

N0. B-150, 698
IN THE DISTRICT COURT

LESTER AND SHERRICE BARRETT
VS.
MOBIL OIL CORPORATION, ET AL.

JEFFERSON COUNTY, TEXAS
60TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

DEPOSITION OF
ETHAN A. NATELSON, M.D., F.A.C.P

On **October 22, 1997**, the oral deposition of
ETHAN A. NATELSON, M.D., F.A.C.P., was taken
at the instance of the Plaintiff in the offices
of St. Joseph Medical Center, 1315 Calhoun Street,
18th Floor, Houston, Texas, pursuant to
Stipulation attached hereto.

2

1 Those persons present were as follows:

2 MR. J. KEITH HYDE and

MR. JAMES E. WIMBERLEY

3 Provost * Umphrey Law Firm, L.L.P.

490 Park Street

4 P. O. Box 4905

Beaumont, Texas 77704

5 Counsel for Plaintiffs,

6 LESTER and SHERRICE BARRETT

7 MR. RICHARD O. FAULK

8 Gardere, Wynne, Sewell & Riggs, L.L.P.

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11 MOBIL OIL CORPORATION, ET AL.

12 MS. DIANNA L. EDWARDS, CSR

Charlotte Smith Reporting, Inc.

13 235 Orleans Street

14 Beaumont, Texas 77701

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1 I N D E X

2 DEPOSITION OF ETHAN A. NATELSON, M.D., F.A.C.P.

3 October 22, 1997

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6 EXAMINATION BY MR. HYDE 7 - 141

7 EXAMINATION BY MR. FAULK 141 - 143

8 RE-EXAMINATION BY MR. HYDE 143 - 146

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1 E X H I B I T S I N D E X

2 DEPOSITION OF ETHAN A. NATELSON, M.D., F.A.C.P.

3 October 22, 1997

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5 EXHIBIT NO. DESCRIPTION PAGE

6 1 Three-page document entitled,
7 "Plaintiff's Third Amended Notice
8 of Oral/Video Deposition, with
9 cover letter 8

10 2 Three-page letter report to Mr.
11 Richard O. Faulk from Ethan A.
12 Natelson, M.D., F.A.C.P., dated
13 July 10, 1997 11

14 3 Copy of Pages 511 and 512 of "A
15 Textbook of Medicine" edited by
16 Russell L. Cecil, M.D., Sc.D.
17 and Robert F. Loeb, Sc.D., D.

18 13 Hon. Causa. 33

19 14 4 Copy of Pages 731, 738, 739,
20 and 740 of "Principles of

21 15 Internal Medicine" with T. R.
22 Harrison being Editor-in-Chief 33

23 16 5 Pages 394, 395, and 396 of
24 17 "Clinical Hematology" by Maxwell
25 M. Wintrobe, M.D., Ph.D. 48

26 18 6 Eleven-page article entitled,
27 19 "Notice of Intended Changes -
28 Benzene" 57

29 20 7 Copy of the "Federal Register,"
30 21 dated Friday, September 11, 1987,
31 "Part II, Department of Labor,
32 Occupational Safety and Health
33 Administration, 29 CFR Part 1910,
34 23 Occupational Exposure to Benzene,
35 Final Rule" 59

24

25

5

1 8 Fourteen-page document entitled,
"Proportional Mortality Ration
2 (PMR) Analysis of Crown Zellerbach
Death Certificates, 1981 - 1985,"
3 dated June 2, 1987 60

4 9 Seven-page document entitled,
"Benzene and the Dose-Related
5 Incidence of Hematologic Neoplasms
in China" 62

6 10 Thirty-six-page document entitled,
7 "Revised (7/14/97), An Updated
Mortality Study of Workers at a
8 Petroleum Refinery in Beaumont,
Texas" 71

9 11 One-page letter to Dr. Ethan
10 Natelson from Richard O. Faulk,
dated June 30, 1997 82

11 12 One-page letter to Dr. Ethan
12 Natelson from Betty Bourbon,
Legal Assistant, dated July 09,
13 1997 83

14 13 Documents entitled, "Volume I
and II of Direct Interrogatories
15 to: Custodian of Medical Records
for St. David's Health Care
16 System, Austin, TX, Pertaining
to Charles Lester Barrett" 84

17 14 Document titled, "Direct
18 Interrogatories to: Custodian of
Medical Records for Dr. Enrique
19 Spindel, Austin, TX, Pertaining
to Charles Lester Barrett" 112

20 15 Document titled, "Direct
21 Interrogatories to: Custodian of
Medical Records for Dr. Enrique
22 Spindel, Austin, TX, Pertaining
to Charles Lester Barrett" 112

23 16 One-page chart done by Mr. Hyde
24 during deposition 115

25

6

1 17 Copies of articles from the
medical literature that generally
2 deal with gastric lymphoma and
lymphomas of what we call the
3 MALT category, Helicobacter
pylori and the association
4 between Helicobacter pylori-and
lymphomas, non-Hodgkin's
5 lymphoma in general and
classifications of that illness,
6 and the relationship between
Helicobacter pylori and gastric
7 cancer. 129

8 18 One-page letter to James Wimberley
from Enrique Spindel, M.D., dated
9 11 July 1997 139

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1 ETHAN A. NATELSON, M.D., F.A.C.P.,
2 having been duly sworn, testified as follows, to-wit:

3 EXAMINATION BY MR. HYDE:

4 Q. Good afternoon. Would you please introduce 5 yourself?

6 A. My name is Ethan Natelson.

7 Q. Dr. Natelson, what is your home address?

8 A. 8707 Wateka, W-a-t-e-k-a, Drive, Houston, Texas
9 77074.

10 Q. And what's your telephone number?

11 A. Well, the work number here is area code
12 713-652-3161.

13 Q. And how are you employed?

14 A. Well, in several ways. I -- I have several
15 jobs. I'm the director of medical education at St.
16 Joseph Hospital. And in that category I'm paid by the
17 hospital -- those type things. I'm also in private
18 practice, and I do that here at this Stehlin Oncology
19 Clinic. And then I gain money from seeing private
20 patients.

21 Q. Dr. Natelson, my name is Keith Hyde. And we
22 have never met, correct?

23 A. That's correct.

24 Q. Do you understand that you are under oath to
25 tell the truth today?

8

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. If at any time I ask you a question that you
3 don't understand, will you tell me that so that I can
4 rephrase my question?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. And, Doctor, if at any time you'd like to take
7 a break, we'll take a break for whatever reason. Is
8 that agreeable to you?

9 A. Excellent.

10 MR. HYDE: Would you mark that,
11 please?

12 (AT THIS TIME NATELSON EXHIBIT NØ. 1
13 WAS MARKED FOR IDENTIFICATION PURPOSES AND
14 IS FULLY DESCRIBED IN THE "EXHIBIT INDEX"
15 HEREIN. SAME WILL BE FOUND AT THE
16 CONCLUSION OF THIS DEPOSITION.)

17 (By Mr. Hyde)

18 Q. Doctor, I've had attached as Exhibit 1 the
19 notice of deposition for your deposition today.
20 Obviously, you received a-copy of that document.

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. We requested that you bring with you certain
23 items, including a current resume or a curriculum vitae.
24 Do you have such a document?

25 A. Yes.

9

1 Q. And that's in this pile in front of me?

2 A. Yes

3 Q. We requested that you bring a copy of your
4 complete file in this matter. Is what's in front of me
5 now everything in your file?

6 A. Well, what's in front of you are all the
7 materials that Mr. Faulk has sent me and any letters or
8 bills I might have sent him and then certain medical
9 papers from my files.

10 Q. Is there any information in your file
11 concerning this lawsuit that is not in front of me that
12 is still in some other file?

13 A. Well, the answer would have to be yes in the
14 sense that this lawsuit deals with lymphoma. And I have
15 hundreds of papers that deal with lymphoma, books,
16 texts, and many other things that I might either
17 consciously or unconsciously rely on when asked
18 questions that have to do with lymphoma. So what I
19 brought are articles that I think are most pertinent and
20 would support the views that I would give.

21 Q. So as we sit here today, the documents that you
22 have here in front of you concerning non-Hodgkin's
23 lymphoma, those are the documents that you would expect
24 to give specific testimony on at the time of trial; is
25 that correct?

10

1 A. Well, I can't anticipate what questions you
2 might ask of me; and so these documents cover what I
3 think needs to be covered. There may be other documents
4 that I would need to supply depending upon what you
5 might choose to ask me.

6 Q. And it's your understanding that the documents
7 in front of you are the documents that you'll be relying
8 upon at the time of trial upon examination by Mr. Faulk;
9 is that correct?

10 A. Well, they may not exclusively be these because
11 medicine is a continuing operation. There may be an
12 article published next week that may have great
13 relevance, and I might use that if it turned out to be
14 pertinent.

15 Q. But as it concerns documents that are in
16 publication now that you have, the documents that are in
17 front of me are most likely the documents that you'll be
18 relying upon during your direct examination with Mr.
19 Faulk. Is that a fair statement?

20 A. Yes, sir.

21 Q. We also requested that you produce a copy of
22 any report prepared by you in this matter. Would you
23 identify that document, please?

24 A. Yes. That is this document (indicating).

25 MR. HYDE: Would you mark that,

11

1 please?

