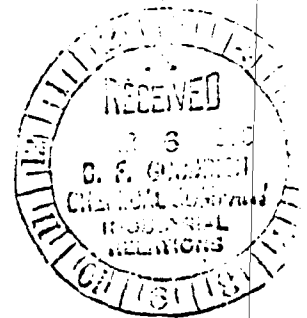


March 3, 1978



G. Rayburn Pruitt
Industrial Relations Manager
B. F. Goodrich Company
P. O. Box 32950
Louisville, Kentucky 40232

Dear Mr. Pruitt,

I thought that our meeting on February 21 was a productive one, and at the suggestion of Dr. Maurice Johnson, I am writing this letter to suggest a further follow-up on our discussions at that meeting.

It appears desirable to get an estimate of the incidence of certain causes of illness at the Louisville plant for as far back as available records go. You showed me some records for 1974, and mentioned the possibility that records for 1973 might be obtainable. The time span covered would therefore be from 1973 or 1974 to 1977, inclusive.

I believe we agreed that all cases of cancer should be enumerated, as well as all cases of heart diseases such as thromboses and embolisms.

The records appear to be in such a form that this can be done relatively quickly. I think about 2 person-weeks of effort should be sufficient.

The person who is assigned to abstracting the records should be someone who is familiar with human physiology and disease terminology. A plant nurse would be an ideal person, and it should be possible for her to do the job on an intermittent basis as time permits. Alternatively, a third year medical student would be acceptable.

I would expect the person who went through the files of medical absences to do the following.

1. Generally, each absence generates a small sheaf of papers which are stapled together, but I believe I found one case in which two different absences were stapled together. Therefore, each sheaf should be examined to make sure that it represents only one episode, and the diagnosis should be read.
2. If the diagnosis is a cancer of any site (including leukemia and the lymphatic cancers) or any circulatory disease (heart, stroke, hypertension, or other circulatory diseases) the following should be recorded.

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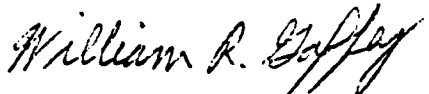
- a. Diagnosis as recorded
- b. Race, if given
- c. Sex
- d. Date of birth
- e. Date of diagnosis if given
- f. Date absence began if date of diagnosis is not given

If this list is then sent to me, I will calculate incidence rates by site for the cancers and by one or two major groupings for the circulatory diseases. I will ascertain as accurately as I can the incidence of these same diseases in the U.S. male population for the same period of time, and compare these with the observed figures for the plant. I will assume that the work force averaged about 1200 persons during the period in question, and that the average age is about 35 to 40 years.

The fee for this analysis, and a letter report of my conclusions, will be \$1500 dollars.

Please call me if there are any additional issues that should be covered, or if any of the above is not clear.

Yours sincerely,



William R. Gaffey, Ph.D.
Senior Epidemiologist
Center for Occupational and
Environmental Safety and Health

WRG:kjb

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