

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
FOR THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, CENTRAL CIVIL WEST

- - -

FRANK SUNDQUIST and	)	
AMY SUNDQUIST	)	
	)	
Plaintiffs,	)	
	)	
v.	)	No. BC362023
	)	
BP WEST COAST PRODUCTS LLC, a	)	
Delaware corporation; PETRO DIAMOND	)	
INC., a Delaware corporation; PETRO	)	
DIAMOND TERMINAL COMPANY, a	)	
California corporation; UNITED OIL	)	
COMPANY, a Nevada corporation;	)	
CROSBY OIL COMPANY, INC., a	)	
corporation; PILOT TRAVEL CENTERS	)	
LLC, a corporation; SC FUELS, a	)	
California corporation; MANSFIELD	)	
OIL COMPANY, a corporation; SOUTHERN	)	
COUNTIES OIL COMPANY, a California	)	
corporation; and DOES 1 through 200,	)	
inclusive,	)	
	)	
Defendants.	)	
	)	

DEPOSITION OF
DAVID PYATT, Ph.D.
DENVER, COLORADO
September 2, 2009

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	_____	)

Deposition of DAVID PYATT, Ph.D., taken
on behalf of PLAINTIFFS at Embassy Suites,
7001 Yampa Street, Denver, Colorado, commencing at
11:10 a.m., on September 2, 2009, before Pam D.
Buckner, Certified Shorthand Reporter and Notary
Public in and for the State of Colorado.

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I N D E X

WITNESS: DAVID PYATT, Ph.D.

EXAMINATION

PAGE

BY MR. METZGER

6

EXHIBITS

INITIAL REFERENCE

1 Curriculum Vitae

8

2 Declaration of Pyatt

11

in Support of Defendant

Sherwin-Williams Company

3 Declaration of Pyatt

11

in Support of Defendant

PPG Industries, Inc.

4 Section of Occupational

24

Medicine, The Environment

and Disease: Association

or Causation?

1 P R O C E E D I N G S

2 DAVID PYATT, Ph.D.,

3 having first been duly sworn, was
4 examined and testified as follows:

5 EXAMINATION

6 BY MR. METZGER:

7 Q Good morning, Dr. Pyatt. Would you
8 introduce yourself for the record, please.

9 A Good morning. My name is David Pyatt.

10 Q Dr. Pyatt, we're doing your deposition
11 today in the Sundquist case. It's a limited
12 purpose deposition regarding your declaration
13 filed in support of the summary judgment motion.

14 Where are you right now?

15 A I am sitting in a hotel room outside of
16 the Denver airport at the Embassy Suites.

17 Q Okay. And who is with you in the room?

18 A The court reporter and Tom Hurrell and
19 Jim Miller.

20 MR. BOOTH: Raphael, forgive me. This
21 is Jason Booth. I'm having a great deal of
22 trouble hearing the witness.

23 MR. METZGER: I don't know what to do
24 about that. I can hear him.

25 MR. BOOTH: Okay. I'm just asking.

1 Maybe the witness can move the phone closer.

2 THE DEPONENT: Boy, I'm really close to
3 it. And now everyone's kind of fading in and out.
4 I wonder if something's wrong with this phone, if
5 we should try it again with a new phone.

6 MR. BOOTH: Now, that I heard pretty
7 well.

8 THE DEPONENT: Okay. Well, whatever you
9 guys want to do.

10 MR. BOOTH: Keep going. If I'm having
11 real trouble, I'll holler out again. I apologize.

12 MR. METZGER: All right. Let's try it.

13 MR. BOOTH: Thank you.

14 Q (BY MR. METZGER) All right. Now,
15 Dr. Pyatt, I'm not there in the room with you, and
16 I can't see what's going on, so I'm going to ask
17 that both Mr. Hurrell and Mr. Miller not
18 communicate with you while a question is pending.

19 MR. METZGER: Is that agreeable to
20 everyone?

21 MR. HURRELL: What did he say?

22 THE DEPONENT: He said -- he's asking
23 that you do not communicate with me while a
24 question is pending.

25 MR. HURRELL: Well, I think that's fine,

1 Raphael. Obviously, we might interpose an
2 objection, but we'll probably not be communicating
3 with the witness. Okay?

4 MR. METZGER: That's what I'm saying.
5 Mr. Miller, do you agree to do that?

6 MR. MILLER: I do.

7 MR. METZGER: And, Madam Reporter, if
8 there's any violation of that, I'm going to ask
9 you to announce that. Okay?

10 THE REPORTER: Yes.

11 Q (BY MR. METZGER) Okay. Dr. Pyatt, you
12 do understand you're under oath, correct?

13 A Yes, sir.

14 Q All right. Now, do you have with you a
15 copy of your curriculum vitae?

16 A I'm sorry, Mr. Metzger. I didn't hear
17 all that. You're kind of cutting in and out again
18 like you were at the very beginning. You asked me
19 about my C.V.?

20 Q Yes, your C.V.

21 A Yes, sir. I do have that.

22 Q Give that to the court reporter so she
23 can mark that as Exhibit 1.

24 A Okay.

25 Q Tell me when you have it back.

1 (Exhibit 1 marked for identification.)

2 Q (BY MR. METZGER) Dr. Pyatt?

3 A She's working on it. Okay. I now have
4 it back.

5 THE REPORTER: Exhibit 1 has been
6 marked, the curriculum vitae.

7 Q (BY MR. METZGER) Dr. Pyatt, is Exhibit 1
8 a true and correct copy of your curriculum vitae?

9 A Yes.

10 Q When was this version of your curriculum
11 vitae prepared?

12 A Well, I update it pretty routinely when
13 things change. If by "prepared" you mean printed
14 out, I think I did that Sunday or Monday in
15 preparation for this deposition. When I make
16 changes, I couldn't tell you. It's just really
17 when anything has been added or changed that I
18 remember to get back to it.

19 But I'm looking at it now, and it's --
20 it looks quite up to date.

21 MR. HURRELL: Okay. Raphael, this is
22 Tom Hurrell. I think we'd better switch out the
23 phone. You're coming and going. We can't hear
24 most of what you're saying. Okay?

25 MR. METZGER: Then let's switch it out.

1 Sure. I'll wait for you guys to phone in again.

2 MR. HURRELL: Yeah. Give us a couple
3 minutes. Okay?

4 (Recess.)

5 MR. METZGER: Sorry. There will be a
6 lot of questions about that. (Inaudible.)

7 THE DEPONENT: Mr. Metzger, you're still
8 kind of cutting in and out. But, yes, we were
9 talking about my C.V.

10 Q (BY MR. METZGER) Are there any
11 publications that you would need to add to your
12 appendix to make it current?

13 A No.

14 (Discussion off the record. Dialing in
15 on a cell phone.)

16 Q (BY MR. METZGER) Is there anything else
17 that you need to add to your curriculum vitae to
18 render it complete and current?

19 A This is much better. Thank you.

20 No. It looks like it's pretty up to
21 date.

22 Q All right. I'm glad that we're now able
23 to hear each other, and we're able to do this
24 deposition.

25 A Yes.

1 Q All right. Dr. Pyatt, do you have a
2 copy of your declaration which you have prepared
3 for this case?

4 A Yes.

5 Q Okay. And how many did you prepare for
6 this case?

7 A I prepared two.

8 Q Okay. I'd like you to give the court
9 reporter the one in support of Sherwin-Williams
10 and have that be marked as Exhibit 2.

11 A Okay.

12 Q Tell me when she's given it back to you.
13 (Exhibit 2 marked for identification.)

14 A Okay. I have it back.

15 Q (BY MR. METZGER) And do you have the
16 declaration in support of PPG's summary judgment
17 motion?

18 A Yes.

19 Q Please give that to the court reporter.
20 We'll have that marked as Exhibit 3.

21 A Okay.

22 Q Tell me when you're ready.
23 (Exhibit 3 marked for identification.)

24 A Okay. I've got it.

25 Q (BY MR. METZGER) Okay. Now, let's work

1 off -- would it be an accurate statement that with
2 respect to the issue of general causation, that
3 the declarations are the same?