2 (AT THIS TIME NATELSON EXHIBIT NO. 2
3 WAS MARKED FOR IDENTIFICATION PURPOSES AND
4 IS FULLY DESCRIBED IN THE "EXHIBIT INDEX"
5 HEREIN. SAME WILL BE FOUND AT THE
6 CONCLUSION OF THIS DEPOSITION.)

7 (By Mr. Hyde)

8 Q. Doctor, would you please identify the document
9 which we've had marked as Exhibit 2?

10 A. This is a letter that I sent to Mr. Richard
11 Faulk on July 10th, 1997, concerning the case of Lester
12 Barrett versus Mobil Oil Company.

13 Q. When were you requested to write the document,
14 your report in this matter?

15 A. I can't tell you the exact date.

16 Q. Approximately when?

17 A. Well -

18 MR. FAULK: I'm going to object
19 because -

20 A. I don't really know. I can't -- Obviously
21 sometime before this.

22 MR. FAULK: Hold on a minute, Doctor.

23 I'm going to object because the question
24 lacks a foundation because it doesn't
25 establish that I, in fact, asked you to

12

1 prepare a report. You may answer the
2 question.

3 Q. Doctor, then I can clear that up. Who asked
4 you to prepare Exhibit 2, your report in this matter?

5 A. Mr. Faulk.

6 Q. And approximately when did Mr. Faulk or someone
7 at his firm request you to write Exhibit 2? And I'm
8 asking for an approximate time period.

9 A. I would say approximately weeks prior to this
10 letter --

11 Q. Okay.

12 A. -- probably not months.

13 Q. Doctor, did you have a draft of Exhibit 2?

14 A. No.

15 Q. Did you have any document other than Exhibit 2
16 that you gave to any of the attorneys at Mr. Faulk's law
17 firm for them to review prior to July 10th, 1997 -

18 A. No, I --

19 Q. -- that reflected your opinions in this matter?

20 A. No, I did not.

21 Q. So, therefore, it would be reasonable to
22 conclude that Exhibit 2, your report in this matter, is
23 the only document that you've written in this matter:
24 and there have been no drafts. Is that correct?

25 A. That is correct.

13

1 Q. We also requested that you produce a copy of
2 all documents reviewed by you in preparation for this
3 deposition. Are all those documents that you reviewed
4 in preparation for this deposition in front of me now?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. Are there any others?

7 A. No.

8 Q. We requested that you produce all documents
9 that you have relied upon relative to the formation of
10 your opinions in this matter. And are those documents
11 in front of us today?

12 A. Well, again, as I said earlier, there -- there
13 are concepts that have to do with lymphoma that I have
14 many other documents that relate to that. And so
15 that -- I believe these documents will support my
16 opinion, but there may be others that I have that would
17 do the same.

18 Q. And, again, you have no specific intention of
19 bringing any of those other documents to trial as we sit
20 here today.

21 A. No, I do not.

22 Q. That was probably -- Since I phrased my
23 question in the negative and you answered in the
24 negative, it's -- I know what you and I meant to say;
25 but let me ask it this way, Doctor. Are there any other

14

1 documents except those documents that are in front of me
2 now that as we sit here today you intend to bring to
3 trial in this case?

4 A. No.

5 Q. Okay.

6 MR. HYDE: Off the record.

7 (AT THIS TIME THERE WAS AN

8 OFF-THE-RECORD DISCUSSION, AFTER WHICH THE

9 PROCEEDINGS RESUMED AS FOLLOWS:)

10 (By Mr. Hyde)

11 Q. Doctor, you've given your deposition before: is
12 that correct?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. Approximately how many times, your best
15 estimate?

16 A. Perhaps 20 times.

17 Q. And you've given your case -- Strike that.

18 You've given your deposition in a case where the
19 plaintiff's name was Frias; is that correct?

20 A. Yes, that is correct.

21 Q. Did you review any of your past depositions in
22 preparation for today's deposition?

23 A. No.

24 Q. I understand that you typically are retained as
25 an expert witness approximately six to eight times per

15

1 year; is that correct -- involving six or eight cases?

2 A. That could be so. That would be approximately
3 right.

4 Q. And I understand that you have been testifying
5 as an expert witness at different rates obviously, not
6 rates in money but rates in how many cases per year, for
7 approximately 20 years; is that correct?

8 A. Well, it could be that long. I have testified
9 for -- and not necessarily in liability-type lawsuits,
10 but I've testified in a number of types of trials. And
11 it could date as long as 20 years.

12 Q. And it's fair to say that the great majority of
13 the cases in which you consult, you consult on behalf of
14 defendants, true?

15 A. The majority.

16 Q. Well, if you had to assign a percentage,
17 wouldn't it be correct that 90 to 95 percent of the
18 times in which you're retained as an expert in a case,
19 that you're retained by attorneys for the defendant?

20 A. I don't think it's anywhere near that high.

21 Q. Give me your best estimate then.

22 A. Well, my best estimate would be that about -
23 If I review cases -- And you have to understand that if
24 I -- if I reviewed a case for the plaintiff and my
25 opinion might not be favorable to the plaintiff, then

16

1 there would be no deposition and no testimony on my
2 part. So I've reviewed a number of cases for the
3 plaintiff, but they have not come to trial or
4 deposition. And so if I look at the totality of cases I
5 look at, I'd guess it's probably about 70/30 in terms of
6 defendant and plaintiff.

7 Q. So that I'm clear on that, of cases that you
8 review, it's your best estimate that approximately 70
9 percent of those cases you are retained as an expert on
10 behalf of the defendant; is that correct?

11 A. That's correct.

12 Q. Now, in the cases in which you have given
13 deposition testimony -

14 A. Right.

15 Q. -- would it be correct that that would
16 represent 90 to 95 percent of the depositions that
17 you've given that would be such that you'd be there on
18 behalf of the attorneys representing the defendant?

19 A. I still think that's too high. I can think of
20 several cases where I testified on behalf of the
21 plaintiffs, and I haven't done all that many cases. So
22 I don't know what -- the numbers, but 95 percent sounds
23 much too high.

24 Q. Well, do you have a better approximate?

25 A. I'd say probably in the range of 80 percent.

17

1 Q. So that the record's clear, for your -
2 (AT THIS TIME THERE WAS IN
3 INTERRUPTION AT THE DOOR TO ANNOUNCE THAT
4 JIM WIMBERLEY WAS HERE, AND THERE WAS AN
5 OFF-THE-RECORD DISCUSSION.)

6 Q. In cases in which you've been retained as an
7 expert and you've given deposition testimony, your best
8- estimate is that approximately 80 percent of the time
9 that you give the deposition testimony, you're giving
10 deposition testimony on behalf of the defendant. Is
11 that a fair -

12 A. I think that's fair, yes.

13 Q. Now, have you ever testified at the trial of
14 any lawsuit on behalf of a plaintiff?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. And would that include a case involving an
17 allegation of chemical exposure causing a certain
18 hematologic disorder?

19 A. The answer would be no.

20 MR. HYDE: Off the record.

21 (AT THIS TIME THERE WAS AN
22 OFF-THE-RECORD DISCUSSION, AFTER WHICH THE
23 PROCEEDINGS RESUMED AS FOLLOWS:)

24 (By Mr. Hyde)

25 Q. Approximately how many times have you testified

18

1 at trial as an expert witness?

2 A. Possibly in the range of ten.

3 Q. And for those ten times that you've testified

4 at trial as an expert witness, those have been solely on

5 behalf of the defendants as it relates to hematological

6 disorders. Is that a fair statement?

7 MR. FAULK: Let me make an objection

8 because I think the question lacks a

9 foundation as to whether all of those ten

10 times were.

11 Q. Let me ask it this way.

12 MR. FAULK: Okay.

13 Q. Of the ten times that you've testified, how

14 many of those cases involved your giving testimony that

15 a plaintiff's hematological condition or disorder was

16 not caused by exposure to chemicals?

17 A. You'll have to run that one by again.

18 Q. Fair statement.

19 A. I got lost in that one.

20 Q. It's a complex question really for a simple

21 concept. Have you ever testified in trial on behalf of

22 a plaintiff that a blood disorder was caused as a result

23 of chemical exposure?

24 A. No, not to my knowledge.

25 Q. Have you ever testified that a plaintiff's

19

1 blood disorder was not the result of chemical exposure?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. About how many times?

4 A. You're talking in trial?

5 Q. Yes, sir.

6 A. Two that I recall.

7 Q. Have you ever testified in a deposition that a
8 plaintiff's blood condition or blood-related cancer was
9 caused as a result of chemical exposure?

10 A. No.

11 Q. Do you know who Mr. Faulk is representing in
12 this lawsuit?

13 A. I believe Mobil Oil.

14 Q. Have you ever been to Jefferson County,
15 specifically Beaumont, Port Arthur, Port Neches?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. What has caused you to go to Jefferson County?

18 A. Well, I purchased some citrus trees from a man
19 who lived in Port Neches once. I've been to Beaumont a
20 couple of times, I think to give some talks there. I
21 used to drive through that area commonly because my wife
22 lived in Louisiana. I can't recall the last time I've
23 been there.

