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Suspect Asbestos A Cancer Source

NEW YORK (AP) — Medical specialists pointed a finger of suspicion Tuesday at asbestos as a cause not only of lung cancer, but also of another extremely rare form of fatal human cancer.

This cancer, known as mesothelioma, involves the lining of the abdominal and chest cavities.

Much of their evidence comes from autopsy studies of men working with asbestos as an insulation material.

But they said it also is possible that dust from products containing asbestos might be exposing people generally to some risk of cancers. How much risk there might be, they said they could not tell.

Asbestos—a mineral—is used not only for insulation but as a flooring material, in auto brake shoes, and in many other applications. Ordinary wear-and-tear, they said, might release dust into the atmosphere.

The report was presented to the American Public Health Assn. by Drs. Irving J. Selikoff and Jacob Churg of the Mount Sinai Hospital, New York, and E. Cuyler Hammond, Sc.D., director of statistical research for the American Cancer Society. Dr. Hammond is known for his studies of cigaret smoking in relationship to lung cancer

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Oct. 6, '64

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PLAINTIFF'S EXHIBIT 80
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