

1 disease separate from malignant mesothelioma?

2 A Yes, sir. It is a completely different type
3 of disease. This is a cancerous disease that is
4 caused by genetic damage and cell injury to the
5 mesothelial cells.

6 This disease here is caused by the fibers
7 being taken up by cells in the lung known as
8 macrophages. These macrophages make growth factors
9 and cause scars to form.

10 They are completely different disease
11 processes. Some people with mesothelioma also have
12 asbestosis. Many people with mesothelioma do not have
13 asbestosis.

14 They are independent disease processes.

15 Q So you don't have to have asbestosis before
16 you have mesothelioma?

17 A Absolutely not.

18 Q Okay. Now, pleural plaques, what are
19 pleural plaques and where can they occur?

20 A Pleural plaques are fibrous nodules that
21 occur on the top of the diaphragm or along the chest