

Marks

Question 18 (4 marks)

Investigators gathered data on a group of 100 smokers for a period of 10 years. During this time 12 people in the group developed lung cancer, two died in traffic accidents, and three died of heart attacks. The investigators used this data to state that smoking caused lung cancer.

4

Describe how this investigation could be improved.

the group could have been divided into separate age groups or all 100 people within the same age bracket eg: ~~24-44~~ eg: 24-34

The background (ethnicity) of people in these group should be noted. As well as the distribution of male and female participants.

The lifestyle and environment of these people also needs to be considered.

Regular screening of these people may be appropriate (every 5 yrs). ~~As well as~~ The family background (history - in the case of heredity susceptibility) may need to be established for each person.