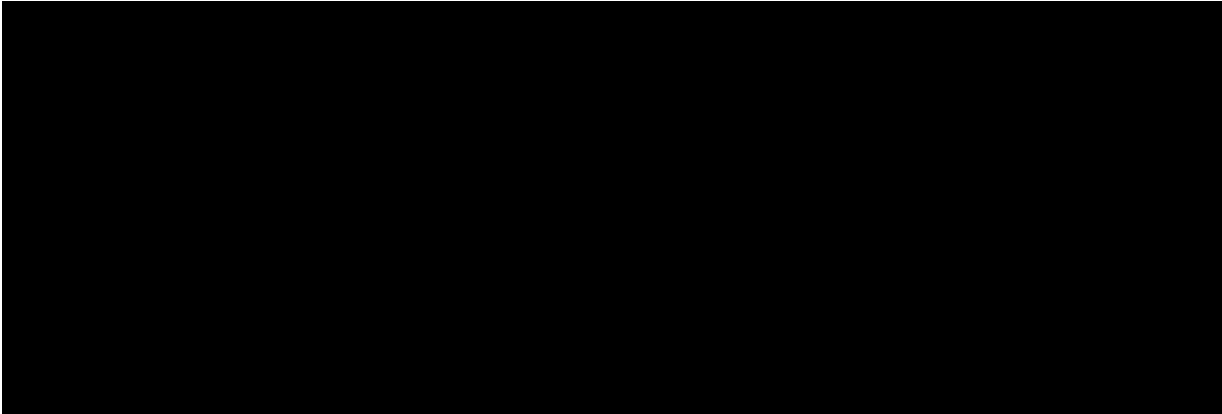


RIDING IN A JET GIVES YOU MORE CANCER AND MORE EXPLODING LITHIUM ION BATTERIES



**Flight att
risk of all
study**



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Flight att
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study

range of **cancers** compared to the general population, a major study of cabin crew has found.

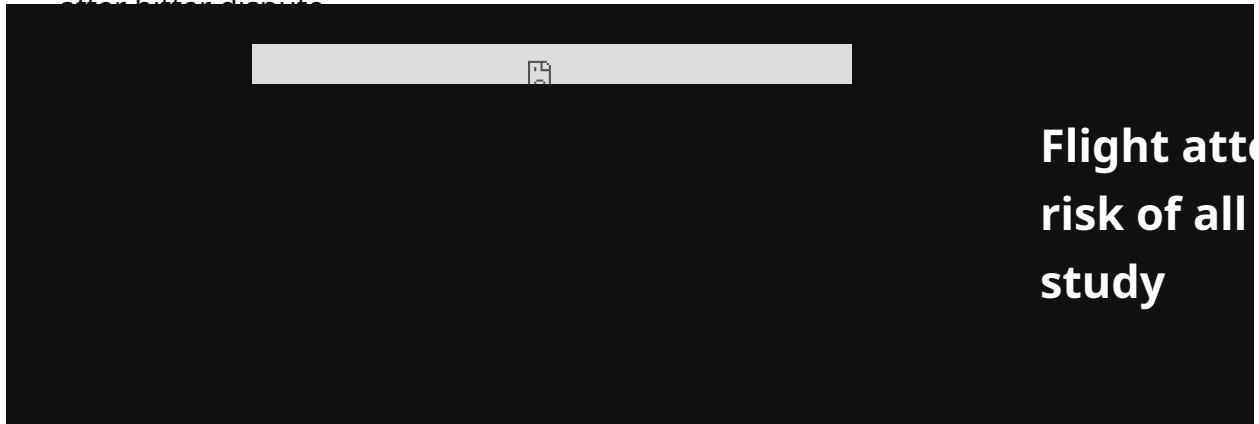
Researchers followed more than 5,000 crew and found that their risk of **breast cancer** increased more than 50 per cent, while risks of stomach cancers are raised by as much as 74 per cent.

The study cannot prove what causes this increase, but the authors said increased exposure to ionising radiation from time spent in the thinner upper atmosphere as well as disrupted sleep and meal cycles could be factors.

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study

rate of every cancer
outcome it looked at when
age was standardised.

“We report a higher lifetime
prevalence of breast,
melanoma and non-
melanoma skin cancers
among flight crew relative
to the general population,”
said Dr Irina Mordukhovich
of the Harvard TH Chan
School of Public Health.

“This is striking given the
low rates of overweight and
smoking in this
occupational group.”

The increased cancer risk
was seen in breast (3.4 per
cent of flight crew

compared to 2.3 per cent in the general population).



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They also found that risk of non-melanoma skin cancers rose with every five years spent in the job.

Flight attendants are exposed to multiple known and probable **carcinogens** in the cabin environment. These include altitude-based

radiation, disruption to the
body clock through

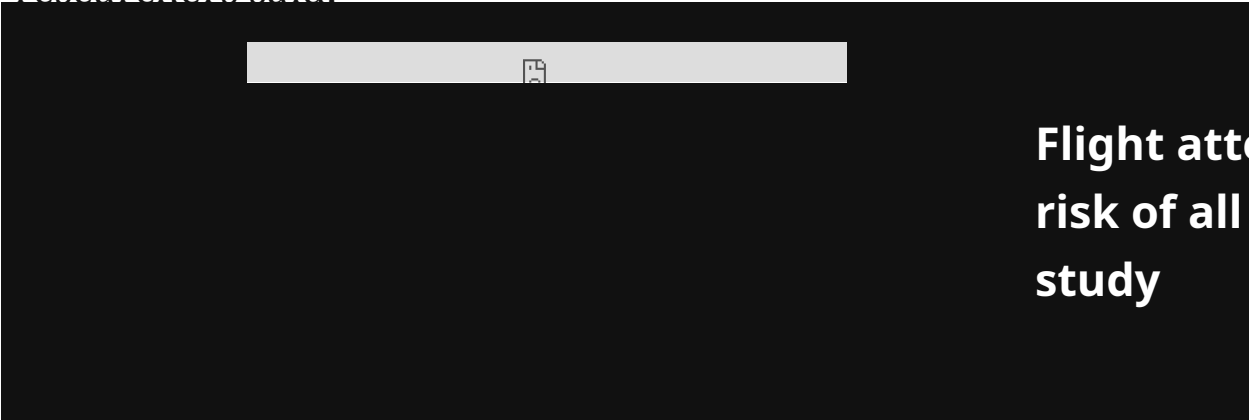
**Flight attendants
at risk of all
study**

Radiation exposure of any
job, including those in **the
nuclear industry**, but this
exposure is not required to
be routinely monitored as
in other sectors.

Many flight attendants were
also exposed to high levels
of secondhand tobacco
smoke before in-flight
smoking bans were
implemented.

Job tenure did not appear to
be associated with breast
cancer, thyroid cancer or
melanoma in all women,
but it was associated with
higher risk of breast cancer
in women who never had
children and women who

had three or more children, researchers said.



role.

The study of 5,366 attendants working on domestic and international flights in the US did not examine the health impact of frequent flying among airline passengers.

Authors said the findings suggested additional efforts should be made to minimise the risk of cancer among flight attendants, including monitoring radiation dose and organising schedules.

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