24 Q. You said you gave some speeches in Beaumont.

25 To whom?

20

1 A. These would be medical talks. And it's been a
2 long time ago, so I -- I can't recall the details.

3 Q. Do you recall what hospital you were speaking
4 at?

5 A. Probably St. Elizabeth's, but I -- I don't -

6 Q. Do you know that?

7 A. -- recall the details. I can't recall. It's
8 been a long time ago.

9 Q. How long ago?

10 A. More than ten years.

11 Q. Do you recall having any specific discussions
12 with any of the oncologists or hematologists in
13 Beaumont?

14 A. Not specifically.

15 Q. The speeches that you gave in Beaumont, do you
16 know what subject -

17 A. They would be in hematology presumably. But,
18 again, it's been in hematology, which is my field. But
19 it's been so long ago that I -- I can't remember any
20 details.

21 Q. So as to the subject matter of any speeches you
22 gave in Beaumont, as we sit here today, you would be
23 guessing or speculating as to the subject?

24 A. That's correct.

25 Q. Specifically, have you ever been to the Mobil

21

1 refinery in Beaumont?

2 A. No.

3 Q. Have you been to the Mobil chemical plant,
4 specifically the 0 and A facility in Beaumont?

5 A. No.

6 Q. Have you ever had a conversation with any of
7 the Mobil plant physicians or plant doctors from either
8 the Mobil refinery or the Mobil chemical plant?

9 A. Not to my knowledge.

10 Q. I know that the Frias case in which Mr. Faulk
11 represented one of the defendants involved the Lyondell
12 Petrochemical and Atlantic Richfield. Do you recall
13 that?

14 A. I don't recall the companies that were
15 involved.

16 Q. And I understand that you have consulted with
17 Mr. Faulk while he was at Akin, Gump, correct?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. Approximately how many times have you consulted
20 with Mr. Faulk or someone at Mr. Faulk's firm,
21 specifically Akin, Gump, when he was with that firm?

22 A. I have no idea.

23 Q. All right. Obviously, every case in which you
24 consulted with Mr. Faulk while he was at Akin, Gump
25 involved some type of hematological or blood disorder or

22

1 some type of cancer; is that correct?

2 A. Well, that would be correct. Yes.

3 Q. Now, when you say you have no idea, are you
4 talking because the number might be in the range of 20,
5 30, 40, or 50 times: or you just don't have a clue?

6 A. Well, the last one I remember was the Frias
7 case. Perhaps there was one before that. If there was,
8 I've forgotten about it.

9 Q. Okay.

10 A. But there certainly wouldn't be 20 or 30 cases.

11 Q. That's what I -- I just want to get an idea,
12 sir.

13 A. Okay.

14 Q. Mr. Faulk is now with Gardere Wynne Sewell &
15 Riggs. And besides this case, are you currently
16 testifying for Mr. Faulk as a consulting -- not as a
17 consulting but as a testifying expert?

18 A. Not to my knowledge.

19 Q. Approximately how many hours have you spent
20 working on this matter, Mr. Barrett's case?

21 A. Perhaps four or five hours.

22 Q. Does that include today's work?

23 A. We haven't concluded today's work yet, so I
24 don't know.

25 Q. Well --

23

1 A. That would be up -- up until today, in other
2 words.

3 Q. And I take it that you had an opportunity to
4 meet with Mr. Faulk today, true?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. And I would take it that you met with Mr. Faulk
7 for an hour or two?

8 A. No. That would be incorrect.

9 Q. About how long?

10 A. About 15 minutes.

11 Q. Dr. Natelson, what do you charge for your work
12 as a consultant?

13 A. Generally \$200 an hour.

14 Q. And that's a flat rate whether you're in
15 deposition or whether you're reviewing documents or
16 whatever; is that correct?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. And I take it that the money that you receive
19 from your consulting work goes directly to you: is that
20 correct?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. Doctor, have you been supplied any exposure
23 information concerning Mr. Barrett and his exposure to
24 benzene?

25 A. No.

24

1 Q. Dr. Natelson, have you been provided with any
2 exposure information concerning Mr. Barrett's exposure
3 to butadiene?

4 A. No.

5 Q. Have you requested any exposure information
6 concerning Mr. Barrett and his exposure to any
7 chemicals?

8 A. No.

9 Q. What is your understanding of Mr. Barrett's
10 occupation while he was at the Mobil refinery and Mobil
11 chemical plant in Beaumont?

12 A. I think I commented on that in my letter, if I
13 can look at that. And what I could see from the medical
14 records, he had been employed as a pipe fitter for 15
15 years. And at the time of his diagnosis of lymphoma, he
16 was not in that line of work.

17 Q. What is your understanding as to what a pipe
18 fitter does in a refinery and chemical plant?

19 A. I don't know exactly what a pipe fitter does.

20 Q. To your knowledge have you ever observed a pipe
21 fitter performing pipe fitter work in a refinery or
22 chemical plant?

23 A. Definitely not.

24 Q. Doctor, have -- Let me strike that. Dr.

25 Natelson, have you been provided with any Mobil

25

1 documents concerning the health hazards of benzene?

2 A. No.

3 Q. Dr. Natelson, have you been provided with any

4 Mobil documents concerning the health hazards of

5 butadiene?

6 A. No.

7 Q. Dr. Natelson, have you been provided with any

8 Mobil documents specifically concerning toxicological

9 studies concerning benzene?

10 A. No.

11 Q. Have you been provided with any Mobil

12 toxicological studies or information concerning

13 butadiene?

14 A. No.

15 Q. Have you been provided with any Mobil

16 epidemiological studies?

17 A. No.

18 Q. Dr. Natelson, have you ever given any type of

19 public presentation concerning benzene?

20 A. Well, I've given talks on aplastic anemia; and

21 historically benzene has been a cause of that. So I can

22 say indirectly. I don't recall any specific lectures on

23 benzene in particular.

24 Q. Have you ever given a public presentation or

25 talk concerning butadiene?

26

1 A. No.

2 Q. Have you ever given a public presentation
3 concerning non-Hodgkin's lymphoma?

4 A. Many times.

5 Q. When is the last time you gave such a public
6 presentation concerning non-Hodgkin's lymphoma?

7 A. Well, we have a multidisciplinary cancer
8 meeting each Monday; and the public or anybody is
9 invited to that. There usually are about 50 people in
10 attendance. And we present cases of patients with
11 cancer diagnosed at St. Joseph Hospital. Commonly
12 lymphoma is a topic. And I probably presented within
13 the last two weeks at that meeting.

14 Q. Have you ever given a public presentation
15 concerning the cause of a specific case of non-Hodgkin's
16 lymphoma?

17 A. We've -- Yes, in the sense that we've talked at
18 this conference about MALT lymphomas, which are thought
19 to be induced by Helicobacter.

20 Q. And when did you first give that presentation?

21 A. We talked about that about -- either two or
22 three weeks ago.

23 Q. And that was after you had written your report
24 in this matter, correct?

25 A. Yes. It had to do with another patient of

27

1 mine.

2 Q. Doctor, are you aware that benzene is present
3 at the Mobil refinery in Beaumont?

4 A. I would assume it's there. I don't have
5 specific knowledge of what chemicals are located there.

6 Q. Do you know whether or not benzene is present
7 at the Mobil chemical 0 and A plant?

8 A. Again, I don't know what chemicals they have in
9 their repertoire.

10 Q. Do you know or have you been told what
11 percentage of the employees at the Mobil Oil refinery
12 are exposed to benzene?

13 A. No.

14 Q. Have you -- Do you know or have you been told
15 what percentage of workers are exposed to benzene at the
16 Mobil chemical 0 and A plant?

17 A. No.

18 Q. Do you know whether or not butadiene is present
19 at either the Mobil refinery or Mobil chemical plant,
20 specifically the 0 and A plant in Beaumont?

21 A. No.

22 Q. Have you ever visited an oil refinery, taken a
23 tour of a refinery?

24 A. No.

25 Q. Have you ever taken a tour of a chemical plant?

28

1 A. You have to define what you mean by chemical
2 plant.

3 Q. Fair enough, Doctor. In the Houston, Deer
4 Park, Pasadena, Channelview area, there are a number of
5 chemical plants that make a variety of chemicals through
6 the use of distillation towers and other process
7 equipment. And my question to you is: Have you been in
8 a chemical plant such as those that I've -- in the area
9 that I've just described?

10 A. No.

11 Q. And have you been in any refinery or chemical
12 plant in Jefferson County?

13 A. No.

14 Q. I want to start broad here, Doctor; and I'm
15 going to try to narrow it down. But hang with me here
16 for a second.

17 A. okay.

18 Q. When were you first contacted to be an expert
19 witness on behalf of Mobil?

20 A. In this particular case

21 Q. Yes, sir.

22 A. -- you're talking about? Well, it would
23 be -- It probably would be before the July 10th date. I
24 don't know exactly when. It would be perhaps a month or
25 two before that date.

29

1 Q. And you received some medical records: is that
2 correct?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. And are those medical records in front of me
5 and Mr. Wimberley?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. Do you know Dr. Spindel or Dr. Hoverman, the
8 physicians who treated Mr. Barrett?

9 A. No.

10 Q. Mr. Barrett has a cancer, correct?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. And, more specifically, Mr. Barrett was
13 diagnosed with non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, correct?

14 A. Correct.

15 Q. And I suppose, more specifically, Mr. Barrett
16 has a form of non-Hodgkin's lymphoma known as gastric
17 lymphoma.

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. What specific cell type of non-Hodgkin's
20 lymphoma do you understand that Mr. Barrett has been
21 diagnosed with?