4 A They are the same. The only difference
5 would be the name of the defendant that, you know,
6 is on the cover and footer and things. But, yes,
7 they are the same.

8 Q They're substantively the same?

9 A Yes.

10 Q Good. Very well. Then let's use
11 Exhibit 2, the Sherwin-Williams one, and we'll go
12 through that one, if you would.

13 A Okay.

14 Q First I'd like to ask you about some of
15 your qualifications, Dr. Pyatt. You hold a
16 doctorate of philosophy in toxicology, correct?

17 A That's correct.

18 Q Do you hold any degrees in epidemiology?

19 A No.

20 Q Are you a practicing epidemiologist?

21 A No.

22 Q Have you ever conducted an epidemiologic
23 study?

24 A No.

25 Q I'd like you to turn to paragraph 10 of

1 your declaration.

2 A Okay.

3 Q In paragraph 10, beginning at line 9 on
4 page 5, you state -- you describe that there are
5 two critical steps in conducting a causative
6 analysis, and you state, "The first is to
7 establish whether or not the chemical in question
8 has been meaningfully linked in the epidemiology
9 literature with the specific disease." You then
10 state "This constitutes a general causation
11 analysis."

12 Did I read that correctly?

13 A Yes. Yes. I mean, the second sentence
14 kept going, but it was accurate up to that point.

15 Q Right. Is that your best definition of
16 "general causation"?

17 A Whether it's been meaningfully linked in
18 the epidemiology literature with the specific
19 disease -- yes, I think that's a good definition.

20 Q Can you provide me any textbook or
21 published peer-reviewed article that defines
22 "general causation" in that matter?

23 A I think they all do. I think that's
24 just an established way of looking at that issue.
25 I can't point specifically to an epidemiology text

1 right now, but I've never seen anything that would
2 lead me to believe that it was substantially
3 different from that.

4 Q Okay. Well, I'm going to tell you that
5 I have searched the medical and scientific
6 literature and textbooks, and I have been unable
7 to find "general causation" defined in the manner
8 that you have. So if you have a particular
9 reference upon which you are relying for that
10 definition of "general causation," I'd ask you to
11 provide it to me.

12 MR. HURRELL: Objection. It's
13 argumentative.

14 A I can't point to one sitting right here
15 now.

16 Q (BY MR. METZGER) All right. Now, are
17 you familiar with the "Reference Manual on
18 Scientific Evidence" published by the Federal
19 Judicial Center?

20 A I've heard of it but, no, I'm not
21 familiar with it.

22 Q Okay. Are you aware that in that
23 reference manual there is a chapter which is
24 called a "Reference Guide on Epidemiology"?

25 A No. I said I wasn't familiar with it.

1 Q Okay. I will represent to you that that
2 publication states that general causation
3 addresses the question, "Is the chemical/agent
4 capable of causing the disease that the plaintiff
5 had?" Would you disagree with that definition of
6 "general causation"?

7 A I think that's the same as what I have
8 in my report.

9 Q Well, that's not what I'm asking you.
10 I'm not asking you to compare them. I'm asking
11 you: Do you disagree with that definition?

12 A I do not disagree with that definition
13 with the caveat that it needs some explanation as
14 to how that word "cause" is defined.

15 Q Okay. So you accept that general
16 causation addresses the question whether a
17 particular chemical is capable of causing a
18 particular disease, correct?

19 A Yes. And the evidence that would be
20 used to establish that link would be the
21 quantitative epidemiology literature.

22 Q I'm not asking about the evidence now.
23 I'm just asking: Do you agree with that
24 definition? Yes or no?

25 MR. HURRELL: Well, he's answered the

1 question, Raphael.

2 Q (BY MR. METZGER) I think you actually
3 have, so I will move on.

4 Can you identify for me any published
5 peer-reviewed article or textbooks that says that
6 quantitative epidemiology is determinative of the
7 issue of general causation?

8 A Well, again, I guess it's a matter of
9 your interpretation. But my interpretation is
10 that's what they all say.

11 Q Well, I'm not asking for your
12 interpretation or mine. I'm asking if you can
13 actually direct me to any published peer-reviewed
14 article or textbook which states explicitly that
15 quantitative epidemiology is determinative of
16 general causation.

17 A I'll have to think about that. My
18 understanding is that that's what they all say,
19 that that is the most important aspect. And the
20 Surgeon General, EPA, ATSDR, every epidemiology
21 book that I have, Monson's, Livingfield's, there's
22 three or four, they all have sections on
23 establishing causation, and it is always an
24 evaluation of the epidemiology data. And if it's
25 not quantitative, then I don't know what it is.

1 Then it wouldn't even be considered epi.

2 MR. METZGER: I'll move to strike as
3 nonresponsive.

4 Q (BY MR. METZGER) I'm simply asking you
5 to identify for me, if you are able, a published
6 peer-reviewed article or textbook that states that
7 quantitative epidemiology is determinative of the
8 issue of general causation.

9 A Based on a word that you just used, no,
10 I cannot tell you that sitting here right now.

11 Q All right. Thank you.

12 When you write in your declaration that
13 general causation is whether or not the chemical
14 in question has been meaningfully linked in the
15 epidemiology literature with a specific disease,
16 I'd like you to direct me to a published
17 peer-reviewed article or textbook that provides an
18 algorithm or criteria for meaningful linkage.

19 A I can't think of one that's used those
20 words. That's my way of defining the way several
21 different textbooks and scientific agencies and
22 bodies evaluate epidemiological data. But I can't
23 think of one that has said "meaningful" in the
24 text.

25 Q Okay. Well, let me then ask you, so I

1 have an understanding of what you're intending to
2 convey here, what you mean by "meaningful
3 linkage."

4 A I mean, by meaningful -- "meaningfully
5 linked," that it is consistently seen across
6 different studies and different investigators that
7 it is strong enough to have achieved statistical
8 significance, that they've accounted for
9 confounders, that it's reproducible, that it
10 fulfills the Bradford Hill or some other
11 analytical process for evaluating scientific and
12 epidemiologic data. That's what I mean by
13 "meaningfully linked," that you have more than a
14 single case report. The two big ones, in my view,
15 are consistency and reproducibility. And I think
16 that's true not only for epidemiological data, but
17 for all scientific data.

18 Q Okay. When you say that the results
19 have to be consistent across studies, across how
20 many studies?

21 A I didn't say that it had to be
22 consistent like every single one because you will
23 always find studies that -- I mean, if you ask the
24 questions enough times, there's going to be some
25 variability in the answer just based on random

1 chance. There's no set number on how many studies
2 you have to have. I think most people would agree
3 that a single finding, while it may be suggestive,
4 is not sufficient to reach a conclusion on
5 causation. So there's not a set number, but
6 depending on how many you have, you need to be
7 seeing the same results across different studies
8 in order to define that as positive or causation.

9 Q Is there -- in your -- are you saying
10 that there needs to be a certain percentage of
11 studies that have the same result, or not? I'm
12 not quite understanding.

13 A No. I mean, that would be the same
14 thing as if there has to be a set number, and I
15 don't believe there has to be -- there could be a
16 set number because every question that you ask and
17 go to the epidemiological literature to find an
18 answer for is going to be different.

19 With regard to benzene and multiple
20 myeloma, there are many, many studies that have
21 asked that question and have relevant data that
22 bear on that issue, and the vast majority of those
23 studies are negative. So that I consider to be
24 consistent and supports that benzene does not
25 cause this disease, multiple myeloma.

