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Asbestosis Symposium -
Western Health Conference
San Francisco September 29, 1967

Histology (*Microscopic Studies of Tissue*)

Ferruginous Bodies - Positive Without Known Exposure

San Francisco - 42%
Montreal - 48%
Pittsburgh - 41%

Lung Cancer - Asbestos Workers

2 to 1 for Silicosis Workers

3 to 1 and 6 to 1 for Workers in Insulation

Lower lobe most affected in Asbestosis

Time and Dust concentrations determine

Synergism between Asbestosis and smoking - The smoker has 92 times the chance of lung cancer compared with expected lung cancer among non-smokers.

Average Asbestosis victim has 20 or more years in trade - at least 10 years.

Out of 31,000 cancer deaths only one could be directly attributed to Asbestosis. Many of these cases had never had an occupational exposure.

Carriers or carcinogenic? Asbestosis fibers have been found in routine post mortems showing that a very large percent of the population has asbestos fibers located in their lungs.

Future Methods for Field Sampling Techniques - (See method used by U. S. Public Health Service for enumeration of Asbestos Dust on Membrane Filters).

Reduction of Dust Counts immediately reduces the incidence of

disease. *With Age, Persons who have shown no effects*

Cancer Causation

Asbestos Fibers alone

Something else in dust besides asbestos

Something occurring with asbestos

Asbestos plus process additives

Asbestos plus non-process additives

Relative-corralate well

Look at the specific thing

Reach lower levels

Lower personal samples

Weight methods may become practical with analytical break through - at present the electron counter is best.

Normal finishing and mixing operations of insulation workers expose them to above TVL. TVL should be reduced to between 1-5 million particles per cubic foot of air.

Attention to Asbestos as a basis of material data studies increases rapidly.

Dose response evaluation is needed. Believe to vary in the individual.

Entire public is threatened because asbestos is in forefront of air pollution problem - some say this is - speculation - fantasy - fact. Since people from all over the world have asbestos bodies in their lungs whether they have had an industrial exposure or not and the epidemiological factors are lacking to prove existence, the outstanding question remains unanswered.

Selection of matched controls is impractical. Asbestos in ambient