22 A. A B-cell large cell type.

23 Q. Do you have any quarrel or dispute about Mr.
24 Barrett's diagnosis, that being a B-cell large cell
25 non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, specifically gastric lymphoma?

30

1 A. No.

2 Q. Now, I think, and correct me if I'm wrong, that
3 there can be some other distinctions made when looking
4 at cell type. And I think they use the word diffuse or
5 other words, correct?

6 A. Correct.

7 Q. Did he have a diffuse large cell B-cell
8 non-Hodgkin's lymphoma?

9 A. Well, those terms are best applied to lymph
10 nodes: diffuse and nodular. In this biopsy he did have
11 nodular changes of lymphoid tissue, but the area of the
12 tumor was diffuse. But our classifications are
13 generally based on nodal lymphomas, not extranodal
14 lymphomas. This would be called an extranodal lymphoma.

15 Q. So with his extranodal lymphoma, he did have
16 characteristics of diffuse and -- What's the other?

17 A. Nodular.

18 Q. -- nodular. Dr. Natelson, have you published
19 any papers concerning benzene?

20 A. Not to my knowledge.

21 Q. Dr. Natelson, have you published any papers
22 concerning butadiene?

23 A. No.

24 Q. Have you published any papers concerning
25 non-Hodgkin's lymphoma?

31

1 A. I'd have to look at my curriculum vitae. I
2 don't know. I've published papers in a number of areas
3 in hematology.

4 Q. Well, let me hand it to you there (tendering
5 document).

6 A. Look and see.

7 Q. Doctor, while you're looking through that, do
8 you have any problem with Mr. Wimberley looking through
9 these piles of documents here?

10 A. Not at all.

11 Q. If it interrupts you in any way, just let me
12 know. Okay?

13 A. Okay.

14 MR. HYDE: Off the record.

15 (AT THIS TIME THERE WAS AN

16 OFF-THE-RECORD DISCUSSION, AFTER WHICH THE
17 PROCEEDINGS RESUMED AS FOLLOWS:)

18 A. Well, the -- One of the papers on my curriculum
19 vitae has to do with chemotherapy studies on
20 Camptothecin, which is an anticancer drug. And this
21 involved studies of patients with a variety of
22 malignancies, including lymphoma. So in a sense that -
23 that paper has something to do with treatment of
24 lymphoma. But there are no articles specifically
25 concerning lymphoma.

32

1 (By Mr. Hyde)

2 Q. Have you published any papers that specifically
3 concern gastric lymphoma?

4 A. No.

5 Q. Doctor, do you consider yourself to be a
6 toxicologist?

7 A. No.

8 Q. Do you consider yourself to be an
9 epidemiologist?

10 A. No.

11 Q. Do you consider yourself to be an industrial
12 hygienist?

13 A. No.

14 Q. And you have a medical degree from what
15 university?

16 A. Baylor Medical School.

17 Q. And what year did you graduate?

18 A. 1966.

19 Q. And I suppose you did internships or
20 residencies, correct?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. In what specific areas?

23 A. In internal medicine.

24 Q. And where?

25 A. At the Baylor-affiliated hospitals, which

33

1 consist of the Ben Taub Hospital, the Veterans Hospital,
2 and Methodist Hospital.

3 Q. And out of your work with internal medicine, I
4 take it that somehow you landed in hematology.

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. In medical school did you study hematology?

7 A. Yes.

8 \$Q. What textbooks did you use concerning internal
9 medicine?

10 A. Well, at that time the most commonly used
11 textbooks were either Cecil and Loeb, which was a common
12 internal medicine text, or Harrison. Those were
13 probably the two widest texts in use at that time.

14 Q. And I take it that you still have those books
15 somewhere in your files?

16 A. Well, newer editions of them. The original
17 ones are long gone.

18 (AT THIS TIME NATELSON EXHIBIT NOS. 3

19 AND 4 WERE MARKED FOR IDENTIFICATION

20 PURPOSES AND AER FULLY DESCRIBED IN THE

21 "EXHIBIT INDEX" HEREIN. SAME WILL BE FOUND

22 AT THE CONCLUSION OF THIS DEPOSITION.)

23 Q. Doctor, I've had marked as Exhibit 3 A Textbook
24 Of Medicine edited by Cecil and Loeb. And I've had
25 specific portions of the 1953 reprint copied and

34

1 included in Exhibit 3. And I've also had marked as
2 Exhibit 4 Principles Of Internal Medicine,
3 Editor-in-Chief Dr. Harrison, a 1952 reprint,
4 specifically the section dealing with chemical agents.
5 And I'll give you a chance to look at those if you want
6 to go off the record. Would that be all right?

7 A. Oh, certainly.

8 (AT THIS TIME THERE WAS AN
9 OFF-THE-RECORD DISCUSSION, AFTER WHICH THE
10 PROCEEDINGS RESUMED AS FOLLOWS:)

11 A. Okay.

12 Q. Doctor, looking at Exhibit 3, which is Cecil
13 and Loeb's book on internal medicine, on Page 511
14 there's a section on benzene poisoning, correct?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. And it states, "Benzene (benzol, C_6H_6 , to be
17 distinguished from petroleum benzine) is, with
18 disturbing frequency, the cause of serious and even
19 fatal poisoning." That's a correct reading, isn't it?

20 A. That's correct.

21 Q. I take it that when you were at medical school,
22 you learned that benzene was capable of causing serious
23 and even fatal conditions.

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. And that would have been something that you

35

1 would have learned in the 1960s time period, correct?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. It further states, "Chronic poisoning -- And

4 I'm reading right here on the right-hand column -

5 "Chronic poisoning or subacute poisoning is much more

6 frequent and is manifested usually after days or months

7 of exposure to benzene." That's a correct reading?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. And that's something you knew while you were in

10 medical school, correct?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. It further states -- And I'm skipping a few

13 lines -- "Abdominal pain and gastro-intestinal

14 irritation with nausea and vomiting are common:" Is

15 that a correct reading?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. And that's something you were aware of when you

18 were in medical school, correct?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. It further states, "The blood picture -- going

21 down to the next paragraph, "The blood picture may vary

22 considerably from the so-called classical changes.

23 Leukopenia, neutropenia, thrombocytopenia, hypochromia,

24 eosinophilia, and anemia may or may not be present. The

25 bone marrow may be affected, or it may be aplastic" --

36

1 Excuse me. "The bone marrow may not be affected, or it
2 may be aplastic, hyperplastic or leukemic." Is that
3 correct?

4 A. Correct.

5 Q. And that's information you knew when you were
6 in medical school -

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. -- correct? It further states in the next
9 midsection under Diagnosis, the last sentence on Page
10 511, "A history of ben -- A history of exposure to
11 benzol should be the determining factor in the diagnosis
12 of benzene poisoning." Is that a correct reading?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. And you knew that when you were in law school;
15 is that -- Excuse me. You knew that when you were in
16 medical school, correct?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. Thank God you didn't go to law school. Let's
19 turn over here to Exhibit 4, Doctor, which is
20 "Principles of Internal Medicine," edited by Dr.
21 Harrison. Again, that was a book you used in medical
22 school, correct?

23 MR. FAULK: Well, objection. Not this
24 particular edition, I think, would be more
25 fair.

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1 Q. It is a book that you used in medical
2 school -- maybe not this edition but you used Harrison,
3 correct?

4 MR. FAULK: And I'm going to object to
5 the question again still because the
6 question necessarily infers or implies that
7 the text remained the same throughout all
8 the editions. If you can give him a text
9 of an edition that he used in medical
10 school, you can then examine that. But I
11 think it's unfair to characterize it any
12 other way.

13 Q. Let's phrase it this way, Doctor.

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. One of the books you used in medical school
16 concerning internal medicine during the 1960s was
17 Harrison's book on internal medicine, true?

18 A. No. That's actually false. Cecil and Loeb. I
19 didn't know Harrison until I was out of medical school.

20 Q. Were you in your residency or internship when
21 you owned the Principles Of Internal Medicine book by
22 Harrison?

23 A. I was probably in my residency.

24 Q. And that would have been, again, in the late
25 1960s?

38

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. Now, from this 1952 edition of Harrison's
3 Principles of Internal Medicine book, on Page 731
4 there's a section concerning chemical agents. Do you
5 see that?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. And it's authored by Dr. Marshall Clinton. Do
8 you see that?

9 A. Well, it doesn't give his title as to his
10 degree. It just says "Marshall Clinton." I don't
11 know

12 Q. Did you know that Dr. Marshall Clinton was at
13 one time affiliated with Mobil Oil?

14 A. No.

15 Q. Did you know that Dr. Marshall Clinton was the
16 physician who compiled the information for the 1948
17 American Petroleum Institute toxicological review for
18 benzene?

19 A. No.

20 Q. On Page 738 of this edition of Principles of
21 Internal Medicine by Harrison, it states under the
22 section for benzene poisoning, "Benzene may in addition
23 produce serious, even fatal, delayed poisoning following
24 repeated exposure to very low concentrations which may
25 escape sensory detection." That's a correct reading,

39

1 correct?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. As we sit here today, Doctor, do you know what
4 the odor threshold is for benzene?

5 A. I don't recall it. I can speculate. I've seen
6 the number, but I don't recall the exact number. It's
7 in some of my references.

8 Q. Doctor, you have had patients who have been
9 exposed to benzene, correct?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. And you have on occasion attributed benzene
12 exposure as a cause of their blood disorder, correct?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. And I think you've testified in the past that
15 you recall one case where an individual was diagnosed
16 with myelodysplastic syndrome and had a history of
17 exposure to benzene, correct?