1 Q I understand that's your opinion, but
2 let me --

3 MR. METZGER: I'm actually going to move
4 to strike the part about benzene and multiple
5 myeloma because I'm not there yet.

6 Q (BY MR. METZGER) I'm asking you now only
7 generally about principles. We will get to
8 benzene and multiple myeloma. But I think you
9 indicated that the studies had to have a certain
10 strength. Did I understand that correctly?

11 A Yes. That's one of Bradford Hill's
12 views. That's one of all of the criteria that
13 I've ever seen to evaluate epidemiological
14 evidence.

15 Q What must the strength be?

16 A Well, the way I view it, the study needs
17 to at least be powerful or different enough to
18 have achieved statistical significance. So there
19 is a statistically significant difference, whether
20 it's positive or negative. If you don't have
21 that, then you can't even say that it's different
22 from the null hypothesis where just chance played
23 some role in the results. So that, I think, is a
24 minimum.

25 Q Okay. And can you identify for me any

1 published article, peer-reviewed literature, or
2 any textbook which defines the strength of
3 association by statistical significance?

4 A I think Monson's textbook on
5 Occupational Epidemiology has a nice section on
6 that. I think the Surgeon General's section on
7 evaluating scientific and epidemiological data has
8 language to that effect. But I haven't memorized
9 these, so no, I can't specifically point to one.

10 Q Okay. And you mentioned confounders.
11 What does this study have to do regarding
12 controlling for confounders -- strike that.

13 What else could be done regarding
14 confounders according to your own personal view of
15 this matter of general causation?

16 A Well, I just used that as an example of
17 what studies should do. And that's really the
18 purview of the epidemiologist. And most
19 studies -- most studies that are peer-reviewed
20 have made some effort to account for potential
21 confounders. In a case control study things like
22 recall bias and things like that, you can't always
23 control for them. So they're there, and we all
24 know that they're potentially there, and there's
25 nothing, really, that anyone can do to fix it. So

1 you just have to take that into consideration when
2 you're interpreting the data. But there's not
3 going to be a set, fixed answer to your question.
4 It's going to depend on the study type, the
5 design, and what the issues are, what the
6 potential confounders could be.

7 Q Okay. And how is reproducibility, as
8 you're using the term, determined?

9 A That in any evaluation of scientific
10 data -- and I guess it would be hand in hand with
11 consistency -- that people that ask the same
12 question are getting the same answer. And in the
13 biological sciences you want that to be, to the
14 extent possible, different investigators,
15 different labs, different parts of the country.
16 You definitely start having more confidence in the
17 answer when you see different people asking the
18 same question, getting the same answer from
19 different types of studies. So that's -- that's
20 what I mean by reproducibility. And I think
21 that's absolutely critical in any scientific
22 endeavor.

23 Q Can you identify any published
24 peer-reviewed article or textbook which states
25 that reproducibility is a factor in general

1 causation?

2 A I would say that that is a fundamental
3 tenet underpinning of all of science. So whether
4 I can point to a specific paper that would satisfy
5 your question, I don't know. But I would, on the
6 record, state that that is absolutely essential to
7 all areas of science.

8 Q I understand your answer, but I'm asking
9 you specifically about general causation. Are you
10 able to identify any textbook or peer-reviewed
11 article which states that reproducibility is a
12 factor in a general causation analysis?

13 A Sure. I think the Bradford Hill does.
14 I think the Henle-Koch, K-O-C-H, postulates do. I
15 think the EPA's guidelines on evaluating
16 carcinogenic data -- they may not use the word
17 "reproducibility," but they certainly have the
18 notion of consistency across studies and seeing
19 the same results from more than one study. They
20 all do.

21 Q Well, I understand what you've just
22 said, Dr. Pyatt, but I think we're now -- you've
23 now defined "reproducibility" as consistency
24 across studies, which we've discussed as the first
25 factor that you mentioned. I'm trying to

1 understand if there is something more or different
2 about reproducibility than consistency across
3 studies.

4 A No. I would say those go hand in hand.

5 Q So they're the same thing?

6 A Sure.

7 Q All right. Now, you mentioned Bradford
8 Hill criteria. Are you referring to discerning
9 viewpoints or factors which Sir Austin Bradford
10 Hill identified in making causal determinations?

11 A Right, the benign factors that he
12 described in his '65 paper that have been
13 reproduced for the last 30 years in one form or
14 another. Some people do call them criteria;
15 others don't. But, yes, that's what I'm referring
16 to.

17 Q And you, in fact, cite that article in
18 your declaration, do you not?

19 A I do.

20 Q And you have that article with you, do
21 you not?

22 A I can probably dig it out, yes.

23 Q Please do so and give it to the court
24 reporter to mark as Exhibit 4.

25 (Exhibit 4 marked for identification.)

1 A Okay. It's marked as Exhibit 4.

2 Q (BY MR. METZGER) All right. And is that
3 Exhibit 4 the article by Bradford Hill entitled
4 "The Environment and Disease: Association or
5 Causation?" from 1965 Proceedings of the Royal
6 Society of Medicine?

7 A Yes.

8 Q Okay. Now, I'd like you to take a look
9 at your declaration at paragraph 10, page 5,
10 lines 3 to 5.

11 A Before I -- I'm sorry. Go ahead.

12 Q There you state, "To establish
13 causation, the accepted methodology in the
14 scientific and medical communities for rendering
15 an opinion on a chemical cause of disease consists
16 of faithful application of the Bradford Hill
17 criteria (or some other comparable analytical
18 process)."

19 Did I read that correctly?

20 A I'm sorry. I was reading -- okay. Say
21 it again. I'm sorry, Mr. Metzger. I was reading
22 something else. I'm with you now.

23 Q Okay. I'm on paragraph 10 of your
24 declaration --

25 A Yes.

1 Q -- page 5, lines 3 to 5.

2 A Correct.

3 Q Okay. And what you write there is, "To
4 establish causation, the accepted methodology in
5 the scientific and medical communities for
6 rendering an opinion on the chemical cause of
7 disease consists of faithful application of the
8 Bradford Hill criteria (or some other comparable
9 analytical process)."

10 Did I read that correctly?

11 A Yes, sir.

12 Q And immediately following that, you cite
13 the Hill 1965 article, which is Exhibit 4,
14 correct?

15 A And the Evans' 1976 article.

16 Q Is the Evans what you're referring to as
17 "some other analytical process"?

18 A Well, there's lots of descriptions of
19 this. But, yes, there is something in the Evans
20 paper that is exactly what we're talking about.
21 And that's one of the things that I was reading a
22 few minutes ago, and they talk about establishing
23 objective criteria for causation. And they have a
24 table "Elements of Causation in Chronic Disease,"
25 and there they have five --

1 Q Dr. Pyatt, you are getting ahead of me.
2 I think you've answered my question when you said
3 "Yes."

4 A All right. Sorry.

5 Q So I'd like to ask another question, if
6 I could.

7 A Yeah. Yeah. I'm with you.

8 Q All right. First, is that your
9 testimony?

10 A Is what my testimony?

11 Q The quotation from paragraph 10 of your
12 declaration that I read.

13 A That you need to have faithful
14 application of Bradford Hill or some analytical
15 process to establish general causation. Yes, that
16 is my testimony.

17 Q Okay. Now, I'd like you to take a look
18 at Exhibit 4, the Bradford Hill article, and I'd
19 like you to show me where in the article he
20 establishes criteria for causation.

21 A He calls them viewpoints.

22 Q He does not call them criteria, correct?

23 A He didn't in 1965, no. There have been
24 several people who have called them criteria since
25 then in other publications. But, no, Dr. Hill

1 didn't.

2 Q Okay. When you say he did not -- when
3 you say that Dr. Hill did not call them criteria
4 in 1965, are you suggesting that anytime during
5 his life he called them criteria?

