



There is an open pathway from solid fuel to lung cancer via the common effect “hospitalisation”. As such we cannot infer that the observed association between solid fuel and lung cancer is a causal estimate.

Solid fuel use may also cause heart disease admissions or asthma admissions.

*Such a collider would, on average, attenuate the association between solid fuel use and lung cancer*

There is an open pathway from solid fuel to lung cancer via the common source “rural” geography. As such we cannot infer that the observed association between solid fuel and lung cancer is an accurate causal estimate.

People living in rural areas may have more access to solid fuels such as wood, thereby increasing the use of solid fuels. There may also be better outdoor air quality in rural areas due to less traffic and industry, which may cause less lung cancer. *Such a confounder would, on average, attenuate the association between solid fuel use and lung cancer.*