18 A. Among other chemicals, yes.

19 Q. And I think you also testified that one of your
20 patients developed myelofibrosis and had .a history of
21 exposure to benzene, correct?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. At the time when you attributed benzene
24 exposure as a cause of either the myelodysplasia or
25 myelofibrosis, did you attempt to determine the level of

40

1 benzene exposure that these individuals had
2 A. Well, in the case of the person who had
3 myelodysplasia or erythroleukemia, I had his plant
4 records, which showed numerous drops in his white blood
5 cell count, indicating that he'd had enough exposure to
6 make the blood counts abnormal and then allow them to
7 recover when he was taken out of the atmosphere. I did
8 not have any data as to what levels of benzene were
9 measured at that time.

10 In the case of the other fellow I think I
11 mentioned, I did not have any levels of benzene: but we
12 had history that he'd been made sick from benzene
13 exposure.

14 Q. Some kind of acute -

15 A. Acute -

16 Q. -- illness?

17 A. -- illnesses, yes.

18 Q. Certainly, if an individual could smell benzene
19 in the air, you as a physician would recognize that that
20 individual may be overexposed to benzene, true?

21 A. Probably, yes.

22 Q. Further, on Page 738 on the right-hand column
23 under Chronic Benzene Poisoning, it states, "Chronic
24 benzene poisoning results from repeated or continuous
25 exposure to relatively low concentrations of benzene

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1 vapor. The level and degree of exposure necessary to
2 produce poisoning apparently vary widely." Do you agree
3 with that statement, sir?

4 A. It depends what kind of poisoning you're
5 talking about.

6 Q. Well, they're talking about chronic poisoning
7 now.

8 A. Well, but, I mean, what -- what result of
9 chronic poisoning? Leukemia? Aplastic anemia?
10 Myelofibrosis? I mean, what -- what exactly are you
11 referring to here?

12 Q. As a general proposition, do you agree with
13 that statement?

14 A. As a general proposition, I think that we
15 believe now that very high levels of benzene exposure,
16 probably in the range of 1 to 200 parts per million over
17 time, can -- can produce leukemia; but very low levels
18 probably do not.

19 Q. Doctor, what study can you point me to that
20 would support your opinion that exposures at 1 to 200
21 parts per million are necessary in order to cause a
22 hematological disorder or blood disorder such as
23 leukemia?

24 MR. FAULK: I'm going to object to the
25 question because his answer was

42

1 specifically limited to leukemia. I think
2 your question's broader. He hasn't
3 expressed an opinion in regard to some of
4 these other -

5 Q. You may answer, Doctor.

6 A. In the case of acute leukemia, Dr. Wong has
7 written a number of epidemiologic papers. There have
8 been many others. There's papers by Paxton dealing with
9 the exposure at the pliofilm plants, and I would have in
10 my files a number of papers that would indicate that
11 leukemia is really caused by -- by high total exposures:
12 in other words, high exposures over short periods of
13 time or low exposures over very long periods of time so
14 that you accumulate a large amount of benzene part per
15 million years, so to speak.

16 Q. So Dr. Wong is someone who you consider
17 authoritative in the field of benzene-related
18 epidemiology; is that correct?

19 A. He's published many papers in the area of
20 epidemiology relating to leukemia. And as to whether
21 he's authoritative, I don't know that I look at anybody
22 as authoritative. But he's written a lot of papers in
23 the area.

24 Q. Have you ever had an opportunity to speak with
25 Dr. Wong?

43

1 A. No.

2 Q. Have you seen Dr. Wong's report in this case?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. Have you been provided with any other

5 statements made by Dr. Wong - Strike that. Have you

6 been made -- Strike that. Has Mr. Faulk provided to you

7 the statements that Dr. Wong made to OSHA at the

8 hearings concerning the benzene standard back in the

9 1984 time period?

10 A. Not to my knowledge.

11 Q. Have you ever reviewed the OSHA benzene

12 standard, specifically the preamble, that concerns

13 benzene and cancer?

14 A. I probably have at some time in the past.

15 I -- It hasn't been recently.

16 Q. Do you recall any statements attributed to Dr.

17 Wong in the OSHA benzene standard, specifically the

18 preamble?

19 A. No.

20 Q. So that I'm correct, benzene may cause leukemia

21 when there's a high total exposure -- And I'm not going

22 to misquote you in any way. So, you know, if I do, I

23 would like for you to correct me. But I want to make

24 sure I understand this.

25 MR. FAULK: Well, I am going to object

1 that that mischaracterizes his testimony as
2 to a general category of leukemia.

3 MR. HYDE: I wasn't finished.

4 MR. FAULK: Okay.

5 (By Mr. Hyde)

6 Q. But as it relates to, I think you said, acute
7 myelogenous leukemia and benzene exposure, you look at
8 exposure in two different ways, one being a high level
9 of exposure for either a long or short period of time or
10 lower exposure levels over a long period of time. And
11 those would be factors that you would be considering as
12 to whether or not an acute myelogenous leukemia was
13 caused from benzene exposure, correct?

14 A. Those would be in part what I would consider,
15 yes.

16 Q. And I take it that -- Well, is it your position
17 that -- in order for you to attribute benzene exposure
18 as a cause of acute myelogenous leukemia, is there any
19 requirement of any precursor conditions such as aplastic
20 anemia or myelodysplastic syndrome or some other type of
21 blood dyscrasia?

22 A. No. In other words, the leukemia caused by
23 benzene may have a myelodysplastic phase but doesn't
24 necessarily have a myelodysplastic phase.

25 Q. In the 1953 edition -- Strike that. In the

45

1 1952 edition reprint of Harrison's book on internal
2 medicine, on Page 738 it states, "Inasmuch as the body
3 develops no tolerance to benzene, it is generally
4 considered that the only absolutely safe concentration
5 for benzene is zero." That's a correct reading, isn't
6 it?

7 A. I'm not following where you are here.

8 MR. FAULK: Which page are you on,
9 Keith?

10 MR. HYDE: 738 -

11 THE WITNESS: He said 738.

12 MR. HYDE: -- on the right-hand side.

13 (By Mr. Hyde)

14 Q. It says, "The American Standards Association"
15 on top of the paragraph, about halfway down in the
16 paragraph. See, I've got it marked here, Doctor
17 (indicating). Look.

18 A. Yes. I think I see.

19 Q. It states -- And so the question's clear, on
20 Page 738 of Harrison's book on internal medicine,
21 specifically the 1952 edition, it states, "Inasmuch as
22 the body develops no tolerance to benzene, it is
23 generally considered that the only absolutely safe
24 concentration for benzene is zero." That's a correct
25 reading, isn't it?

46

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. Have you heard that before today?

3 A. I don't recall that -- having heard that
4 before.

5 Q. On the next page, Page 739, under Chronic
6 Benzene Poisoning on the left-hand side, it states,
7 "Chronic benzene poisoning is more frequent, more
8 insidious, and usually more serious than acute benzene
9 poisoning." That's a correct reading, isn't it?

10 A. Again, I'm not certain where you are.

11 MR. FAULK: Which paragraph, Keith?

12 Q. (Indicating.)

13 A. Oh, the other side. That's what it says.

14 "Chronic benzene poisoning is more frequent, more
15 insidious, and usually more serious than acute benzene
16 poisoning."

17 Q. Dr. Natelson, you certainly are aware that the
18 diseases or conditions associated with benzene exposure
19 are serious and life-threatening.

20 A. Benzene exposure at certain levels can result
21 in life-threatening illnesses.

22 Q. Including death?

23 A. Including death.

24 Q. And exposures to benzene may pose a substantial
25 risk of harm to the worker exposed to benzene, correct?

47

1 A. Depending on the levels exposed to.

2 Q. Have you ever seen any risk assessment data
3 concerning worker exposure to benzene and the risk of
4 harm associated with those benzene exposures?

5 A. Well, I've seen epidemiologic articles talking
6 about -- as the ones we've commented from Dr. Wong and
7 others, about what chronic-type exposures have caused
8 acute myeloplastic leukemia.

9 MR. HYDE: Let me -- I need to object.

10 (By Mr. Hyde)

11 Q. I guess I want to be very clear. I'm not
12 talking about an epidemiological study. I'm talking
13 about a risk assessment based on certain risk assessment
14 principles. Do you recall reading any study dealing
15 with risk assessment and exposure to benzene?

16 A. You'd have to -- I may have. You'd have to
17 show me a specific article you're talking about.

18 Q. As we sit here today, does that specifically
19 ring a bell that you've read a study concerning risk
20 assessment and benzene?

21 A. No, not particular.

22 MR. HYDE: Off the record for a
23 second.

24 (AT THIS TIME THERE WAS AN

25 OFF-THE-RECORD DISCUSSION, AFTER WHICH THE

48

1 PROCEEDINGS RESUMED AS FOLLOWS:)

2 (By Mr. Hyde)

3 Q. Doctor, what is your understanding of when
4 chronic benzene poisoning was first reported in the
5 medical literature?

6 A. Well, you've shown me articles written here in
7 the 1950s that talk about it. I believe we knew
8 aplastic anemia could be caused from benzene much
9 earlier than that. I don't know the exact initial
10 publication on benzene poisoning.