6 A Oh, I don't know whether that's true or
7 not.

8 Q Okay. Now, there's a paragraph -- well,
9 actually, what Dr. Hill refers to is -- he refers
10 to them as viewpoints, correct?

11 A I think that's right, yes.

12 Q And he identifies nine viewpoints in
13 this article, correct?

14 A That's -- that's right, yes. Nine.

15 Q And then after he's identified those
16 nine viewpoints, he writes something further. I'd
17 like you to turn to that. I think it's a few
18 pages into the article, which I don't have before
19 me. I'm referring to where he states, "Here,
20 then, are nine different viewpoints." Can you
21 find that?

22 A Yes.

23 Q All right. And what he writes is,
24 "Here, then, are nine different viewpoints from
25 all of which we should study association before we

1 cry causation. What I do not believe, and this
2 has been suggested, is that we can usefully lay
3 down some hard-and-fast rules of evidence that
4 must be obeyed before we accept cause and effect.
5 None of my nine viewpoints can bring indisputable
6 evidence for or against the cause-and-effect
7 hypothesis, and none can be required as a *sine qua*
8 *non*."

9 Did I read that correctly?

10 A Yes.

11 Q All right. Okay. Now, would you show
12 me where in your declaration you identify the
13 Bradford Hill nine viewpoints.

14 A I didn't list them out like that. I
15 referenced the article and referenced the Evans
16 article, and that's all that I did.

17 Q Okay. Would you show me where in your
18 declaration you provided a discussion of your
19 faithful application of the Bradford Hill
20 viewpoints or, as you call them, criteria.

21 MR. HURRELL: Objection. It's
22 argumentative.

23 A I didn't spend a lot of time discussing
24 each one of the viewpoints or criteria, but it was
25 part and parcel of how I reached my conclusions on

1 this matter.

2 Q (BY MR. METZGER) Well, can you show me
3 where in your declaration you actually provide a
4 discussion or analysis of any of the Bradford Hill
5 viewpoints or, as you call them, criteria?

6 MR. HURRELL: Same objection.

7 A (Reviewed document.) Well, it doesn't
8 appear to be in this declaration that I'm seeing.

9 Q (BY MR. METZGER) All right. All right.
10 Changing topics. Do you agree that for a credible
11 scientist to make a valid determination of the
12 issue of general causation, it is critical that
13 the scientist consider all available relevant
14 studies to the issue?

15 A Well, I think the scientist in question
16 should do the best that they can. I mean, there's
17 always going to be, under some little rock
18 somewhere, a study that they may have missed. So
19 I don't think you can hold them to absolutely
20 finding every single thing that's ever been
21 published. But I think that they should do the
22 very best that they can.

23 Q And when you say that "they should do
24 the very best that they can," are you saying that
25 it's critical that a scientist making a causal

1 determination of general causation should attempt
2 to ascertain, identify, obtain, study all of the
3 available studies that are relevant to the issue?

4 A I didn't get that question. Are you
5 asking if that's what they should do?

6 Q Yes.

7 A Like I said, I think they should do the
8 best that they can in trying to identify and
9 collect all of the relevant scientific data on
10 that issue.

11 Q And do you agree that a failure to do
12 that can result in erroneous conclusions?

13 A Well, it depends on how big of a failure
14 it is. I mean, if you've read 50 papers and they
15 are all pointing in one direction, and then
16 somebody points out one paper from 1984 from
17 Romania that you didn't collect and didn't see,
18 that probably will not mean that your conclusions
19 are erroneous. So it just depends on how big of a
20 problem it is that you didn't collect all the
21 data.

22 Q All right. Do you agree that it's
23 critical that at a minimum the scientist do a
24 comprehensive literature search to identify the
25 available data and relevant studies?

1 A Well, I think for -- well, I can only
2 speak for myself. The comprehensive literature
3 search is forever ongoing. There are programs
4 from my library and PubMed and Ovid and others
5 that with key words they continually pull up new
6 studies, things that have been published. So I
7 think this literature searching, for me anyway, is
8 an ongoing process.

9 Q Okay. Before your involvement in this
10 case, when is the last time when you did a
11 literature search relevant to benzene or solvents
12 causing multiple myeloma?

13 A For me it's always. I'm always doing a
14 literature search on that because I'm always
15 getting papers on multiple myeloma. I'm always
16 getting papers on benzene. I'm always getting
17 papers on organic solvents. So it is a continual
18 process.

19 Q Well, I'm not sure I understand what you
20 mean because -- are you telling me that you do a
21 literature search for benzene and multiple myeloma
22 every day?

23 A Yes, every day.

24 Q Every day? Okay.

25 A I don't do that, but --

1 Q I'm sorry?

2 A I don't do that, but PubMed does that
3 and Ovid does that and Dennison Library at the
4 School of Public Health does that. And that is
5 every time a paper is published, they screen the
6 literature, and on a weekly basis, they send me
7 the results of those searches.

8 Q Okay. Where are those search results?
9 I haven't seen them amongst the materials that you
10 produced.

11 A Why should I give those to you?

12 Q You should give those to me to show that
13 you actually did a literature search, because I
14 don't believe you actually did it. Where are
15 they?

16 MR. HURRELL: Raphael, you're arguing
17 with the witness. And we gave you everything
18 contained in Dr. Pyatt's file for this particular
19 case. That's it.

20 Q (BY MR. METZGER) Dr. Pyatt, where are
21 these literature searches that you've done for
22 benzene and multiple myeloma?

23 A They come in on my computer every
24 Sunday, and I read through the lists that come up
25 every Sunday and track down the papers. I print

1 out the abstracts, and then I track down the
2 papers that are relevant to that issue.

3 When you do an ongoing search of
4 benzene, you get lots of studies on the chemical
5 composition and how it reacts under various
6 conditions that aren't really relevant to its
7 health effects. But I track down and print out
8 every relevant toxicological paper on benzene.

9 And I have a search criteria for
10 multiple myeloma. And every time a study comes up
11 that has to do with its etiology, I print it out
12 and track the paper down. So I do it every
13 Sunday.

14 Q Okay. And on all these downloads which
15 you receive on your computer every -- are they
16 still on your computer?

17 A No. They come in on my e-mail, and once
18 I go through them -- I mean, I have about 25 that
19 come in either Saturday night or Sunday morning.
20 Once I search through those and pull out the
21 papers that I'm interested in, then I delete them.

22 Q So you don't have them on your computer
23 is what you're telling me; is that correct?

24 A They probably would be in my deleted
25 e-mail file for three months or so, however long

1 that I've kept the deleted files.

2 Q Okay. Isn't it true that for purposes
3 of this case you did not do a comprehensive
4 literature search to identify the studies, but
5 that you, rather, focused primarily on the
6 epidemiology literature related to the
7 relationships between benzene exposure and
8 multiple myeloma?

9 MR. HURRELL: Objection. Vague and
10 ambiguous.

11 A I don't understand that question.

12 Q (BY MR. METZGER) Isn't it true that for
13 your analysis in this case you've focused
14 primarily on the epidemiology literature related
15 to the alleged relationship between benzene
16 exposure and multiple myeloma?

17 A Focused primarily, sure, that's true.

18 Q And you did not do a comprehensive
19 literature search for this case, true?

20 A I did not do a comprehensive literature
21 search for this case because my comprehensive
22 literature searching is an ongoing process. There
23 was no need for me to do one specifically for this
24 case.

25 Q Okay. Well, what's the most recent

1 article regarding the etiology of multiple myeloma
2 that came from your most recent Sunday morning
3 search?

4 A I don't -- I don't know. There was one
5 that came out last month. The author was Kyle.
6 But I don't have it because it wasn't specific to
7 occupational or environmental exposures. It was
8 more some of the genetics that people are thinking
9 about why people get multiple myeloma.

