

1 in very high concentrations and were unable to produce
2 lung tumors.

3 They doubted that asbestos was a carcinogen,
4 that is, that it could cause cancer.

5 So there was a period of controversy.

6 In 1955, a British epidemiologist named
7 Doll, Sir Richard Doll, looked at the causes of death
8 of factory workers who had been certified by the
9 British Pneumoconiosis Board suffering from asbestosis
10 and, therefore, being compensated for asbestosis.

11 When he looked at those who had died, he
12 found that the incidence of lung cancer in those
13 people who had died with asbestosis was greater than
14 10 times as high as the incidence of lung cancer in
15 the general population of Great Britain.

16 He, therefore, concluded that it looked like
17 if you had asbestosis, it significantly increased your
18 risk of lung cancer.

19 He noted, however, that all of the people
20 who had died with lung cancer and asbestosis had been
21 exposed prior to the regulations that were established