11 Q. Have you ever used a textbook by Dr. Wintrobe
12 entitled, "Clinical Hematology"?

13 A. Yes.

14 (AT THIS TIME NATELSON EXHIBIT NO. 5
15 WAS MARKED FOR IDENTIFICATION PURPOSES AND
16 IS FULLY DESCRIBED IN THE "EXHIBIT INDEX"
17 HEREIN. SAME WILL BE FOUND AT THE
18 CONCLUSION OF THIS DEPOSITION.)

19 Q. Doctor, I've had marked as Exhibit 5, Dr.
20 Wintrobe's book on Clinical Hematology dated 1942. Do
21 you see that, sir?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. And there's a section from that textbook on
24 Page 394 concerning aplastic anemia. Do you see that
25 section?

49

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. On this -

3 MR. FAULK: I'm going to object to the
4 line of questioning because it lacks a
5 foundation that this is the edition that
6 the doctor has referred to and used.

7 Q. In the 1942 edition of Wintrobe's -- Dr.
8 Wintrobe's book on clinical hematology, there's a
9 section concerning benzol, correct?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. And, of course, you understand benzol to be
12 benzene.

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. And it states on Page 395, "Benzene has been
15 known as a cause of fatal aplastic anemia since
16 Santesson's description (1897) of 4 cases in workers in
17 a bicycle tire factory." That's correct, isn't it?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. Were you aware that cases of aplastic anemia
20 were first reported in 1897 involving workers exposed to
21 benzene?

22 A. No.

23 Q. What textbooks do you now use, Doctor, in your
24 work as a hematologist?

25 A. Well, I have Wintrobe's textbook in my office.

50

1 I also have Williams' textbook of hematology. I have
2 another one with a red cover. I'm blanking out on the
3 lead author.

4 Q. Would that be Dr. Hoffman or Dr. Jandel?

5 A. No. Dr. Hoffman's is one. But when you say
6 use, the use of textbooks has become less and less
7 useful, you might say, to a practicing physician because
8 of the fact that we normally use the medical literature,
9 which is more up to date: and textbooks are typically
10 several years behind the medical literature. And so
11 periodically we'll buy a new textbook, but the amount of
12 time that we use it is on rare occasions as a reference
13 matter.

14 Q. The textbooks that you have available to you in
15 your office or in your practice include Dr. Williams'
16 book on hematology, Dr. Wintrobe's book on hematology,
17 and Dr. Hoffman's book on hematology: is that correct?

18 A. Correct.

19 Q. And on occasion you will use these books as
20 references in your work as a hematologist; is that
21 correct?

22 A. Correct.

23 Q. And these books you have found to be
24 authoritative in the field of hematology: is that
25 correct?

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1 A. No. I wouldn't recognize these books as
2 authoritative. Many times there are errors in them.

3 And -- But they are useful, nevertheless.

4 Q. Now, are you aware as to the classification of
5 benzene by OSHA whether or not benzene is or is not a
6 carcinogen?

7 A. Benzene is considered a carcinogen.

8 Q. And you're familiar with the International
9 Agency for Research on Cancer, otherwise known as IARC,
10 correct?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. And how does IARC classify benzene as it
13 relates to its cancer-causing properties?

14 A. It's considered to be a carcinogen.

15 Q. And I believe it's a class 1 human carcinogen;
16 is that correct?

17 A. If you say so.

18 Q. Well, I mean

19 A. It's a carcinogen, yeah.

20 Q. Okay. And certainly you have no dispute with
21 OSHA or IARC concerning their classification of benzene
22 as a carcinogen, correct?

23 A. No, none whatsoever.

24 Q. I take it that you know that benzene is harmful
25 to the bone marrow?

52

1 A. Can be.

2 Q. Benzene may be harmful to the DNA?

3 A. Yes, it can be.

4 Q. Why is that important, Doctor?

5 A. Well, the metabolites of benzene are what we
6 call topoisomerase 2 inhibitors. The topoisomerase
7 system has to do with unfolding of DNA so the cells can
8 divide. And there are two forms of topoisomerase:
9 topoisomerase 1 and 2. And benzene, like many of our
10 chemotherapy drugs, is a topoisomerase 2 inhibitor or
11 its metabolites are topoisomerase 2 inhibitors. When
12 you have drugs that are topoisomerase 2 inhibitors, you
13 have drugs that have the potential for causing
14 leukemia -- acute leukemia.

15 Q. Now, the DNA that may be harmed as a result of
16 benzene exposure, that DNA is located in the bone
17 marrow; is that correct?

18 A. Well, DNA is located in every -- most every
19 cell in the body.

20 Q. But of concern, as it relates to benzene,
21 typically has been that benzene exposure may harm the
22 DNA of the cells that are located in the bone marrow.
23 Is that a fair statement?

24 A. That would be a concern, yes.

25 Q. Would there be other concerns as well?

53

1 A. Well, I mean, presumably any cell that can be
2 damaged by inhibition of the DNA replication systems can
3 be damaging to the organism.

4 Q. Now, I'm not going to go in great detail
5 because I really can't. I'm aware of the totipotential
6 stem cell that's located in the bone marrow, correct?

7 A. There are stem cells in the bone marrow, yes.

8 Q. And what is the importance of the stem cell in
9 the bone marrow?

10 A. Well, stem cells are important because they
11 give rise to the mature cells that circulate, but they
12 also have the capacity for reproducing themselves so
13 that you don't run out of gas; in other words, that you
14 don't -- You don't want all of your stem cells to go
15 into circulating cells that will die off. You want some
16 of them to remain and repopulate the bone marrow.

17 Q. So from the stem cells there go different
18 lineages of cells that circulate in the blood, correct?

19 A. Well, as -- as stem cells mature, they go down
20 certain pathways and eventually reach a point where they
21 are committed to go a particular way. Early in their
22 development, they may give rise to different types of
23 cells.

24 Q. But eventually --

25 A. Eventually a stem cell leads to a final cell

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1 that is a dead end that eventually is going to die.

2 Q. And those dead end cells are one of several
3 groups, T-cells, B-cells -

4 A. Red blood cells, white blood cells of various
5 kinds, yes.

6 Q. With all these questions that I'm fixing to ask
7 you, because .I can ask them in about like one minute,

8 I'm going to ask you about some conditions -

9 hematological conditions or oncology-type cancers.

10 We'll just call them that. I'm going to ask you whether
11 or not you recognize the condition as being associated

12 with exposure to benzene. Now, I know that -- I assume
13 that you would answer the question with sufficient

14 exposure at sufficient duration, you know, those types
15 of questions. I suppose the best way is that I should

16 just go ahead and include that in my question. But I'll
17 try to make this as fast as I can.

18 With sufficient exposure to benzene, you

19 recognize an association with benzene in myelodysplastic
20 syndrome: is that correct?

21 A. That is correct.

22 Q. And you recognize benzene as a cause of
23 myelodysplastic syndrome.

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. With sufficient exposure you recognize that

55

1 benzene is a cause of acute myelogenous leukemia.

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. With sufficient exposure you recognize that

4 benzene is a cause of aplastic anemia.

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. With sufficient exposure do you recognize an

7 association with benzene and acute lymphocytic leukemia?

8 A. No.

9 Q. Do you recognize an association between

10 exposure to benzene and chronic myelogenous leukemia?

11 A. No.

12 MR. FAULK: You didn't -- Well, okay.

13 That's fine. You didn't preface it with

14 sufficient exposure.

15 MR. HYDE: Yeah. Well, if I thought

16 that he would answer it differently, I

17 would maybe ask it that way.

18 MR. FAULK: Need to be consistent,

19 though.

20 (By Mr. Hyde)

21 Q. Do you recognize an association between benzene

22 and chronic lymphocytic leukemia?

23 A. No.

24 Q. With sufficient exposure to benzene, do you

25 recognize benzene as a cause of myelofibrosis?

56

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. With sufficient exposure do you recognize
3 benzene as a cause of thrombocytopenia?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. With sufficient exposure do you recognize
6 benzene as a cause of leukopenia?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. Doctor, have you read any documents that
9 suggest that exposure to benzene is a cause of
10 non-Hodgkin's lymphoma?

11 MR. FAULK: I want to object because
12 the term "suggest" is vague.

13 A. Well, there are many suggestions as to the
14 cause of non-Hodgkin's lymphoma: and many papers have
15 been written on the subject. And certain papers,
16 particularly epidemiologic studies, have suggested that
17 chemicals, including benzene, might be a cause of
18 non-Hodgkin's lymphoma. And I have seen such studies,
19 yes.

20 Q. Now, in the United States there are two sources
21 of information that industrial hygienists go to as it
22 concerns exposure levels -- or limits for workers
23 exposure -- exposed to certain chemicals, those being
24 OSHA, Occupational Safety and Health Administration, and
25 the American Conference of Governmental Industrial

57

1 Hygienists. Are you aware of those two organizations?

2 A. Yes.

3 MR. FAULK:. I'm going to object to the
4 question because his awareness of the
5 organizations is apparently the question.
6 And he testified about a number of things
7 that -- I think the question's misleading
8 and bad form.

9 A. I have heard of both these organizations.

10 Q. And I understand that you're not an industrial
11 hygienist and certainly don't mean to represent by that
12 question that you are an industrial hygienist or that
13 you hold yourself out to be a specialist in industrial
14 hygiene. Do you understand that?

