FILE NAME: Talc (TALC)

DATE: 1976 Mar 1

DOC#: TALC091

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION: Telephone Call Record between Dr. Shapiro & Dr. Langer, Mt. Sinai

Memorandum for the Record of a Telephone Conversation,

late Monday afternoon, 1 March 1976

between

Dr. R. E. Shapiro
Epidemiology Unit, HFF-103

and

Dr. A. Langer
Mount Sinai School of Medicine
New York, New York

Dr. Langer had just finished speaking with Marion Burros concerning asbestos in talc, and wanted to inform me of the information he had given Ms. Burros.

Dr. Langer had examined twenty brands of talcum powder which were purchased off-the-shelf. These were, admittedly, single grab samples for each of these brands. X-ray diffraction stop-scanning analysis was used and the numbers below represent weight percent. Ten of the twenty samples contained asbestos, ranging from two to twenty percent. Five contained anthophyllite and tremolite (A + T), 3 contained tremolite (T) alone, and two contained anthophyllite (A) alone. The asbestos containing talcum powders are:

Cashmere Bouquet	20%	(A+T)
Baner & Black Baby talc	15%	
Coty Air	11%	
Rosemary	11%	(A+T)
	plus 30%	quartz
ZBT Baby	8%	
Fabregi Brut	5%	
Yardley Invisible	5%	
Yardley Black	3.5%	
English Leather	2%	(A)
Mennen	2%	

Dr. Langer promised to send a letter confirming the information given over the telephone, with some additional details.

Discussing these results, Dr. Langer remarked that if these "grab" samples represent more than a one time occurrence, simple x-ray diffraction analysis should pick up asbestos, at least at the five percent level and above.

I have written Dr. Langer to obtain samples of these talcs for our chemists.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Public Health Service

Food and Drug Administration
College Park, MD 20740

Barry Castleman
P.O. Box 188
Garrett Park, MD 20896

MAY 11 2005

F05-4604

Dear Mr. Castleman:

In response to your request of January 26, 2005 for records/documents from NIEHS on talcum powder products examined for the presence of asbestos.

XX Enclosed are the records you requested.

____We have searched our files and find no responsive information.

____Your request is also being referred to one of our component offices.

____In order to help reduce processing time and costs, certain material has been deleted from the record(s) furnished to you because a preliminary review of the records indicated that the deleted information is not required to be publicly disclosed. If, however, you desire to review the deleted material, please make an additional request at the following address: Food and Drug Administration, Freedom of Information Staff, HFI-35, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20857. Should the Agency then deny this information, you would have the right to appeal such denial. Any letter of denial will explain how to make this appeal.

Charges will be included in a monthly invoice if your request(s) total more than $15.00. If your monthly total is LESS than $15.00, the material is free. Please DO NOT send payment until you receive an invoice for the total monthly fee.

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THE ABOVE TOTAL MAY NOT REFLECT THE FINAL CHARGES FOR THIS REQUEST.

Sincerely yours,

Patricia Ofe

FOI OFFICER
Executive Operations Staff
Center for Food Safety
and Applied Nutrition

Enclosure