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Asbestos linked to disease

NEW YORK (AP) — Asbestos, already linked with lung cancer in insulation workers who smoke, was further linked yesterday with cancers of the esophagus, stomach, colon and rectum.

A substantial number of deaths over what would be expected from these cancers were found in a study of insulation workers in the U.S. and Canada covering the period 1943 through 1971. The report came from Dr. Irving J. Selikoff of the Mount Sinai School of Medicine in New York and Dr. E. Cuyler Hammond and Herbert Seidman of the American Cancer Society.

Their report was presented to a meeting of a working group formed to assess the biological effects of asbestos, at the International Agency for Research on Cancer, World Health Organization, in Lyon, France. It was made available in New York by the American Cancer Society.