15 A. Correct.

16 MR. HYDE: Mark that for me, please.

17 (AT THIS TIME NATELSON EXHIBIT NO. 6
18 WAS MARKED FOR IDENTIFICATION PURPOSES AND
19 IS FULLY DESCRIBED IN THE "EXHIBIT INDEX"
20 HEREIN. SAME WILL BE FOUND AT THE
21 CONCLUSION OF THIS DEPOSITION.)

22 (By Mr. Hyde)

23 Q. Dr. Natelson, I've had marked as Exhibit 6 the
24 Notice Of Intended Changes For Benzene from the Applied
25 Occupational Environmental Hygiene magazine, July of

58

1 1990, which is the magazine of the American Conference
2 of Governmental Industrial Hygienists. And I'm going to
3 ask if you've ever seen this document before.

4 A. If I have, I don't recognize it.

5 Q. Let me see it, please.

6 A. (Tendering document.)

7 Q. On Page 459 on Exhibit 6 on the right-hand
8 column, it states -- I'll read it to you -- "Prolonged
9 cumulative exposures were judged more important for
10 human benzene carcinogenicity than maximum peak
11 exposures, and the authors concluded that there was a
12 significant association between occupational benzene
13 exposure and the occurrence of leukemia, all
14 lymphopoietic cancers, and non-Hodgkin's lymphopoietic
15 cancers." Have you ever heard that before today?

16 A. Well, as I mentioned, I've seen epidemiologic
17 studies that suggest that non-Hodgkin's lymphoma can be
18 caused by benzene.

19 Q. Now, I'm going to have marked as the next
20 exhibit -

21 MR. FAULK: I Object to that answer as
22 being nonresponsive.

23 MR. HYDE: What number are we on?

24 COURT REPORTER: 7.

25 MR. HYDE: 7. Go ahead and mark this,

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1 please.

2 (AT THIS TIME NATELSON EXHIBIT NO. 7

3 WAS MARKED FOR IDENTIFICATION PURPOSES AND

4 IS FULLY DESCRIBED IN THE "EXHIBIT INDEX"

5 HEREIN. SAME WILL BE FOUND AT THE

6 CONCLUSION OF THIS DEPOSITION.)

7 (By Mr. Hyde)

8 Q. Doctor, do you recall seeing any studies from

9 Dow Chemical concerning workers exposed to benzene who

10 had chromosomal aberrations attributed to benzene

11 exposure at levels of exposure as low as 5 parts per

12 million? Have you ever seen such a study?

13 A. I don't recall.

14 Q. Now, earlier you talked about a Dr. Wong and

15 some of the research that you've read from Dr. Wong.

16 And in Exhibit 7, which is the OSHA regulation for

17 benzene dated September 11th, 1987, on Page 34,475 in

18 the middle of the page, there's a quote concerning Dr.

19 Wong. And it states, "As a result of the analyses,

20 Wong, et al., concluded that there was a significant

21 association between occupational exposure to benzene and

22 leukemia, all lymphopoietic cancers, as well as

23 non-Hodgkin's lymphopoietic cancer." That's a correct

24 reading, isn't it?

25 A. Yes.

60

1 MR. FAULK: Can we get the question
2 read back? I want to -- Are you saying
3 this -- Well, just a second. Are you
4 saying this is a quote from Dr. Wong or a
5 quote from the standard?

6 MR. HYDE: OSHA standard.

7 MR. FAULK: Okay. Fine.

8 (By Mr. Hyde)

9 Q. Now, and that is a similar quote to what was in
10 the ACGIH Notice Of Intended Change document which has
11 been marked Exhibit 6, correct?

12 A. Yes.

13 (AT THIS TIME NATELSON EXHIBIT NO. 8
14 WAS MARKED FOR IDENTIFICATION PURPOSES AND
15 IS FULLY DESCRIBED IN THE "EXHIBIT INDEX"
16 HEREIN. SAME WILL BE FOUND AT THE
17 CONCLUSION OF THIS DEPOSITION.)

18 Q. Now, Exhibit 8 is a document I received from
19 Dr. Dement at Duke University. Do you know Dr. Dement?

20 A. No.

21 Q. Have you ever heard of Dr. Dement?

22 A. No.

23 Q. This is a study that Dr. Dement sent me that is
24 entitled, "Proportional Mortality Ratio (PMR) Analysis
25 of Crown Zellerbach Death Certificates, 1981 through

61

1 1985, Final Report," dated June 2nd, 1987. And one of
2 the authors of that document was Dr. Otto Wong, while he,
3 was with Environmental Health Associates. I'm going to
4 ask if you have ever seen this document before today.

5 A. No.

6 Q. Doctor, I'm going to turn to Page 9 in a
7 second. If I can, I'll -

8 A. I have mine.

9 Q. On Page 9 in the second full paragraph, the
10 paragraph starts off, "For lymphopoietic cancer and
11 diseases." I'm going to move on later on into the
12 paragraph. And it states, "There has been at least two
13 previous reports of excess lymphopoietic cancer in pulp
14 and paper workers. (Robinson 1983, Milham 1984). These
15 disease are usually associated with solvents, especially
16 benzene." And my question is: Have you ever seen this
17 document where Dr. Wong states that lympho -- lympho -
18 I can't say it -- lymphopoietic cancers are usually
19 those types of diseases associated with solvents,
20 especially benzene?

21 A. I have not seen this article or that statement.

22 Q. Do you disagree with what Dr. Wong said in
23 1987?

24 MR. FAULK: I'm going to object that
25 the term "lymphopoietic cancer" is not a

62

1 sufficiently specific category to answer
2 any questions about it.

3 (By Mr. Hyde)

4 Q. You may answer, Doctor.

5 A. You know, I would -- I would agree lymph --

6 This Dr. Wong presumably is an epidemiologist, and
7 I'd -- I'd like to know what he includes under that
8 category. That's --, - That could include a number of
9 things.

10 Q. I think he states on Page 9, "The disease
11 category for lymphopoietic cancer includes both the
12 lymphomas and leukemias." That's a correct reading,
13 isn't it?

14 A. That's correct.

15 Q. Do you have any disagreement with that?

16 A. Well, I think that to lump leukemia in with
17 lymphoma, you've got apples and oranges there. And so
18 obviously he's putting apples and oranges together.
19 That's what he's saying.

20 Q. Doctor, have you -- Well, never mind.

21 MR. HYDE: Let's go ahead and mark it.

22 (AT THIS TIME NATELSON EXHIBIT NO. 9
23 WAS MARKED FOR IDENTIFICATION PURPOSES AND
24 IS FULLY DESCRIBED IN THE "EXHIBIT INDEX"
25 HEREIN. SAME WILL BE FOUND AT THE

63

1 CONCLUSION OF THIS DEPOSITION.)

2 (By Mr. Hyde)

3 Q. Am I correct then, Doctor, that you would
4 disagree with the inclusion of lymphomas and leukemias
5 as lymphopoietic cancer -

6 MR. FAULK: Well, I'm going to
7 object -

8 Q. -- such that -- such as what Dr. Wong included
9 in his report in June of 1987? Do you disagree with
10 that category?

11 MR. FAULK: Well, I'm going to -- I'm
12 going to object to the question unless you
13 specify whether you're asking him as an
14 epidemiologist or as a clinician. I think
15 that he's testified that they're apples and
16 oranges. And I think the question is
17 misleading.

18 Q. As a physician, Doctor.

19 A. As a physician, if you put two different
20 diseases in the same category and one disease has a high
21 incidence of something related to a particular chemical
22 and you lump the two together, you're dragging one in
23 with the other. In other words, you have to look at
24 these things separately. If you have a large number of
25 - leukemia cases and no lymphoma cases and you put your

64

1 lymphomas in with your leukemias, everything might look
2 elevated: but it may have nothing to do about lymphoma.

3 Q. It might be just the opposite. You might have
4 a lot of lymphomas and no leukemias and have the same
5 elevation but it be attributable to the lymphomas,
6 correct?

7 A. Correct.

8 Q. And as it relates to -- Well, strike that,. Dr.

9 Natelson, I'm going to show you Exhibit 9. And I'm

10 going to ask you if you have ever seen this document
11 before.

12 MR. FAULK: Dr. Natelson -- Off the
13 record.

14 (AT THIS TIME THERE WAS AN

15 OFF-THE-RECORD DISCUSSION, AFTER WHICH THE

16 PROCEEDINGS .RESUMED AS FOLLOWS:)

17 MR. FAULK: Back on the record.

18 A. I may have seen this article. I would think I
19 probably have seen this article at some time.

20 Q. I take it that you also have treated patients
21 with lung cancer?

22 A. On rare occasion. I don't see a lot of
23 patients with solid tumors unless they have some unusual
24 circumstance.

25 Q. But you as a physician -- Strike that. Do you

65

1 recognize that cigarette smoking causes lung cancer?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. And do you know what the SMRs or standard

4 mortality ratios are as it concerns deaths from lung

5 cancer amongst cigarette smokers?

6 A. No.

7 Q. Is there any particular level of an SMR that

8 you as a physician use when you want to establish

9 whether or not a certain condition or cancer may be

10 caused by some bacteria or environmental agent like a

11 chemical?

