

FILE NAME: ALCOA (ALC)

DATE: 1955 Sept

DOC#: ALC037

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION: Abstract – Journal Article – Industrial
Hygiene Digest

IN RE: ABRAMS
November 1992



RU00-0016164

Industrial Hygiene Digest

INDUSTRIAL HEALTH NEWS

LITERATURE ABSTRACTS

MEDICAL

ENGINEERING

CHEMICAL

TOXICOLOGICAL

LEGAL ... decisions and trends

SEPTEMBER, 1955

(Vol. 19, No. 9)

INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE FOUNDATION

MELLON INSTITUTE

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the common aspects of tuberculosis were seen instead of the features characteristic of silicotuberculosis. It is suggested that the term "tuberculosilicosis" be used for such patients. Active tuberculosis was found in eight patients with stage 3 silicosis, but most of the patients in that stage did not show signs of tuberculosis or other infection. The authors conclude that the transition from the nodular to the massive stage can take place without the superimposition of infection.

-- Cond. from J. Am. Med. Assn.

1992

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ABRAMS

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HWBB-0016202

113 Mortality from Lung Cancer in Asbestos Workers. R. Doll. Brit. J. Ind. Med. 12, 81-86 (Apr. 1955).

In necropsies of 105 persons who had been employed at an asbestos works, lung cancer was found in 18 instances. In 15 cases asbestosis was also found. These 15 workers were employed at least nine years before 1923, when dust control regulations became effective. An additional 113 men who had been exposed to asbestos dust for 20 years were followed up and their mortality was compared with that of the whole male population. Thirty-nine deaths occurred in the group whereas 15.4 were expected. The excess was entirely due to excess deaths from lung cancer (11 against 0.8 expected) and from other respiratory and cardiovascular diseases (22 against 7.6 expected). All the cases of lung cancer were confirmed histologically and all were associated with asbestosis. From the data it is concluded that lung cancer is a specific hazard of asbestos workers and that the average risk among men employed for 20 years or more has been of the order of ten times that experienced by the general population. The risk has become progressively less as the duration of employment under the old dusty conditions has decreased.-- Cond. from author's summary

114 Primary Lung Cancer in South Wales Coal Workers with Pneumoconiosis. W. R. L. James. Brit. J. Ind. Med. 12, 87-91 (Apr. 1955).

Primary lung cancer was found at necropsy in 3.3% of 1,827 South Wales coal miners and in 5.4% of 1,531 South Wales non-miners. In 12 cases with massive pneumoconiosis the tumor was in the mass, or touching it, in five. In the other seven the tumor was remote. Lung cancer in South Wales miners is similar to that in non-miners with respect to the ages at death, the distribution of the histological variants of the tumor, and the distribution of metastases. The significance of these findings is discussed. Attention is drawn to the difficulty of diagnosing lung cancer in the presence of massive pneumoconiosis.

-- Author's summary

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