10 Q Well, let's talk about some of the
11 different studies. First of all, is it correct
12 that there are case reports regarding benzene and
13 multiple myeloma?

14 A Is it correct that there are case
15 reports? Yes.

16 Q Yes. Yes. That's what I'm asking you.

17 A Yes, there are case reports. I can
18 think of at least two.

19 Q And you don't mention those in your
20 declaration, correct?

21 A I don't know. I'll have to look. I
22 usually do. I usually talk about Torres because
23 Torres was what kind of got the whole thing going.
24 But maybe I didn't have it in this declaration.
25 I'm looking for the first pages of it.

1 I cited it. Torres is cited in there,
2 so I would assume that it's in here somewhere.

3 No. So you're wrong. It's in here, and
4 axoids are in here. So both of the two that I
5 knew about were cited in this.

6 Q Okay. And those are the only two case
7 reports that you're aware of?

8 A The only two that I can point to right
9 now, but it does seem like there's been another --
10 I'm not sure if those were case reports. Yeah. I
11 think those are the only two that I can point to.

12 Q Okay. Let's talk about med analyses.
13 What med analyses regarding benzene and multiple
14 myeloma have been published in the last three
15 years?

16 A Published in the last three years? The
17 only one that I can think of was Peter Infante in
18 2006. I might be blanking on -- there may be a
19 more recent one, but the ones that I can think of
20 sitting here, they were for 2006.

21 Q Okay. Well, since you mention the --
22 you have, in fact, read the Infante med analysis,
23 correct?

24 A I've read it, yes.

25 Q And in that med analysis, Dr. Infante

1 pulled data from seven cohort studies yielding a
2 statistically significant, weighted, relative risk
3 estimate of 2.13 with a 95 percent confidence
4 interval from 1.31 to 3.46; isn't that correct?

5 A I don't know whether that's correct or
6 not.

7 Q Okay.

8 (Discussion off the record.)

9 Q (BY MR. METZGER) Okay. And I gather
10 that you're not familiar with the med analysis
11 from 2007 reporting a medi-relative risk for
12 benzene and multiple myeloma of 2.29, which was
13 statistically significant; is that correct?

14 A I don't -- what's the -- what's the
15 author?

16 Q It's actually the German Ministry for
17 Labor.

18 A No, I haven't seen their med analysis.
19 I've seen what they said about benzene and
20 non-Hodgkins lymphoma and benzene and AML, but I
21 haven't seen their background analysis, and I
22 don't believe that that's actually been published.

23 Q Oh. Well, it has. And --

24 MR. HURRELL: Well, I'm going to object
25 to the statement of counsel.

1 Q (BY MR. METZGER) Okay. In your
2 literature search did you identify a large med
3 analysis for multiple myeloma of chemical workers?

4 A Not -- I didn't -- I don't have it all
5 memorized. If you give me the author's first name
6 or last name -- the first author's last name, then
7 I may have seen it.

8 Q Greenberg.

9 A Yeah, I've seen it.

10 Q What study is that?

11 A I think I have. Hold on. Let's see if
12 I have it.

13 (Pause.)

14 No, I don't have it with me. So that
15 was chemical workers?

16 Q Yes.

17 A Hum. It sounds familiar, but I don't
18 have it with me.

19 Q What can you tell me about that study?

20 A I can't tell you anything about it
21 because I don't have it in front of me.

22 Q Okay. What animal studies have you
23 considered for your evaluation?

24 A Animal studies?

25 Q Yes.

1 A Well, I'm familiar with all of the
2 published animal studies on benzene. I don't know
3 that experimental animals make a very appropriate
4 experimental model for humans. They don't get the
5 diseases we get, and they get diseases that we
6 don't.

7 But I'm sure that none of those animal
8 studies report an increase in multiple myeloma in
9 those animals. They do get a T-cell lymphoma,
10 which is completely different than multiple
11 myeloma. So I don't think it's 100 percent
12 germane and relevant, and I certainly didn't
13 discuss it in my report. But I'm very familiar
14 with that data.

15 Q All right. First of all, what
16 hematologic malignancy do animals get that is the
17 closest analog to human multiple myeloma?

18 A Animals get multiple myeloma. There's
19 an experimental model where you can induce myeloma
20 in rats, so they have the ability to get multiple
21 myeloma. I don't know -- sorry. Go ahead.

22 Q Go ahead. When you say that there is
23 this model which is used to induce multiple
24 myeloma in rats, what chemical agents have been
25 shown to induce multiple myeloma in rats?

1 A I don't -- I don't know. I'd have to
2 pull that study out and look. It starts with a P,
3 but I --

4 Q What's the author of the study you're
5 referring to?

6 A I can't remember. It was not in my
7 declaration, and that's what I thought we were
8 going to be discussing today.

9 Q Okay. What -- well, let me ask you
10 this: Are there any reviews in textbooks which
11 conclude that there is a causal relationship -- or
12 a probable causal relationship between benzene and
13 multiple myeloma?

14 A Are there any reviews or textbooks?
15 That wouldn't surprise me.

16 Q Well, which are they?

17 A I don't -- I don't have them all
18 memorized. I don't know. You just mentioned one
19 with Dr. Infante.

20 Q Well, that's another analysis, not a
21 review, correct?

22 A No. It was also a review.

23 Q All right. Are there any chapters in
24 textbooks that you're aware of which conclude that
25 there is a probable causal relationship between

1 benzene and multiple myeloma?

2 A I am not aware of any chapter in any
3 textbook sitting here now, no.

4 Q Are you aware of any chapters in any
5 textbooks which conclude that there is a causal
6 relationship between painting and multiple
7 myeloma?

8 A Not sitting here now, no.

9 Q Are you familiar with a study by
10 Delzell -- Elizabeth Delzell and others, which is
11 a method case control study of the Union Oil
12 cohort?

13 A The unpublished paper? Yes, I've read
14 that.

15 Q And you don't mention that in your
16 declaration, do you?

17 A It's unpublished. And I didn't mention
18 lots of things in my declaration. This was not
19 intended to be an all-inclusive encyclopedia of
20 every study that anyone has ever discussed benzene
21 and/or multiple myeloma or any occupational
22 exposure. I mean, there's lots of things that I
23 didn't list in a 20-page declaration.

24 Q Well, that study reported an eight-fold
25 significant excess of multiple myeloma in refinery

1 workers which the authors concluded was related to
2 their exposure, true?

3 A I don't remember. I think it was --
4 well, I don't remember. It was something with
5 32 years of employment in production workers out
6 in the field. I don't actually remember. Did
7 not -- did not have anything to do with benzene
8 that -- that I recall.

9 Q Oh. Are you telling me that refinery
10 workers and oilfield workers are not exposed to
11 benzene?

12 A I don't think I said that.

13 Q That would be incorrect, wouldn't it?

14 A What you said is incorrect, yes.

15 Q Well, just so we have a clear record,
16 refinery workers and oilfield production workers
17 are occupationally exposed to benzene, true?

18 A Among lots of other chemicals, yes.

19 Q Okay. Now, you mentioned that that
20 study was not published. You said that twice, as
21 a matter of fact. Of what significance is that to
22 you?

23 A It's pretty important.

24 Q Okay. Tell me why.

25 A Why is it important?

1 Q Yes.

2 A Because the peer review process is
3 another fundamental tenet of science. That is how
4 something goes from being preliminary to actually
5 being considered scientific data through the peer
6 review process. That is a very important step.

7 Q And you would agree, then, that the
8 authors of that study and Unical should have
9 submitted that study for publication so it could
10 be peer-reviewed, correct?

11 MR. HURRELL: Objection. Calls for
12 speculation. No foundation.

13 A I wouldn't agree to that. I don't know
14 anything about that study other than the report
15 that I read.

16 Q (BY MR. METZGER) Well, if the petroleum
17 industry has consistently, over the years,
18 withheld from publication the positive studies,
19 when you review the published literature, your
20 review would be based upon a nonpublication bias,
21 would it not?

