

Johnson & Johnson
BABY PRODUCTS COMPANY

RARITAN, N.J. 02869

March 30, 1977

TO: Distribution

SUBJECT: WINDSOR REVIEW OF VERMONT MORTALITY STUDY

A meeting was held in Dr. Hildick-Smith's office on March 22nd to discuss additional background information which had been researched by Mr. Miller with regards to the Vermont Mortality Study. In attendance were:

F. A. Bolden	R. N. Miller
G. Hildick-Smith	J. Rafter
G. Lee	V. Zeitz

1. Mr. Miller presented data which was outlined in the tables distributed by G. Lee on March 25th. These were highlighted by the following facts:
 - (a) some workers' exposures were received in mines which are no longer operating.
 - (b) five of the 94 decedents were never X-rayed according to the State of Vermont health records.
 - (c) State of Vermont X-ray frequencies were very low and examinations were incomplete.
 - (d) the number eligible in the cohort was probably closer to 709, far greater than the 405 studied.
 - (e) a large proportion of the cohort worked for only a year.
 - (f) Vermont Mineral Products Company was included, but we don't know what they mined.
 - (g) there were no influenza and pneumonia deaths recorded in the cohort.
 - (h) X-ray examinations in Vermont were only consistent after 1950.

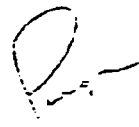
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- (i) the Waterbury mine was closed in 1927.
- (j) the list of deaths attributed to respiratory causes could be strongly challenged on the basis of questionable talc exposures, other dust exposures, high proportion of smokers.

It was decided that these criticisms of the study should be discussed as quickly as possible with our consultants in preparation for the forthcoming meeting with NIOSH.

- 2. Mr. Zeitz outlined his proposed technique for following up the pulmonary changes of the talc worker. He reported that his method of analysis is superior and provides better correlation than the Harvard Regression model. He will be obtaining Vermont non-dust occupation workers' data for comparison. Mr. Zeitz was requested to furnish a paper which could be reviewed statistically and otherwise, for publication.
- 3. The University of Vermont's Morbidity Study proposal was discussed and it was agreed that J&J would not entertain a study over which it had no control or authority. Roger Miller reported that he had undertaken consultancy discussions with the Co-operative Health Information Center.


G. Lee

fh

CC: Attendees
S. P. Falk
D. R. Petterson
B. Semple
E. West