



# ASBESTOS IN THE AMERICAS

## Mesothelioma mortality in Argentina 1990 - 2010

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# **Asbestos in Argentina – current status**

# Key facts



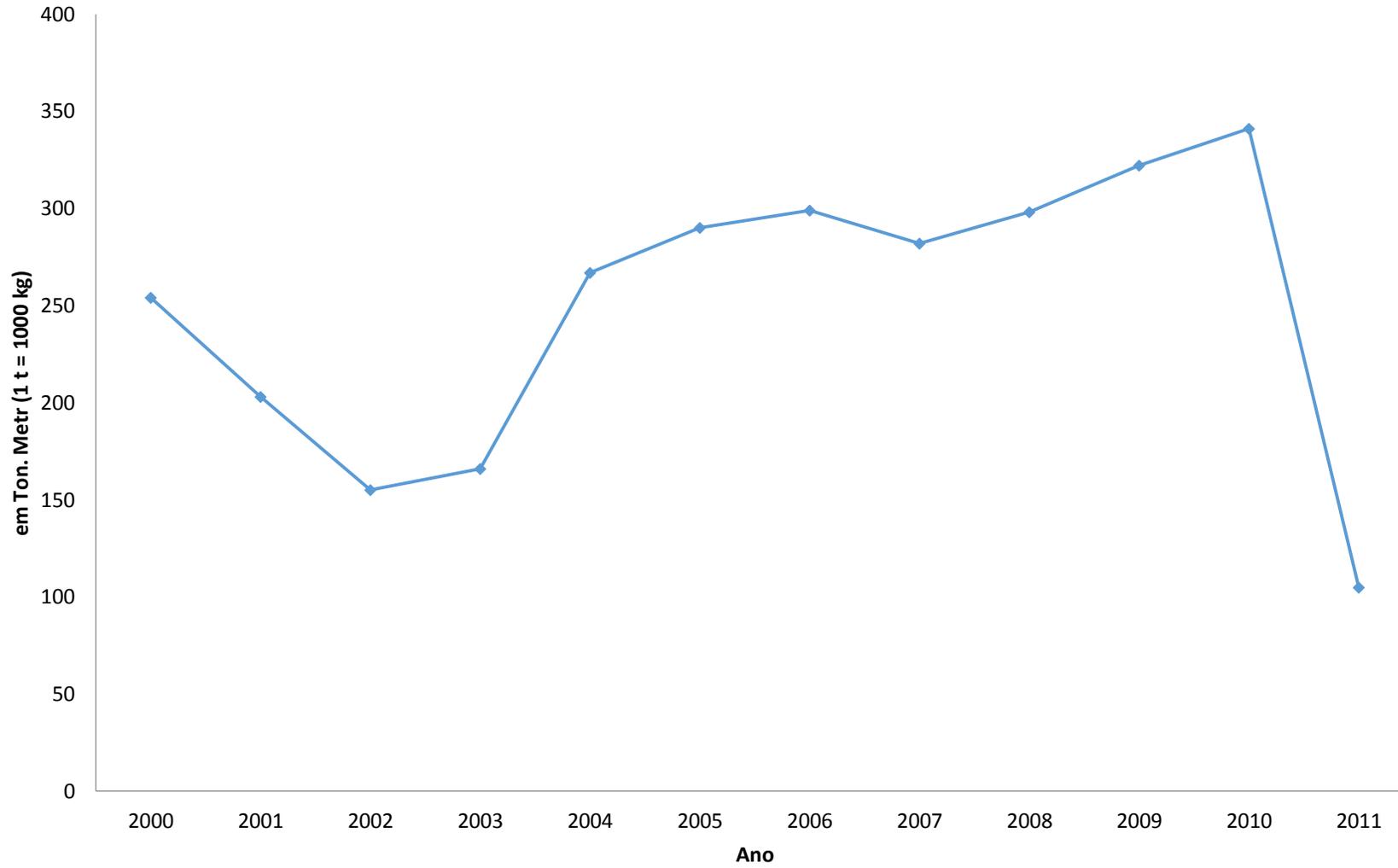
- 40 million inhabitants
- Economically active population: 18.483.198 workers
- Only 8.938.969 (48%) covered by the social insurance system
- OHS is mostly in charge of private sector
- Difficult to get OHS data for research



- Asbestos was ban in 2001 (Resolution N. 845)
- Little is known about asbestos use and trade or its health effects in Argentina
- Only 6 articles with specific information of Argentina published (PubMed, SciELO, MEDLINE, LILACS, Redalyc)

***Still....***

# Production of asbestos in Argentina (Metric tons), 2000-2011



<http://minerals.usgs.gov/minerals/pubs/country/sa.html#ar>

U.S. Mineral Year book, Argentina.