22 MR. HURRELL: You know, Raphael, I'm
23 going to object because you're going beyond the
24 scope of the purpose of this deposition. We're
25 giving you some latitude, but if you could confine

1 it to the summary judgment motion, that would be
2 great.

3 MR. METZGER: Your objection is noted.

4 Q (BY MR. METZGER) Please answer the
5 question, Dr. Pyatt.

6 A I didn't actually hear a question in
7 there, so could you do it again.

8 MR. METZGER: Madam Reporter, will you
9 read the question back, please.

10 (The last question was read back by the
11 reporter.)

12 A Well, I don't agree that that's true, so
13 I can't answer that question because that's based
14 on an assumption that I disagree with.

15 Q (BY MR. METZGER) All right. I'd like
16 you to give me your opinion number 1 in your
17 declaration in paragraph 12. You refer there --

18 MR. METZGER: Someone on the phone is
19 typing.

20 MR. BOOTH: That's me. I apologize.

21 Q (BY MR. METZGER) You referred, in
22 paragraph 12, to an absence of reliable
23 epidemiological evidence. Do you see that?

24 A Yes.

25 Q How are you defining "reliable"?

1 A Based on all the things that we've been
2 discussing, that it's peer-reviewed, that it's
3 statistically significant, that it's consistent
4 across the studies, the Bradford Hill criteria or
5 viewpoints or whatever you want to call them, all
6 the things that we've been discussing.

7 Q So you're saying that in order for an
8 epidemiologic study to be reliable for your
9 consideration in a general causation analysis, it
10 has to be consistent, it has to be statistically
11 significant, it has to have a certain strength,
12 and you're probably also going to tell me that it
13 also has to exhibit a dose response relationship,
14 correct, all those things?

15 A I wouldn't say that, no.

16 Q Okay. On page 6 of your declaration,
17 line 10 and 11, the last two lines of
18 paragraph 13, you write, "Consistently no national
19 or international regulatory agency or scientific
20 body classifies benzene as an established or even
21 suspect (sic) cause of multiple myeloma."

22 Did I read that correctly?

23 A Perhaps. The last sentence is,
24 "Classifies benzene as an established or even
25 suspected cause of multiple myeloma." Maybe

1 that's what you said.

2 Q Okay. When you wrote that sentence, you
3 were attempting to mislead the Court, weren't you?

4 MR. HURRELL: Objection. It's
5 argumentative.

6 A That was not my intent, no.

7 Q (BY MR. METZGER) Okay. Well, will you
8 identify for me, please, any regulatory agency or
9 scientific body that specifically classifies
10 chemicals by -- specifically classifies chemicals
11 as being carcinogens for specific cancers.

12 A I don't understand that question.

13 Q Okay. Here's what I'm asking you. Can
14 you identify for me any governmental body or
15 regulatory agency that makes a pronouncement -- a
16 formal pronouncement as to whether benzene or any
17 other chemical causes multiple myeloma.

18 A They don't do that. That's my point.

19 Q Can you identify for me any regulatory
20 body -- regulatory agency or governmental body
21 that classifies chemicals as myelomagen.

22 A There are no chemical causes of myeloma,
23 so how would that --

24 Q That's not what I was asking you.

25 A -- how would that be possible? If there

1 are no chemicals that cause myeloma, how can there
2 be a scientific or regulatory agency that's going
3 to classify a chemical as being a myelo --
4 whatever you called it -- a chemical that can
5 cause multiple myeloma? There is not an
6 established chemical cause.

7 Q Here's what I'm getting it: Are there
8 any governmental agencies or regulatory bodies
9 that actually make a formal evaluation as to
10 whether any chemical causes any particular cancer?

11 A Of course they do.

12 Q Identify such one for me, please.

13 A Well, you read the IRIS value for
14 benzene from U.S. EPA, or you read any of the
15 supporting documentation for the carcinogenicity
16 evaluation for benzene, and they talk about
17 pliofilm, they talk about China, they talk about
18 the epidemiology studies, and they identify AML as
19 the disease that is pretty unequivocally linked
20 with benzene exposure. Of course they do.

21 MR. METZGER: I'd move to strike as not
22 responsive.

23 Q (BY MR. METZGER) Here's what I'm getting
24 at, Dr. Pyatt: You said IARC, did you not?

25 A IARC's on this list, yes.

1 Q Right. And that's the International
2 Agency for Research on Cancer, correct?

3 A That's correct.

4 Q And IARC classifies chemicals as being
5 human carcinogens or probable human carcinogens or
6 possibly human carcinogens or animal carcinogens,
7 et cetera, correct?

8 A That's correct.

9 Q IARC does not classify chemicals either
10 by -- strike that.

11 IARC does not classify chemicals as
12 being carcinogens to a particular organ or for a
13 specific cancer, true?

14 A I would disagree with that. I mean, if
15 you just read the first page and it says, okay,
16 benzene is a known carcinogen, it's a Group 1, and
17 then you got up and left and didn't read anything
18 else, fine, you maybe could make that argument.

19 But if you read their position on
20 benzene, they talk about the studies. They
21 identify the diseases that are known to be
22 associated with benzene. So they support their
23 decision that benzene is a known human carcinogen
24 with epidemiological data, and that data
25 identifies cancer. So, no, I don't agree that.

1 Q Well, I'm not asking you what the data
2 is that's discussed. You write here that no
3 national or international regulatory agency or
4 scientific body classifies benzene as an
5 established or even suspected cause of multiple
6 myeloma.

7 But isn't it true that no national or
8 international regulatory agency or scientific body
9 classifies any chemical specifically by organ site
10 or specific cancer?

11 A All right. This is the third time we've
12 done this, so I'll say it again. If you look at
13 IARC or you look at EPA or you look at any of
14 these other agencies that go through the process
15 of classifying chemicals, they say, yes, it's a
16 Group 1, Group 2, 2A, 2B. If that's all you read,
17 then you wouldn't know.

18 But if you read five more pages in any
19 of these documents, you will see the discussion of
20 the literature and you will see the synthesis of
21 that literature to support their position on that
22 particular chemical. And in that synthesis they
23 absolutely talk about specific cancers.

24 Q But they don't classify, for example,
25 benzene as a known human acute myelomonocytic

1 leukemogen, do they?

2 A Well, they don't have that -- that's not
3 their classification system, but that is what that
4 document says.

5 Q They don't classify any chemical by --
6 as a specific organ carcinogen or a specific
7 neoplasm carcinogen, do they?

8 A I don't understand that question.

9 Q All right. I'll accept your answer.
10 Please turn to page 8 of your
11 declaration, paragraph 16.

12 A Okay.

13 Q Here in this paragraph you discuss the
14 association between painting and multiple myeloma,
15 true?

16 A Yes. That's the topic of that
17 paragraph.

18 Q Okay. In the last sentence in that
19 paragraph you write, "These studies also fail to
20 provide a consistent pattern of positive results
21 or evidence of a relevant dose response relation
22 between exposure and risk of multiple myeloma."
23 Correct?

24 A That's what it says, yes. That's what I
25 wrote.

1 Q Are you suggesting there that the weight
2 of the evidence does not indicate a causal
3 relationship between painting and multiple
4 myeloma?

5 A That is what I'm suggesting, yes.

6 Q Are you suggesting there that the
7 majority of epidemiologic studies that have
8 assessed it do not provide evidence for a relation
9 between a history of paint-related occupations and
10 myeloma risk?

11 A I think the way I worded it in my
12 declaration is appropriate, that they fail to
13 provide a consistent pattern of positive studies.
14 There are positive studies, and I listed a couple.
15 There are a couple more probably that you could
16 add. There's a whole lot more negative studies
17 that I could add.

