



Translation #

Translated by: L. Carpentieri

Date of material:

Date:

Language:

n/d

Forwarded to: 6/17/80

Writer:

Addressee:

LUNG CANCER IN ASSOCIATION WITH ASBESTOSIS

In the last 12-15 years, extensive experience with asbestosis has been presented in the German and foreign literatures so that we have now acquired far-reaching knowledge about the risk for asbestos workers and the picture of clinical illness of their job-related disease, as well as its course. Still a number of questions remain unanswered relative to its pathogenesis, which should be further explained from a standpoint of animal-experimental and chemical-physical studies. On the other hand, our knowledge of their complications and associated diseases rest on narrower and less certain foundations.

In recent times, an extensive contribution to the pattern of lung tuberculosis in this koniosis was made by the author. Informative and important, alike, is the question concerning the relation with lung cancer, which has received a large amount of attention in the last years due to the frequency with which it was found in association with asbestosis. Interest in this is not limited only to the sociological-medical and insurance-related field, but rather it extends further into the field of general medicine, because with this, a new example of an exogenous cancer formation could be cited. The number of related observations so far is, to be sure, small, but so predominant in relation to the rarity of this disease, that a comprehensive representation seems permitted. It is also desirable because, so far, such a study from a clinical viewpoint is not yet available in literature.

First we would like to give a summary of the observations which have become known so far of lung cancer in association with asbestosis in world literature, we will add the new findings and illustrate the peculiarities of the picture of this disease as well as its clinical diagnosis.

We find the first mention of a cancerous tumor in an asbestos dust lung in 1933 by Gloyne, in a study concerning the pathological anatomy and histology of asbestosis. He speaks there of asbestosis complications, which are connected with it originally (purulent bronchitis, bronchopneumonia, tuberculosis, emphysema, bronchiectasis) and of accompanying diseases, which, based on the status of the knowledge of the time, supposedly had nothing to do with the influence of the dust. Among the latter, he mentions an observation, which he quickly dismisses with the following: "There has also been one case of squamous carcinoma of the pleura. There is no evidence at the moment that this was in any way related to the asbestosis."

156-705

8004 0022

SCF-FORD-2036