

Doll's study is that early data indicates that industrial hygiene control of dust exposures will reduce the incidence of lung cancer in asbestos workers.

Dr. deTreville then requested Dr. Gross to provide a detailed description of IHF's Fibrous Dust Research Proposal.

Dr. Gross said that Thomson⁽¹⁾ has found that about 30% of the people that had died in hospitals in Capetown (500 consecutive autopsies) had "asbestos bodies" in the lungs. The same author⁽²⁾ had found a similar prevalence of "asbestos bodies" among the hospital deaths in Miami, Florida. Cauna, Totten and Gross⁽³⁾ examined the lungs of 100 non-selected hospital deaths for which autopsy permission had been obtained and found that 40% of these had "asbestos bodies" in their lungs. Ian Webster⁽⁴⁾ recently reported a 47% prevalence in Johannesburg.

There is, at present, a reasonable doubt that "asbestos bodies" are specific indicators of the inhalation of asbestos fibers. Such bodies have been found in coal miners and talc workers where they have been called

(1) Thomson, J. G., et al. Asbestos as Modern Urban Hazard. S. Afr. Med. J. 37:77-81, 1963.

(2) Thomson, J. G., et al. Asbestos as an Urban Air Contaminant. Arch Pathol. 81:458-464, May 1966.

(3) Cauna, Dzidra; Totten, Robert S.; and Gross, Paul. Asbestos Bodies in Human Lungs at Autopsy. JAMA 192:371-373, May 3, 1965.

(4) Webster, Ian. Report of progress quoted in the Annual Report of the Pneumoconiosis Research Unit of the South African Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, 1965.