18 When you look at the really powerful
19 studies, like Steenland, for example, from the
20 NCI, they looked at 57,000 painters. There was no
21 increase at all in multiple myeloma. That is
22 pretty good evidence that they are unrelated.

23 Q Do you -- are you familiar with a
24 textbook on cancer epidemiology by Schottenfeld
25 and Fraumeni?

1 A I don't own that, but it seems like I've
2 seen it.

3 MR. METZGER: It's Schottenfeld and
4 Fraumeni, F-R-A-U-M-E-N-I.

5 Q (BY MR. METZGER) You recognize those
6 authors, do you not?

7 A Vaguely with the textbook. I mean, I've
8 certainly seen studies that Dr. Frau -- however
9 you pronounce his name -- I've seen papers that
10 he's written, so I recognize the name.

11 Q And you're familiar with the textbook
12 entitled "Cancer Epidemiology and Prevention," are
13 you not?

14 A I'd have to say probably not. It
15 sounded familiar, but I -- I can't put my finger
16 on where I saw it.

17 Q So are you telling me, as you sit here
18 today, you are not familiar with a standard and
19 leading textbook on cancer epidemiology?

20 MR. HURRELL: Objection. It's
21 argumentative. It assumes facts not established.

22 A I don't have that book. Whether or not
23 it's the leading textbook in cancer epidemiology,
24 I don't know the answer to that.

25 Q (BY MR. METZGER) Okay. I'd like to read

1 you a statement from that textbook. The sentence
2 is as follows: "The majority of epidemiologic
3 studies that have assessed it provide evidence for
4 a relation between a history of paint-related
5 occupations and myeloma risk."

6 Do you disagree with that?

7 MR. HURRELL: Well, objection. No
8 foundation for anything you're saying, Raphael.

9 A I don't have reason to disagree or
10 agree. I don't -- I don't know the context. I
11 don't know when it was written. I don't know what
12 scientific literature they evaluated to make that
13 statement. I don't have an opinion about that one
14 way or the other.

15 Q (BY MR. METZGER) Okay. In paragraph 17
16 of your declaration, on line 19, you write,
17 "There is indisputable evidence that multiple
18 myeloma and acute myelogenous leukemia have
19 different cellular origins."

20 Did I read that correctly?

21 A Yes.

22 Q That statement is flat wrong, isn't it?

23 MR. HURRELL: Objection. Argumentative.

24 A I disagree.

25 Q (BY MR. METZGER) You are familiar, are

1 you not, with the publication by the California
2 Environmental Protection Agency titled "Public
3 Health Goal for Benzene in Drinking Water"?

4 A Not very familiar, no. I've read it at
5 one point. I don't have it here. It's not
6 referenced in my declaration. I didn't bring it.

7 Q Okay. I'd like to read a sentence from
8 that publication of the State of California, the
9 Environmental Protection Agency. It says, "Recent
10 cytogenetic studies in individuals with multiple
11 myeloma have reported common genetic abnormalities
12 in plasma cells, myeloid cells, and lymphoid
13 cells, suggesting that multiple myeloma arises
14 from an alteration of hematopoietic stem cells."

15 Do you disagree with that?

16 MR. HURRELL: Objection. No foundation.

17 A I -- I mean, there are certainly plenty
18 of studies that would take a contrary position.
19 But I will look up that reference and see what
20 they're actually talking about. And if there's a
21 legitimate scientific dispute over where the cell
22 of origin is, then I would reword that sentence
23 and take out the word "indisputable."

24 But the studies that I have read clearly
25 indicate that myeloma and AML do not arise at the

1 same cellular level. In fact, myelomas have
2 already committed to a lymphoid lineage. They've
3 left the marrow. They've already been exposed to
4 antigen. They've already rearranged their DNA and
5 formed antibody, so they are very far along the
6 B cell lineage before the transformation occurs.
7 Totally completely different from AML. The
8 cytogenetics are different. I mean, they are
9 very, very different diseases.

10 But if there is one study out there that
11 says we think they're the same, then the word
12 "indisputable" would probably be a little strong.

13 Q (BY MR. METZGER) Okay. Are you familiar
14 with a study by an author whose last name is
15 spelled N-G. Ng. It's N-G. That's the last
16 name. No vowels. The title of the study is
17 "Confined Morphological and Interphase
18 Fluorescence In Situ Hybridization Study in
19 Multiple Myeloma of Chinese Patients." Have you
20 read that study?

21 A I haven't read that study, at least not
22 to where it stands out in my mind.

23 Q Okay. Isn't it true that there is an
24 abundant literature regarding the simultaneous
25 occurrence of acute myelogenous leukemia and

1 multiple myeloma in patients?

2 A I've seen some. I wouldn't call it an
3 abundance.

4 Q How many studies would you need to say
5 that there's an abundance?

6 A I don't -- I don't know. An abundant --
7 an abundant amount. I don't know. I don't know.

8 Q Approximately. I mean, are we talking
9 one, five, ten, fifteen, twenty, thirty? How
10 many?

11 A Ten.

12 Q Okay. I'd like you to take a look at
13 paragraph 20 of your declaration on page 9,
14 lines 21 through 28.

15 A Okay.

16 Q Here you assume that the concentration
17 of benzene in the paint product which
18 Mr. Sundquist used was no more than 0.1 percent,
19 correct?

20 A No more than that. Yes, that's my
21 assumption.

22 Q And you also assume that -- well, strike
23 that.

24 Do you have any evidence, actual data,
25 to establish that the benzene content of the paint

1 products that Mr. Sundquist used were less than
2 0.1 percent?

3 A I don't have the data, but I know that
4 they've done testing on the raw ingredients, the
5 materials that went into making the product, and
6 they've done testing on the actual finished
7 product. And it's not listed on the MSDS sheets,
8 and there's a reporting requirement of 0.1
9 percent. But I don't have their testing data.

10 Q Did you ask them for it?

11 A No.

12 Q Have you ever seen it?

13 A Have I ever seen their testing data?

14 No.

15 Q Are you assuming that because the paint
16 manufacturers did not list benzene on their
17 Material Safety Data Sheet, that the products
18 necessarily contained less than 0.1 percent
19 benzene?

20 A That is my assumption, yes.

21 Q Why do you make that assumption?

22 A Why would I not make that assumption?

23 Q Well, I'll answer you because I believe
24 that that assumption is unwarranted. I can't see
25 any reason whatsoever for making that assumption

1 based upon what appears on a Material Safety Data
2 Sheet. Do you?

3 A I disagree.

4 Q Why do you think that the absence of
5 benzene on a Material Safety Data Sheet gives rise
6 to an assumption or an inference that the product
7 contains less than 0.1 percent benzene?

8 A Because that's the federal reporting
9 requirement. They've tested their product. It
10 wasn't more than .1 percent. They didn't put it
11 on the MSDS sheet. I trust that's what happened,
12 and I believe the MSDS sheets in terms of that
13 aspect, and that's my assumption.

14 Q Are you saying that federal OSHA does
15 not require manufacturers -- paint manufacturers
16 to list benzene on their Material Safety Data
17 Sheets if the benzene concentration is less than
18 0.1 percent?

19 A I'm sorry. I didn't get that question.
20 Am I assuming that that's -- what was the
21 question?

22 Q No. Are you saying that there's some
23 regulatory -- that there's some regulation that
24 says that if the benzene concentration of a
25 product is less than 0.1 percent, the manufacturer

1 of that product doesn't have to list benzene on
2 the Material Safety Data Sheet for the product?

3 A That's my understanding of the federal
4 hazard communication, that if it's more than
5 .1 percent, it needs to be listed on the MSDS
6 sheet. So if it's not listed on the MSDS sheet,
7 then my assumption is that it is something less
8 than .1 percent.