# Therefore ...

- Occupational and environmental exposure to asbestos would be declining in the future
- But cases of mesothelioma will continue to occur for many years ahead
- Health care need to be provided to them – early diagnoses, treatment and rehabilitation

## ***It would be valuable to know***

...the extent of the mesothelioma problem in Argentina and projections of incidence for the years ahead

# Study objective (preliminary phase)

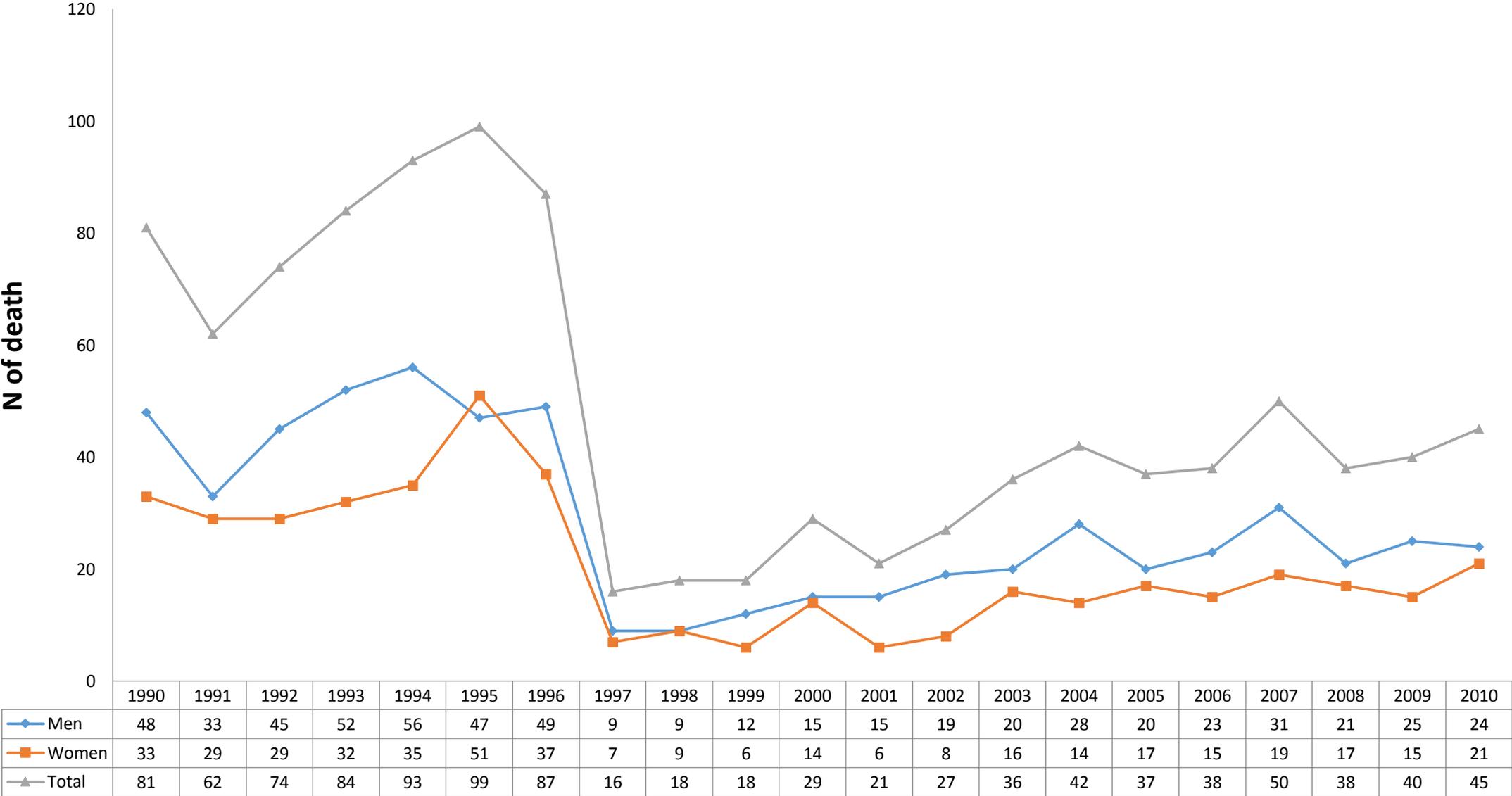
- To estimate the number of mesothelioma deaths
- Estimate mesothelioma proportionate mortality
- From 1990 to 2010 in Argentina

