

Asbestos Blamed for Increase in Ovary Cancer

By GEORGE GETZE

Special to The Inquirer

And Los Angeles Times

SAN DIEGO, March 27.—Asbestos, a common material in modern industry, has been indicted as a possible culprit in the dramatic increase of ovarian cancer during the last 100 years.

Suspected since 1963 of being involved in the rise of lung cancer, its implication in cancer of the ovaries, however, is relatively new.

Doctors associating asbestos with both ovarian and lung cancer noted that use of the material has increased a thousand times since the turn of the century.

And delegates attending an American Cancer Society seminar here were told Wednesday that asbestos gets into the air from:

Cars' brake linings, air conditioning systems in which it is used for filtering, insulating material, used for heating ducts and wiring, plastic floor tile and many other common uses.

"It is ubiquitous in our environment," said Dr. John B. Graham of the Roswell Park Memorial Institute, State University of New York at Buffalo. "And it is virtually indestructible."

During a speech, Dr. Graham, noted the serious and growing problem of cancer of the ovary,

by pointing out it now ranks

third in cancer deaths among Dr. W. A. D. Anderson, of the University of Miami, who

Even more remarkable, he said an increased incidence of

added, is the fact that it has lung cancer among asbestos workers was noticed years ago, reported that asbestos fibers have been found in the lungs of 31 percent of men and 20 percent of the women in a

study done in Miami. In other cities, he said, the percentages are even higher.

He thinks it may affect cancers other than lung cancers, such as ovarian cancer, because it is absorbed into the digestive and circulatory systems as well as by respiratory organs.

He pointed the accusing finger at asbestos, although he said According to Dr. Graham,

although asbestos particles have not actually been found in ovarian tumors, they have been found in the surrounding tissues.

PLAINTIFF'S
EXHIBIT
CT-17