

In our study of last year, in Pittsburgh, a constant wet weight of fixed lung tissue was processed from each lung specimen obtained. The volume of the final suspension was kept constant, and one standard drop of the well-shaken suspension was used to prepare each smear, and five smears from each subject were examined and counted. Three "abundance categories" were arbitrarily defined, for comparative purposes. These were: (1) No more than one body in the five smears; (2) Two to five bodies in any one smear; and (3) More than five bodies in any one smear.

REFERENCES

1. Utidjian, H.M.D., Gross, P., and deTreville, R.T. P., Ferruginous Bodies in Human Lungs —Prevalence at Random Autopsies, Arch. Environ. Health 17: 327-333, Sept. 1968.

DISCUSSION

DR. deTREVILLE: To me, the most striking observation arising out of the use of the method described by Dr. Utidjian, which is described in detail in the publication to which he has referred, is that, given sufficient lung tissue for digestion, it should be possible to find at least one ferruginous body in everyone who comes to autopsy.

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