



CHEMICAL MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION

April 10, 1981

Chemical Manufacturers Association

Vinyl Chloride Program Panel Progress Report

As there appears to be no immediate need for a meeting of the Program Panel, I thought a mini-newsletter would be appropriate to keep you apprised of vinyl chloride program activities.

Epidemiology Study Update

CMA is in the process of negotiating a contract with Environmental Health Associates to update the 1978 EEH study of vinyl chloride workers. An updated (March 1981) version of the study protocol is enclosed for your information. There are two items of note: 1) the anticipated cost adjustment for FY '81 was made, and 2) EHA has reverted to the exposure classification scheme described in an earlier proposal in which the focus is on duration of exposure only, rather than estimated level of exposure and duration. As you may recall, the multiplication factor scheme (1 = low, 2 = medium, 3 = high) used in the quantification of exposure in the original study was less than satisfactory and EHA was very reluctant to continue its use.

CMA received financial commitment from twenty companies in support of the epidemiology program. Your company will be invoiced for its share of the cost within the next two weeks. The twenty companies represent approximately 90% of the total U.S. VCM and PVC capacity. A list of the company-designated program panel representatives for this phase of the program is attached.

IBT Settlement

Refund checks are in the mail. If your company supported the IBT vinyl chloride inhalation study, you will be receiving a check for your share of the \$110,000 settlement.

University of Louisville Study

May 15 is the target date for receipt of the third and final report from the study group headed by Dr. Carlo Tamburro, University of Louisville, School of Medicine.

SPAG Presentation

Dr. Torkelson will review the vinyl chloride program with members of the Special Programs Advisory Group on April 21. A word of thanks to those of you who provided comments on the background document that Dr. Torkelson and I prepared for this meeting.

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