# Methods

- Death certificates from the national Mortality Database
- Mesothelioma :
  - Malignant neoplasm of the pleura (163, ICD9)
  - Pneumoconiosis due to asbestos and other mineral fibers (J61, ICD9)
  - Mesothelioma of the pleura (C45.0, ICD10)
- No occupation or trade data were available

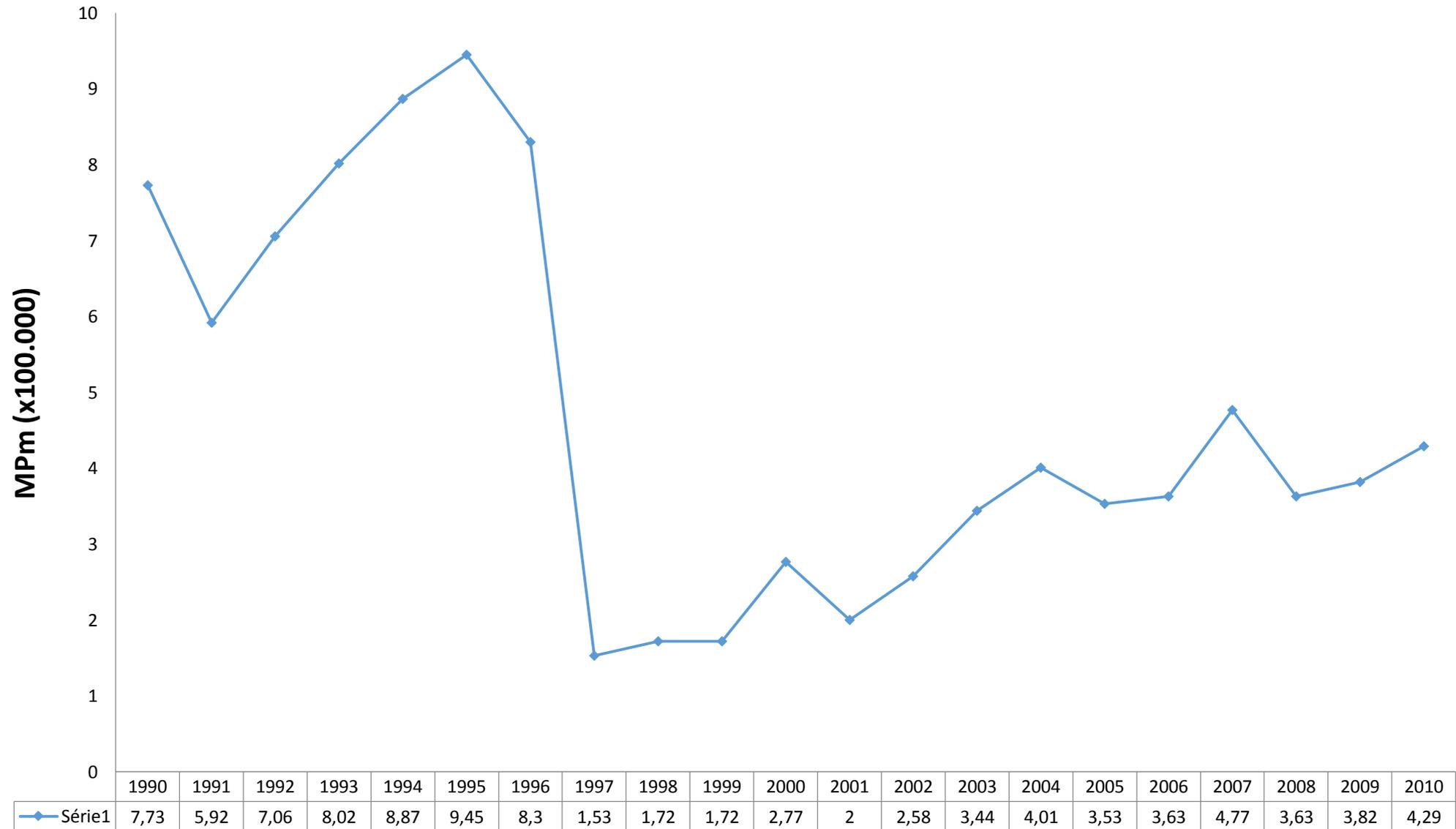
# Results

# Number of mesothelioma deaths by sex, 1990-2010, Argentina



- 1,048 of mesothelioma deaths were recorded
- Varies from n=99 (1995) to n=16 (1997)
- Increasing trend of death number over the study time (44,0%)
- A significant fall was identified in the notification of death mesothelioma from 87 deaths in 1998 to 16 in 1997
- 1997: specific ICD code for mesothelioma was officially adopted.

