

The B.F. Goodrich Company
Akron, Ohio

REX H. WILSON, M. D., F. A. C. P.
MEDICAL DIRECTOR

May 20, 1963

Dr. Robert A. Kehoe
Kettering Laboratory
College of Medicine - Eden Avenue
Cincinnati 19, Ohio

Dear Bob:

We have been using metallic lead at our Marion, Ohio plant for over ten years. The use involves a relatively small group of employees, many of whom have had a number of years' exposure. Over this entire period of time we have had no problem of lead intoxication until late last year. We have examined all of the exposed personnel over this approximate ten-year period, twice each year and have included with it quantitative lead analyses of blood and urine specimens. For a number of years immediately following the opening of this plant in the early 1950's, we forwarded the specimens to your laboratory for these analyses. During more recent years, our Department of Industrial Hygiene and Toxicology has been doing them.

During the latter part of 1962, one of our employees developed mild symptoms of apparent lead intoxication. Dr. H.R. Imbus, one of our local plant physicians at Marion, examined this individual (Vernon Hawkins) and a copy of his report, dated October 5, 1962, is enclosed. It so happened that immediately prior to this examination the group of employees were checked with blood and urine specimens for lead and some elevations in urines and bloods were seen. (See attached table of serial results.) Mr. [REDACTED] was subsequently removed from contact with lead in November of 1962. [REDACTED] was also removed from exposure several weeks later, and [REDACTED] early in January of 1963. Since last October we have performed frequent blood and urine studies on all of the personnel involved. On several occasions samples of the collected specimens have been sent to your laboratory for analysis. I think, in general, the results from your laboratory and from our own have showed little variation, so that we are convinced that the results that we have obtained are reliable.

We have performed repeated industrial hygiene studies of this lead operation at Marion and have found no hazardous exposures. Our in-plant personal sanitation rules require the use of company laundered work uniforms, separate lockers for work and street clothes, prohibition of smoking and eating in the work environment, etc. In spite of this, however, and in spite of our inability to find any hazardous exposures, the blood levels of the personnel who were removed from exposure during late 1962 and have been out of lead exposure since that time have not fully returned to normal. Furthermore, we continue to see occasional blood specimens in the high normal range of those working with lead. (See attached table of serial results.)

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Dr. Robert A. Kehoe
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I am enclosing a table of our serial blood and urine examinations dating from October, 1961. The values above the line in each of the boxes are spot urine results expressed as milligrams per 100 ml. and those below the line are blood results expressed as milligrams per 100 grams. We have not performed duplicate blood determinations in all cases. Where they were performed, two blood results are shown. Our collection and analytical techniques require the use of Vacutainer tubes and the dithizone procedure. I am also enclosing, in addition to Dr. Imbus' report on Mr. [REDACTED] of October 5, 1962, a letter from Dr. Imbus to Mr. John Sofie of November 15, 1962, one from Dr. Murphy (also one of our local plant physicians) to me of November 19, 1962, one from Drs. Murphy and Imbus to Mr. Sofie of November 14, 1962, and Dr. Murphy's letter to Mr. Sofie of April 30, 1963. You will note in Dr. Imbus' letter of November 15, 1962 reference is made to a lead result obtained from the Bio Science Laboratory in California. This specimen was sent to that laboratory by the employee's personal physician.

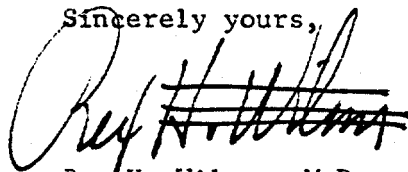
In an effort to further delineate the cause of this problem, we analyzed blood specimens from Mrs. [REDACTED] and Mr. [REDACTED]. These results were found to be entirely normal, indicating to us that the problem was not in the home environment.

I would appreciate your reviewing these results and the attached reports that I am submitting to you. I would like to have the benefit of your thinking as to the following:

1. The reason for the failure of Messrs. [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] to return to normal blood values after removal from exposure.
2. The advisability of returning either of these personnel to lead exposure at this time.
3. Any recommendations you may have for maintaining satisfactory medical or environmental control.

We, of course, expect to pay you for this consultation and, therefore, will you kindly submit your bill in your reply to me. If there is any further information that you need, we shall attempt to supply it, although I have given you all of our essential information that we now have.

