Translation # 300

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A CONTRIBUTION TO THE ETIOLOGY OF THE DIFFUSE MALIGNANT PLEURAL MESOTHELIOMA

Ater Siegal, Smith and Greenburg, with the "Talc Plaques" described changes in the pleura as attendant circumstances of a talcosis caused by tremolite talc, there have been especially in recent years, reports about mostly double-sized, calcifications of the pleura as a consequence of having been exposed to minerals containing fibers. Taking into account the fact that talc is often adulterated with asbestos, and that tremolite belongs to the group of amphibole asbestos, changes in the pleura caused by asbestos seem to be, as compared to other minerals, by far the most important. These were almost exclusively described in connection with asbestosis. Bohlig, Jacob and Muller claim they found it with increasing frequency and to a severe degree with a rising degree of asbestosis in asbestos workers in the area of Saxony - Thuringia. They already noted that these calcifications of the pleura do not always go hand in hand with a clear lung fibrosis.

Kiviluoto, Cartier and Anspach proved an endemic risk in absestos with these pleural calcifications, The latter reported about 429 cases from the Dresden area, out of which 54.5% experienced a job-related exposure, 35.9% experienced a risk due to the emissions of the industries processing asbestos in Dresdon. With the help of anammeses of working and living experiences, the links could be established, and could be confirmed through particles of asbestos in the saliva and through sections in some cases. At that, only in rare cases, a clear lung fibrosis could be found. In most cases, especially for people that were (risk)at because of emissions, there were no fibroid tissue reactions: only asbestos particles could be found.

In connection with being exposed to asbestos, there is not only an observation of increased carcinomata of the bronchi, but also tumors of the pleura and the peritoneum. Jacob and Bohlig had already pointed this out. In recent years, Wayner and associates described 84 cases of diffuse malignant pleural mesotheliomas in the North-Western Province of South Africa, which involved exposure to asbestos in some way. Other recent studies confirm these observations.