# Mesothelioma mortality (x100.000). Period 1997-2010. Argentina

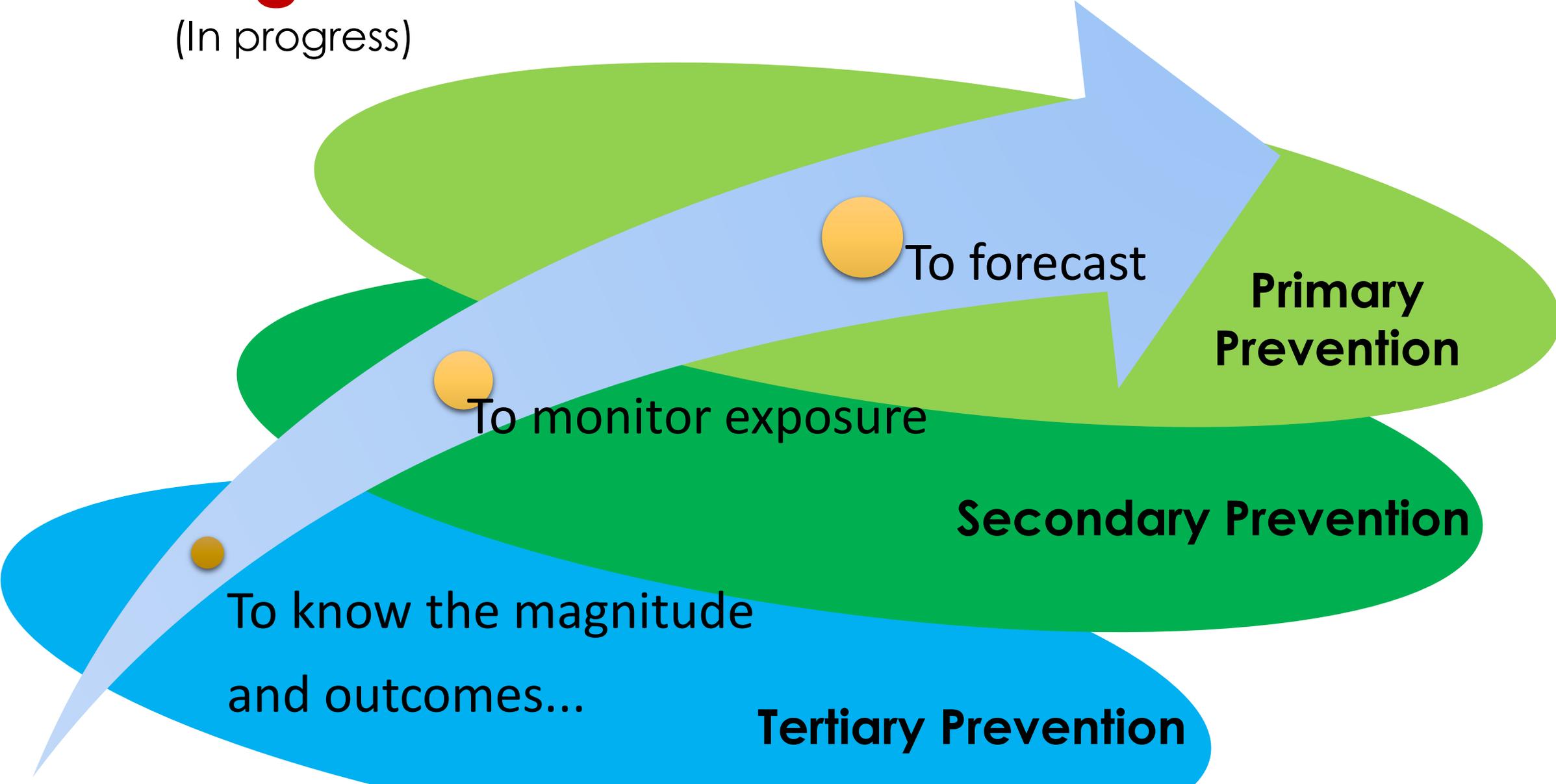


**Concluding remarks**

- The number of mesothelioma deaths is growing and it is plausible to continue to increase given its long latency period
- Argentina needs to develop a OHS national surveillance system capable
  - to monitor hazards in workplace and
  - Work-related health outcomes
- Useful for global and local policies

# Challenges...

(In progress)



To forecast

**Primary Prevention**

To monitor exposure

**Secondary Prevention**

To know the magnitude and outcomes...

**Tertiary Prevention**

Thank you for your kind  
attention!

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