

They constitute the most important clinical aspects of lung tumor diagnosis in asbestosis patients. The accurate interpretation of the latter is possible only by the purely clinical general symptomatology and thorough analysis of the individual symptoms. The important thing, as far as this is concerned, is to be able to recognize the clinical picture of asbestosis and always keep in mind that there can be complications with tumors, which are detected in the lungs of asbestosis patients almost as frequently as active tuberculosis. In Germany, only 10 cases of active tuberculosis have been reported for asbestosis patients as compared to 6 cases of tumor.

If the incidence of cancer in the lungs of asbestosis patients is as frequent as we have just stated, and if other conclusive evidence exists to support the theory that there is a close correlation between the two diseases at their origin, we must, even excluding animal experiments, already consider extending legal insurance protection to include this ailment. In previous compensation cases, trade associations have recognized this correlation, based on the uniform attitude of specialists on this matter. In the files which I personally studied on this subject, no specialist in Germany has ever adopted a different stand on the matter.

SUMMARY

The present document contains a report on case histories which have been reported and discussed concerning malignant lung and pleural tumors in patients suffering from asbestosis, based on worldwide literature. The reasons behind the original correlation between the two diseases are given. The report contains a description of the clinical picture of lung tumors in asbestosis patients and a recommendation that insurance coverage be extended to include this ailment.

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