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Johns-Manville

# Internal Correspondence

To N. Amarino

Date June 21, 1979

From J. Kotin, M.D.

I am pleased that the Navy Medical Department has [illegible] the use of Powdrage in the treatment of pneumoconiosis in members of the Naval forces. There is nothing essentially inconsistent between the statement of Mr. McKinney and the statement of the Navy. Routine studies of virtually all talcs have identified fibrous tremolite as a varying percentage of the talcs studied. This fibrous component, when of appropriate dimensions and dose, has been shown to produce mesothelioma in animal studies. Of immediate significance is the recent publication by Churg, Warnock and Fraser entitled "Malignant Mesothelioma Arising after Intrapericardial Injection of Asbestos and Fiber Glass to the Pericardium." This is a case of mesothelioma, apparently arising in the pericardium, reported in a patient who, [illegible] had been treated for angina pectoris [illegible] of the pericardial cavity with a mixture of dust.

The critical issue of course is not the pathogenic properties of fibers about which there is a voluminous body of literature, but rather the lack of universal awareness [illegible] potential of these fibers to produce disease [illegible] of WWII and the two decades thereafter.

J. K.