

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH COMMITTEE

Minutes of Meeting

Hotel Royal Orleans, New Orleans, La.

November 6, 1969

PRESENT

E. M. Dixon, M. D., Chairman	Celanese Corporation
N. V. Hendricks, Vice Chairman	Standard Oil Company (New Jersey)
E. E. Christofano	Hercules Incorporated
Mac Roy Gasque, M. D.	Olin Corporation
M. N. Johnson, M. D.	Monsanto Company
K. S. Lane, M. D.	Union Carbide Corporation
W. J. Martin, M. D.	Cyanamid of Canada Limited
R. W. McNab	Wyandotte Chemical Corporation
F. L. Oglesby	Tennessee Eastman Company
J. A. Pendergrass	Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing Company
L. Picket (for W. A. McLellan, M.D.)	Gulf Oil Corporation
G. J. Stopps, M. D.	E. I. du Pont de Nemours & Company
T. R. Torkelson	The Dow Chemical Company
J. H. Wolfsie, M. D.	Uniroyal, Inc.
F. G. Stephenson, Secretary	Manufacturing Chemists Association

GUESTS

C. U. Dernehl, M. D.	Union Carbide Corporation
J. P. Turner	Manufacturing Chemists Association

1. Minutes of the April 30, 1969 meeting were approved as distributed.
2. Report of Subcommittee on Acroosteolysis

Dr. Wolfsie reported that discussions had taken place with representatives of four research organizations regarding possible research into the causes of acroosteolysis. The subcommittee favored continued study of the Case Registries at Michigan and also recommended formation of a task group of manufacturers' representatives to develop a standard procedure for use by manufacturers in analyzing the residues in their PVC reactors. Company developed reports on the chemistry of the various residues could be sent to a selected research center for study.

Discussion by the Committee revealed a preference for spending money on

the avoidance of the disease rather than on its cause since it was recognized that companies would be reluctant to supply information which might reveal proprietary production methods and, further, it was believed that because the chemistry of the reactor residues would vary so greatly, no information of value on the cause of the disease would be forthcoming.

The Committee then unanimously resolved not to accept any proposals for additional research into the causes of acroosteolysis at this time but to hold the matter in abeyance for a year or so.

Following further discussion the Committee recommended the following additional activities:

- (a) That the University of Michigan be requested to make a further examination of the data which has been accumulated. This may not involve further expenditures.
- (b) That the case registry and surveillance program be continued at the University of Michigan. This program may cost approximately \$3,000 and should be financed by participating companies.
- (c) That upkeep costs of the monkeys used in the Kettering VCM research program be financed by participating companies.

The subcommittee was asked to continue its study of the project and possibly to submit additional recommendations.

3. Toxicity of Fluorocarbon 113

Dr. Stopps reported that the subcommittee is considering proposals from 10 research organizations. He suggested a further meeting of manufacturers' technical representatives to decide on procedure for financing the project. Following this meeting the subcommittee will visit research organizations whose proposals have indicated a capability to fulfill the research requirements and subsequently make a final selection.

The Committee voted unanimously to support the action of the subcommittee and to reaffirm its recommendation that the research should be undertaken.

4. Legislation

Dr. E. M. Dixon and Mr. E. E. Christofano reported on the MCA testimony before the Select Subcommittee on Labor of the House Committee on Education and Labor on October 9, 1969.

Messrs. Dixon, Christofano and Hendricks were appointed members of a Legislative Subcommittee.

5. Need for trained personnel

Mr. Christofano reported on discussions between the MCA Public Relations Committee and EHAC on the need for action by MCA to encourage persons to undertake training in the environmental sciences. Some surprise was evidenced that the OHC had not been consulted. It was agreed that the Chairman should

address a letter to the Chairmen of the PRC and EHAC expressing the OHC view that there is a need in the chemical industry for additional personnel trained in the environmental health sciences.

6. Toxicity of Monochloroacetic acid

Mr. Christofano discussed a case history of a fatality resulting from exposure to monochloroacetic acid. He agreed to provide a case history for inclusion in the MCA monthly report.

Preparation of a chemical safety data sheet was recommended.

7. Treatment of Hydrofluoric Acid Burns

The Committee agreed to recommend the use of Hyamine in the treatment of HF burns.

A review of the medical management sections for the revised edition of the HF data sheet will be completed by Dr. Gasque.

8. Treatment of Phenol Exposure

The Committee has, in the past, favored the use of water in the treatment of acute exposure to phenol. Dr. Dernehl reported on a request from the Medical Committee of the British CIA to comment on a proposal to use glycerol which would be placed in vats in work areas and be readily available for emergency use.

It was agreed to recommend that the British and U.S. committees discuss the matter further before any official announcement is made.

Messrs. Christofano, Lane and Torkelson were appointed members of a task force to prepare a recommendation for first aid treatment for exposure to phenol.

9. Review of November 5 Workshop

Disappointment was expressed because of the small attendance. Members discussed means of attracting representatives of small companies to future workshops. Perhaps the title should be changed to "Industry Workshop on Chemical Health."

10. A Certificate of Commendation was presented to Dr. C. U. Dernehl for his services as Chairman of the Occupational Health Committee, 1967 - 1969.

11. Next meeting

The next meeting will be held on March 18, 1970 in New York City.

Minutes subject to approval

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