

STUYVESANT MEDICAL ASSOCIATES

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CHEST DISEASES

December 30, 1985

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RENAL DISEASES AND HYPERTENSION

FREEMAN & BASS, ESQ.,
24 Commerce Street
Newark, N.J. 07102

REDACTED

Re: , Age 57
File No. 39678 C

Gentlemen:

At your request was examined in my office on October 25, 1985. Mr. worked for Sharwin Williams Co. for 38½ years in various areas of the plant, and was exposed to benzene, chemicals, pigments, dry dust and dry chemicals, fume and other irritants. He also worked near the Diamond Alkaline plant and was exposed to dioxin and other toxic chemicals. He inhaled and ingested these irritants over the years and developed ulcers, for which he had surgery in 1970. He was again hospitalized in 1978 for ulcers at Clara Maass Memorial Hospital. He has been rejected from being a blood donor in the past because his "blood count" was "not good". He complains of a cough and shortness of breath, has pain in his stomach, he has irritation of his eyes, nose and throat, he is weak and fatigued, he has pain in his back and extremities, and is worried about his conditions.

He has a cough which is worse in the mornings, lasting through the day, and which is productive of a moderate amount of yellow sputum. He has chest pain with the cough as well as chest tightness, heaviness, pressure and congestion. He has wheezing and uses 1 pillow to ease his breathing. He is short of breath walking 1 block, climbing stairs, lifting, bending and carrying packages. He has arthritis in his right shoulder and neck. He had ulcers 15 to 20 years ago, but still has pain even after having surgery twice. He sees his doctor every 6 months for this, and for his low blood count. He had surgery for a left hernia repair, a left foot spur, his right hand in childhood, and his left elbow. He does not smoke and drinks about 5 beers a week. He is on Tagamet and an iron supplement.

PHYSICAL EXAMINATION

Appearance: he is average in height, stocky, and appears older than his stated age. He ambulates slowly

Height 68½"
Temp. 98.0

Weight 194 pounds
Pulse 82

Resp. 16
B.P. 110/70

Head and neck: the neck is supple; there is no adenopathy
Eyes: pupils are equal and react normally
ENT: clear to examination

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Chest and lungs: there are some crackles in the left base which do not clear with cough

Cardiac: regular rhythm with no murmurs

Abdomen: there are several wide vertical surgical scars; no organs or masses palpable

Extremities: no clubbing, cyanosis or edema

Urinalysis: albumin and glucose -0

Chest x-ray: the heart is borderline enlarged. The diaphragms are clear. The remainder of the mediastinal structures is normal. Within the lungs interstitial markings are prominent bilaterally. There is no evidence for congestive heart failure. The skeletal structures of the thorax appear normal.

Pulmonary function testing: the vital capacity is 3.3 liters which is 76% of predicted normal. The 1 second timed vital capacity is 1.85 liter; the 2 second timed vital capacity is 2.75 liters; the maximal flow rate is 1.3 liter per second.

CONCLUSIONS:

Based upon the history and the findings, it is my opinion that Mr. [REDACTED] has a chronic bronchitis for which I would estimate a disability of 30% of total. Based upon his history it is my opinion that this chest condition is a result of the dirt, dusts, chemicals and fumes exposure in his work at Sherwin Williams Co. His symptoms, the abnormal physical findings and the chest x-ray substantiate the diagnosis.

Based upon the history and the findings, it is my opinion that A. [REDACTED] has peptic ulcer disease, under treatment, post-gastric resection, for which I would estimate a disability of 35% of total. Based upon his history it is my opinion that this gastrointestinal condition developed as a result of the physical and emotional stress and strain as well as ingestion of chemicals and irritants in his work at Sherwin Williams.

I recommend orthopedic, ophthalmologic, otolaryngeal and neuropsychiatric consultations.

Sincerely yours,

SIDNEY E. FRIEDMAN, M.D.
SEF:jlb