9 Q Have you ever read that regulation in
10 its entirety?

11 A I don't know what its entirety is. I've
12 read it.

13 Q Okay. If you've read it, isn't it true
14 that what the regulation actually says is that a
15 manufacturer must list benzene on its Material
16 Safety Data Sheet for the product even if benzene
17 is present at a concentration of less than
18 0.1 percent if, for the use of the product, a PEL
19 or TLV could be exceeded or the use of the product
20 could present a health hazard to the worker?

21 MR. HURRELL: Well, objection. I
22 believe, you know, there's no foundation for
23 what -- I believe you're misreading that, Raphael.

24 But go ahead and answer if you can,
25 Doctor.

1 A I recall some language. I don't know if
2 it's exactly the way you just described it. But I
3 haven't seen any evidence that that's the case. I
4 think that's how OSHA set the .1 percent, is that
5 it was not likely to exceed the PEL under normal
6 working conditions.

7 Q (BY MR. METZGER) Are you suggesting that
8 even though paint is often sprayed, that paint
9 containing 0.1 percent would not produce a
10 respiratory exposure in excess of a TLV or PEL?

11 MR. HURRELL: Objection. No foundation.

12 A All I'm saying is that's my
13 understanding of how the OSHA standard was set.
14 I'm not an industrial hygienist.

15 MR. HURRELL: And, Raphael, can we take
16 a two-minute restroom break?

17 MR. METZGER: Well, I'd actually like to
18 wrap it up, so if we could go on for just another
19 few minutes, I think I can wrap it up. I actually
20 have to get on the road myself.

21 MR. HURRELL: Go right ahead, then.

22 MR. METZGER: Thank you.

23 Q (BY MR. METZGER) Dr. Pyatt, would you
24 agree that a determination of general causation,
25 in this instance whether benzene had caused

1 multiple myeloma, that there is no algorithm by
2 which that is determined?

3 A What's your definition of an
4 "algorithm"?

5 Q You've heard the word before, haven't
6 you?

7 A You know, I think the only other time
8 I've heard it was in a deposition, and it might
9 have been with you.

10 Q Okay. Did you look it up after I
11 mentioned it?

12 A Sorry. Sorry. I think I know. I mean,
13 I'm pretty sure I know what you're asking. Is it
14 like a set formula? No, there's not a set formula
15 that anyone can use to establish general
16 causation. It's an evaluation of the literature
17 based on the criteria that we've been -- that we
18 discussed somewhat and others -- you can use
19 others if you like. They're all pretty similar.

20 Q And would you agree that therefore the
21 determination of that issue is one which requires
22 the exercise of professional judgment?

23 A Well, I think professional judgment is a
24 part of the evaluation, yes, because there isn't a
25 set blueprint that one could follow that would end

1 up with a box yes or a box no.

2 Q And would you therefore agree that two
3 qualified scientists, each exercising their own
4 best independent professional judgment, could
5 reach different conclusions on the issue of
6 general causation?

7 (Discussion off the record.)

8 Q (BY MR. METZGER) That two qualified
9 scientific experts, each exercising their own best
10 professional judgment, could reach different
11 conclusions on the issue of general causation.

12 A That's pretty vague. I think it's
13 possible. If you're referring to the benzene and
14 multiple myeloma literature and that general
15 causation, that literature seems pretty clear to
16 me.

17 Q Incidentally, have you read the article
18 by Beelte, B-E-E-L-T-E?

19 A That doesn't sound familiar.

20 Q I understand that you're soon going to
21 be going to Munich for the International Benzene
22 Conference, correct?

23 A That's true. I leave on Saturday.

24 Q And have you seen the abstracts for the
25 conference?

1 A I've seen some of them. I haven't seen
2 all of them. I've seen the names of the titles,
3 but I haven't read all the abstracts.

4 Q Do you have them?

5 A I don't know if I have them or not.
6 We -- I've seen the abstracts for the posters
7 because I'm chairing one of the poster sessions,
8 but I don't know if I have all of the abstracts
9 for the individual presenters or not.

10 Q You are aware that Bernie Goldstein is
11 presenting at the conference?

12 A I am aware that Dr. Goldstein has a
13 presentation, yes.

14 Q Okay. And you consider him to be a
15 credible expert, do you not?

16 A I -- I do.

17 Q And are you aware that Dr. Goldstein's
18 abstract for his presentation states that the
19 association between benzene and multiple myeloma
20 is now conclusive?

21 A I don't recall that being in his
22 abstract, and I would strongly disagree with that
23 unless he means -- unless he means that it's
24 conclusive that it's not an association.

25 Q No. That's not what he means at all.

1 A Then I would disagree with that.

2 Q Okay.

3 MR. BOOTH: I'll object to the
4 characterization of Dr. Goldstein.

5 (Discussion off the record.)

6 MR. METZGER: Just give me a moment. I
7 think I'm done.

8 Okay. I am, so I'll propose that the --
9 well, let's go off the record one second.

10 (Discussion off the record.)

11 MR. METZGER: I'll propose that the
12 court reporter forward the original transcript of
13 this deposition to Mr. Hurrell. Mr. Hurrell will
14 make it available to Dr. Pyatt to read, review,
15 and sign. I would ask the court reporter to have
16 the signature page state that the -- that the
17 witness is signing the declaration under penalty
18 of perjury under the laws of the state of
19 California and of the United States.

20 Dr. Pyatt, you may sign the transcript
21 under penalty of perjury without having to have it
22 notarized.

23 THE DEPONENT: Okay.

24 MR. METZGER: You may make any
25 corrections that you wish. I would ask that you

1 make the corrections on the pages where the
2 testimony occurs and then list them on the errata
3 sheet at the end of the transcript so that
4 everyone may know where those are.

5 THE DEPONENT: Sure. That's fine. I'll
6 do that.

7 MR. METZGER: I would ask you to then
8 forward the transcript to Mr. Hurrell. You can
9 have 30 days from Mr. Hurrell's receipt to read,
10 review, sign, and make the corrections.

11 When Mr. Hurrell receives the transcript
12 back from you, he will forthwith notify all
13 counsel of the changes, and then he will forward
14 the original transcript to my office, and we will
15 lodge it in advance of the hearing on summary
16 judgment. Or if it's not available by then, we'll
17 lodge it in advance of any hearing or trial on
18 reasonable request. If the original's not signed
19 or is lost, a certified copy may be used with full
20 force and effect.

21 So stipulated?

22 MR. HURRELL: Sounds fine.

23 MR. BOOTH: So agreed.

24 MR. MILLER: So stipulated.

25 MR. METZGER: Very well. Thank you,

1 gentlemen.

2 (The deposition was concluded at the
3 approximate hour of 1:13 p.m.)

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1 I, DAVID PYATT, Ph.D., do hereby certify
2 under penalty of perjury that I have read the
3 foregoing deposition and that the same is a true
4 and accurate transcript of my testimony, except
5 for attached amendments, if any.

6
7 _____
8 DAVID PYATT, Ph.D.

1 REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

2 I, PAM D. BUCKNER, Certified Shorthand
3 Reporter and a Notary Public in the State of
4 Colorado, appointed to take the deposition of
5 DAVID PYATT, Ph.D., do hereby certify that the
6 deponent was by me first duly sworn to testify to
7 the truth under the penalty of perjury; that the
8 deposition was taken by me at Embassy Suites, 7001
9 Yampa Street, Denver, Colorado, on September 2,
10 2009; that the proceedings were thereafter reduced
11 to typewritten form by means of computer-aided
12 transcription; that the foregoing is an accurate
13 transcript of the proceedings at that time.

14 I further certify that I am not related
15 to any party herein or their counsel and have no
16 interest in the result of this litigation.

17 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set
18 my hand and affixed my Notarial Seal this 14th day
19 of September, 2009.

20
21 _____
22 PAM D. BUCKNER, CSR
23

24 My Commission Expires 10/02/2010
25