

Representatives of Johnson & Johnson Corporation
New Brunswick, NJ 08903

Dr. W. Masrel, Associate Director of Research
Dr. D. R. Patterson, Vice-President, Research
Dr. B. Sample, Director of Medical and Regulatory Affairs
Dr. W. C. Wegman, Administrator of Medical and
Regulatory Affairs
Mr. G. Lee, Manager of Applied Research
Dr. Gavin Hilditch-Smith, Director of Clinical Research

SUBJECT: General Discussion of the Talc/Asbestos Problem

The meeting was requested by Dr. Masrel for the purpose of introducing representatives of the Research Division of their Baby Products Company who had assumed responsibility for research in the talc/asbestos area and to discuss the results of their participation in related analytical research.

Following introductions Dr. Masrel stated that their statistical group had made an estimation of a theoretical safe level of asbestos fiber in a baby talc utilizing the official FIV for asbestos and the data obtained from their experiment on dusting of baby powder. He further stated that Johnson and Johnson had examined many cosmetic talc samples and had not detected chrysotile at any level. He wondered, therefore, if a health hazard does exist involving the presence of chrysotile in cosmetic talcs

RMF
and

MEMORANDUM OF MEETING
November 6, 1974

BETWEEN: FIA Representatives

- Mr. Robert Schaffner, Associate Director for Technology, HFP-400
- Mr. William Borvitz, Deputy Associate Director for Science, HFP-101
- Mr. Heinz Klemm, Director, Division of Coexistence Technology, HFP-440
- Mr. Raymond Shapiro, HFP-108
- Mr. Kristine Maza, HFP-157
- Mr. Henry Davis, HFP-446

and

since their calculations showed that a substantial safety factor can be expected with talc containing 1% w/w asbestos particles. He wanted to know if FDA had encountered any cosmetic talc containing chrysotile.

Mr. Kienemann indicated that the Division of Cosmetics Technology had carried out a simulated baby dusting experiment and the results seemed to differ from the results of Johnson & Johnson by one order of magnitude. He stated that the Division of Cosmetics Technology can now determine chrysotile by differential thermal analysis at a level of 1%. However, it will be necessary to develop methods of sufficient reliability to determine chrysotile at lower levels before concluding that chrysotile in cosmetic talc is not a potential health hazard. The Division of Cosmetics Technology has not confirmed the presence of chrysotile in cosmetic talcs even though an examination of several of the Lunda samples did indicate either tremolite or chrysotile.

After a general discussion it was mutually agreed to continue the cooperative exchange of ideas in the talc/asbestos area.

Harry M. Davis
November 19, 1971