

Statement of Dr. Condict Moore
Professor of Surgery
and
Director, Cancer Center
University of Louisville School of Medicine
Prepared For
Presentation At
Department of Labor Hearings On
Vinyl Chloride, Occupational Exposure Standard
July 8, 1974

My name is Dr. Condict Moore. I am a Professor of Surgery and the Director of the Cancer Center at the University of Louisville School of Medicine.

I received my B.A. from Princeton and my M.D. from the University of Louisville. I served my internship in Methodist Hospital in Brooklyn 1942-1943.

Following service in the United States Navy, 1943-1946, I completed residencies in:

St. Luke Hospital, New York City (Pathology) 1946-1947
Methodist Hospital, Brooklyn (Surgery) 1947-1949
Memorial Hospital, New York (Resident & Fellow in Surgery) 1949-1952

I was certified by the American Board of Surgery in 1952 and, that same year, joined the faculty of the University of Louisville School of Medicine. Following a series of appointments at the Medical School relating to Pathology, Tumors, Cancer, and Surgery, I was made full Professor of Surgery (Oncology) in 1969. In addition, in 1972 I was appointed Director, Cancer Center, University of Louisville Health Science Center. My complete Curriculum Vitae is attached.

For the past two years a group of senior faculty members of the School of Medicine at the University of Louisville has been organizing the Cancer Center as a new interdepartmental, multidisciplinary organizational unit and functional focus of effort within the faculty of the University. This Cancer Center effort has gained much impetus from a historically strong University effort in the cancer field and from considerable consultative and financial support from the Cancer Centers office of the National Cancer Institute. The Cancer Center has begun an effective direction of effort, created a productive unit among the various faculties and schools of the University that has mobilized many different disciplines and enabled them to mount multi-departmental approaches to various specific tasks, both in terms of clinical and research cancer matters.

When, in January and February of this year (1974), it became apparent that the relatively large numbers of cases of angiosarcoma of the liver discovered in Louisville PVC workers of B.F. Goodrich would demand considerable clinical care and consultation and research investigation, the Director of the Cancer Center and the Cancer Center Steering Committee made some

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In short, we are addressing ourselves to finding out what vinyl chloride and related compounds will do to the human body, how we can predict pathological effects, how we can properly take care of people who have already had disease-producing exposures, and how to prevent other workers from getting a dangerous level of exposure.

The agreement was signed within the past month. Progress to date has consisted of the appointment of an outstanding hepatologist who will be on site within two months and who will make periodic visits within the next two months to help organize the program without delay. A team of clinicians has been formed and plans have been made in the medical department of the Louisville plant of the B.F. Goodrich Company to perform physicals and complete medical histories, and special questionnaires on all employees beginning July 1. This special clinical study should be completed by the middle of August. Input into the design of the questionnaire and the physical examination has been secured from numerous individuals in a variety of disciplines both within the institution and from the outside. Contact has been made with the several national and federal agencies interested in this problem, including the National Cancer Institute, NIOSH, and EPA. Representatives of these organizations have visited Louisville and been apprised of our plans. The long-range aspect of this program is periodic re-examination, re-study and careful follow-up on all previous, present and future employees. In the area of registry establishment, a person accomplished in epidemiology and biostatistics has been employed to begin work by the end of July in the design of various studies. In this regard we plan to draw upon the talents of Dr. E. Cuyler Hammond, Vice President and epidemiologist-statistician of the American Cancer Society in New York City, who has agreed to be consultant to our program. He has visited Louisville and consulted at length with company statisticians and with our multidisciplinary groups at the University.

In the area of basic research, 17 research proposals have been received and reviewed by special survey and review committees within the University. After a series of critical analyses, seven proposals have been funded at relatively low levels of funding to stimulate small pilot studies in the approved areas of research. We hope these will lead to larger studies with funding from other sources within the next year. These projects include the study of the value of electron spin resonance variations in detecting angiosarcoma and other changes in tissues exposed to vinyl chloride; the possible interaction between vinyl chloride and viral RNA or reverse transcriptase; electron microscopic studies of diseased liver tissue available to the University research group; measurements of sinus blood flow and Kupffer cell function as a possible guide to early liver damage and malignant transformation; liver-specific studies looking for these as indicators of chronic vinyl chloride exposure; and the use of mutagenicity experiments to indicate carcinogenicity of vinyl chloride and its related compounds or their metabolites.

We expect to have most aspects of this three-part program fully under way within the next year; that is, thorough, formal medical screening of all of the employees of the B.F. Goodrich plant in Louisville, a skeleton registry of vinyl chloride-exposed individuals begun so that it can be expanded and added to, and some indication of which pilot studies in basic research are worthy of further larger funding and more intensive pursuit in the laboratory.

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