Sincerely yours,



Rex H. Wilson, M.D.

cc: Dr. D.M. Murphy
Mr. R.H. Van Sickle

Sorry Bob I didnt get formal

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MARION LEAD RESULTS
(Stripping Operation)

	10/61	2/62	10/62	11/62	11/27/62	12/62	1/63	2/63	3/63	4/1/63	4/25/63	5/6
<i>Sept thru</i> [REDACTED]	<u>0.07</u>			<u>0.05</u>		<u>0.05</u>	<u>0.06</u>	<u>0.02</u>	<u>0.04</u>	<u>0.03</u>		<u>0.0</u>
<i>Revised</i> [REDACTED]	0.04			0.05		0.08	0.04	0.05	0.07	0.07		0.0
[REDACTED]	0.02	0.03	0.20	0.11		0.09	0.07	0.05	0.09	0.15	0.10	
	<u>0.03</u>	<u>0.04</u>	<u>0.07</u>	<u>0.07</u>		<u>0.05</u>	<u>0.06</u>	<u>0.04</u>	<u>0.09</u>	<u>0.06</u>	<u>0.06</u>	
	0.03		0.08	0.06		0.05	0.06	0.04	0.07	0.07		
[REDACTED]	<u>0.08</u>		<u>0.09</u>	<u>0.09</u>		<u>0.11</u>	<u>0.05</u>	<u>0.08</u>	<u>0.03</u>	<u>0.03</u>		
	0.04		0.04	0.06		0.05	0.03	0.06	0.07	0.05		
[REDACTED]	0.05	0.03	0.08	0.15		0.07	0.05	0.04	0.03	0.03		0.0
	<u>0.04</u>	<u>0.03</u>	<u>0.06</u>	<u>0.08</u>		<u>0.08</u>	<u>0.06</u>	<u>0.06</u>	<u>0.07</u>	<u>0.05</u>		0.0
[REDACTED]		0.03	11.0	0.10	0.16	0.06	0.03	0.05	0.03	0.05	0.02	
		<u>0.04</u>	<u>0.17</u>	<u>0.11</u>	<u>0.06</u>	<u>0.07</u>	<u>0.03</u>	<u>0.07</u>	<u>0.08</u>	<u>0.04</u>		
			0.08	0.07		0.07		0.06	0.07		0.05	
[REDACTED]		<u>0.03</u>	<u>0.06</u>	<u>0.09</u>		<u>0.04</u>	<u>0.05</u>	<u>0.04</u>	<u>0.04</u>	<u>0.02</u>		
		0.04	0.06	0.05		0.05	0.02	0.06	0.06	0.04		
			0.06						0.07			
[REDACTED]		<u>0.04</u>	<u>0.05</u>	<u>0.08</u>		<u>0.05</u>	<u>0.02</u>	<u>0.02</u>	<u>0.02</u>	<u>0.04</u>	<u>0.04</u>	
		0.04	0.05	0.04		0.06	0.05	0.05	0.06	0.04	0.07	
			0.05						0.07		0.05	
[REDACTED]		<u>0.07</u>	<u>0.05</u>	<u>0.13</u>		<u>0.03</u>	<u>0.06</u>	<u>0.04</u>	<u>0.10</u>	<u>0.05</u>	<u>0.03</u>	
		0.03	0.05	0.05		0.04	0.05	0.06	0.07	0.05	0.06	
			0.06						0.07		0.06	
[REDACTED]	<u>0.02</u>			<u>0.04</u>		<u>0.02</u>	<u>0.03</u>	<u>0.01</u>	<u>0.02</u>	<u>0.01</u>		<u>0.0</u>
	0.03			0.04		0.04	0.03	0.05	0.06	0.06		0.0
									0.05			0.0
[REDACTED]							<u>0.02</u>		<u>0.06</u>	<u>0.02</u>		<u>0.0</u>
							0.03		0.06	0.02		0.0
									0.07			0.0
[REDACTED]							<u>0.01</u>	<u>0.02</u>	<u>0.02</u>	<u>0.04</u>		<u>0.0</u>
							0.03	0.05	0.06	0.05		0.0
									0.05			0.0

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