



MANUFACTURING CHEMISTS ASSOCIATION

1825 CONNECTICUT AVENUE, N. W. • WASHINGTON, D. C. 20009 • (202) 463-6126

Dear Sir:

Some time ago you responded in the affirmative to an inquiry concerning your interest in conducting a research program in our behalf on the tumor inducing properties of vinyl chloride monomer. While there is as yet no assurance that such a program will be undertaken, we have now reached the stage at which we are able to specify a protocol and ask for cost estimates.

Should your interest still be active, we would appreciate a formal proposal from you, by July 9, to perform the studies described by the protocol given below. Should you require additional clarification concerning any element of our request, please feel free to call me.

The general plan involves exposure of groups of rats and mice to three levels of vinyl chloride monomer concentration, using monomer from two kinds of manufacturing processes. A single set of controls will serve for all six exposure groups. In your cost estimate, assume that adequate supplies of monomer (substantial quantities will be required, and provision must be made for handling multi-ton quantities) will be provided without cost to the contractor.

Exposure levels (to be specified before start of program) but expected to be one or the other of the following sets:

Set A

10,000 parts per million (V/V)
5,000 parts per million (V/V)
1,000 parts per million (V/V)

Set B

5,000 parts per million (V/V)
1,000 parts per million (V/V)
500 parts per million (V/V)

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Exposure Schedule

Rats, 5 hrs/day, 5 days/week, for 24 months
Mice, 5 hrs/day, 5 days/week, for 12 months

Test Animals

Rats, Wistar strain weanlings, equally divided between sex s
Mice, Strain not hypersusceptible to tumors, weanlings,
equally divided between sexes

Sources of Vinyl Chloride

1. Acetylene derived
2. Ethylene derived

Number of Animals

Highest Level	60 animals of each species per t st
Intermediate Level	200 animals of each species per test
Low Level	200 animals of each species per test
Controls	200 animals of each species per t st

The contractor to provide facilities and animal care to minimize the risk of losses of test animals from accident or disease, and maintain records on the health and behavior of th animals throughout the test. Particular care to be given to documenting the presence or absence of the pathology that has been described by Dr. Viola in his reports.

A complete report to be provided to the sponsors at the conclusion of the program, and tissue slides, photographs and other physical evidence of the pertinent pathologies, if any, to be preserved and delivered to the sponsors.

Although the chamber concentrations specified in this proto- col are below the explosive range of monomer concentrations, the prospective bidder is cautioned that large volumes of vapor will have to be diluted through the explosive range, and thought must be given to the procedure to accomplish this with minimum risk to personnel, facilities and the experimental animals.

In your proposal, pl ase sp cify in d tail, greater than we have shown in the protocol, any asp cts of your program you

X
feel important to the favorable consideration of your proposal,
or that may involve cost premiums that the suggested refinements
would justify.

I look forward to hearing from you soon regarding your
intent to submit a proposal.

Sincerely,



Kenneth D. Johnson
Assistant Technical Director
Occupational Health

KDJ/cj

cc: Occupational Health Committee