The thermal analyses do not show any behaviour consistent with crystalline chrysotile and this could be because forsterite is present in the wear debris. However, there is insufficient information concerning the behaviour of small particles of either chrysotile or forsterite to be certain of the interpretation of these data.

The elements of the original mineral chrysotile, however, are present in the wear debris. If the health hazard of chrysotile is found to be associated with its chemical behaviour in body tissue rather than with its physical form the implications of these present findings should be considered.

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