12 A. Well, we have recognized that epidemiologic

13 studies have many problems because of inaccurate death

14 certificates -- if their based on death certificates,

15 inaccurate data. And so if you want to be certain that

16 an epidemiologic or a mortality rate is significant

17 relating a chemical to a particular disease, what you'd

18 like to see are consistent studies; in other words, that

19 several people conduct the same kind of study and find

20 the same basic number. And you'd like to see that

21 number at least three times what -- what the expected

22 would be.

23 Q. But I take it that also you take into

24 consideration the power of a study when looking for a

25 cause of a certain condition or illness, correct?

66

1 A. Well, that's one thing that you take into
2 consideration. But if you have ten bad studies and put
3 them together, now you've got one big bad study. So, I
4 mean, it depends on the particular studies you're
5 looking at.

6 Q. Well, for instance, if you had a well-run,
7 well-designed study that had a million people in it and
8 there was an SMR of 1.1, that may be statistically
9 significant, correct?

10 A. It might to an epidemiologist.

11 Q. In other words, if you look at a million people
12 and you expect a certain condition in 100,000 but
13 actually you see it in 110,000, it may be significant
14 that there are 10,000 more people with this condition or
15 cancer than what was expected. That might be
16 statistically significant, correct?

17 MR. FAULK: I'm going to object until
18 you lay a foundation that he's qualified to
19 express opinions as an epidemiologist.

20 Q. As a physician, Doctor.

21 A. As a physician, if you told me that something
22 was 1.1 higher than normal, I'd say it's utter nonsense.

23 Q. Now, if in the population of this million
24 people only 50,000 had exposure to a specific etiologic
25 agent and there were 10,000 more deaths amongst those

67

1 50,000, that may be significant to you, correct -

2 MR. FAULK: Same objection.

3 Q. -- as a physician?

4 A. Now, let's see. You have to-run that one by

5 again. You've got 50,000 people now -

6 Q. Within the million-person cohort.

7 A. . All right.

8 Q. But those 50,000 actually had exposure to some

9 agent. I'm not going to say whether it's chemical or

10 whatever. But within those 50,000, we had 10,000

11 diseases or deaths. That may be significant to you.

12 A. If you have 10,000 people getting an illness in

13 a group of only 50,000, that would seem very impressive.',

14 Q. Now, first of all, let's go back to this study

15 here. Exhibit 9 --

16 MR. FAULK: You want to refresh his

17 recollection as to what it is?

18 MR. HYDE: Yes, sir, I will.

19 (By Mr. Hyde)

20 Q. It's entitled, "Benzene and the Dose-Related

21 Incidence of Hematologic Neoplasms in China." The first

22 investigator is Richard B. Hayes. And you said you may

23 have seen this document before, correct?

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. One of the conclusions from Exhibit 9, the

68

1 report by Hayes, is that workers with ten or more years
2 of benzene exposure had a relative risk of developing
3 non-Hodgkin's lymphoma of 4.2, 95 percent confidence
4 interval 1.1 through 15.9. Have you ever seen that
5 specific conclusion before, Doctor?

6 A. Well, I think I've seen this paper. So I think
7 I would have seen that conclusion.

8 Q. Certainly when -- Because when I asked you
9 earlier, you indicated you like to see consistent
10 studies with three times odds ratio or SMRs, whatever,
11 that that would be significant to you, correct?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. Certainly when you see an SMR relative risk of
14 4.2, that certainly rings of significance to you,
15 doesn't it?

16 MR. FAULK: I'm going to object
17 because -

18 Q. As a physician.

19 MR. FAULK: I'm still going to object
20 because your previous question was prefaced
21 with consistency. And you haven't laid a
22 foundation showing that this study is
23 consistent with anything.

24 A. Well, it depends, again, on the type of study.

25 If the study is one that I considered well done and came

69

1 up with a result of four times the incidence, I would
2 think that would be suggestive. I would like to see
3 other studies show the same thing; but, again, it would
4 depend on the quality of the study.

5 Q., Do you have any evidence that the study which
6 has been marked as Exhibit 9, the study by Dr. Hayes,
7 that this study is not a competently designed and
8 carried out study?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. What evidence do you have, sir?

11 A. I just visited in China, and I was there for
12 two weeks at several of the universities lecturing and
13 saw what kind of medical care they get, what kind of
14 universities they have, and what kind of recordkeeping
15 they have. And I would -- wouldn't believe a piece -- a
16 speck of fly on that paper.

17 Q. So the basis of your criticisms of this report
18 by Dr. Hayes is your recent visit to China and your
19 knowledge of their medical system, correct?

20 A. In part. Dr. Wong points out other features
21 about the fact that, for example, the diagnosis of
22 lymphoma, I think he mentioned, could only be verified
23 60 percent of the time when the slides were looked at.
24 And I would -- I'm surprised it's that good after seeing
25 what I saw. So I would think that the data collection

70

1 here would be extremely invalid. Plus, the conditions
2 there are so unique that they would probably have no
3 bearing on what we see here in the United States. The
4 level of pollution in these cities there is staggering.
5 We don't have anything like it comparable in the United
6 States. So I think whatever conclusions they would
7 might find in China would have very little bearing about
8 what happens in the United States.

9 Q. What information or evidence do you have as it
10 concerns ambient benzene levels in the environment in
11 China as compared to the levels of benzene present in
12 Jefferson County, Texas?

13 A. I have no specific information about benzene
14 levels there versus Jefferson County.

15 Q. You understand that the last day that Mr.
16 Barrett worked as a pipe fitter he was on a benzene
17 tower at the Mobil chemical plant in Beaumont and that
18 that tower caught on fire, and Mr. Barrett spent over 50
19 days in the hospital for his wounds. Did you know that?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. And as we sit here today, you have no idea of
22 the level of benzene Mr. Barrett was exposed to before
23 and during that fire on the benzene tower at Mobil,
24 correct?

25 A. That is correct.

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1 (AT THIS TIME NATELSON EXHIBIT NO. 10
2 WAS MARKED FOR IDENTIFICATION PURPOSES AND
3 IS FULLY DESCRIBED IN THE "EXHIBIT INDEX"
4 HEREIN. SAME WILL BE FOUND AT THE
5 CONCLUSION OF THIS DEPOSITION.)

6 (By Mr. Hyde)

7 Q. Doctor, this is Exhibit 10, which is the
8 Updated Mortality Study of Workers at a Petroleum
9 Refinery in Beaumont, Texas, by Dr. Raabe and others.
10 And I'll represent to you that this is an updated
11 mortality study of the Mobil - Beaumont refinery. And,
12 as I understand it, you've not seen this document: is
13 that correct?

14 A. That's correct.

15 Q. May I see it, Doctor?

16 A. (Tendering document.)

17 Q. Now, you understand that a pipe fitter is part
18 of maintenance.

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. On Table XIII it's entitled, "Selected
21 Cause-Specific Mortality Among Beaumont Males Employed
22 Greater Than 6 Months in Maintenance Craft Jobs by Hire
23 Period." That's a correct reading, isn't it?

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. Now, lymphoma, specifically non-Hodgkin's

72

1 lymphoma, is included in the category of cancers of
2 other lymphatic tissue. Is that --

3 MR. FAULK: I'm going to object

4 because you haven't laid a -

5 Q. -- consistent with your understanding?

6 MR. FAULK: I'm going to object

7 because you haven't laid a foundation for

8 that.

9 A. Well, I don't know. It just says "other

10 lymphatic tissue." They don't tell you what that means,

11 whether they've lump -- put chronic lymphocytic leukemia

12 in there, whether Hodgkin's disease is in there, whether)

13 non-Hodgkin's is in there. It doesn't specify what's in

14 there.

15 Q. Well, we see that leukemia is in a category

16 right above other lymphatic tissue, correct?

17 A. Okay.

18 Q. And I'll represent to you that one of the

19 cancers included in cancers of other lymphatic tissue isle

20 non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, and I believe multiple myeloma

21 is also included in that. All right?

22 A. Okay.

23 Q. Now, for workers who worked in maintenance

24 greater than six months prior to 1950, there is an SMR

25 of 205 that is statistically significant for workers at

73

1 Mobil who died of cancers of other lymphatic tissue; is
2 that correct?

3 MR. FAULK: I'm going to object
4 because the question's misleading. You
5 prefaced it by only including two causes of
6 death within the other lymphatic tissue
7 when you know that the document specifies
8 numerous others.

9 MR. HYDE: I don't know that.

10 (By Mr. Hyde)

11 Q. But, Doctor, that's a correct SMR, isn't it?

12 A. I can read the number there. It says 205.

13 Q. And it says it's statistically significant; is
14 that correct?

15 A. $.05$ level, yes.

16 Q. And that shows at least a twofold increase in
17 those types of cancers, correct?

18 MR. FAULK: I'll object because the
19 question's vague. What types of cancer is
20 this? No types of cancer are specified on
21 that page.

22 Q. Of other lymphatic tissue.

23 A. It's of whatever other lymphatic tissue is.

24 Q. And we move over to workers who worked more
25 than six months in maintenance at the Mobil refinery who

74

1 were hired after 1950. There is an SMR of 443 under
2 that same category of cancers of other lymphatic tissue;
3 is that correct?

4 A. Yes.

5 MR. FAULK: I'm going to object to the
6 question as being vague:

7 Q. And that would be a fourfold increase over what
8 was expected, correct?

9 A. Of whatever is in that category.

10 Q. All right. Well, overall -- I'm looking at
11 male refinery workers with greater than six months in
12 the Beaumont refinery who had employment greater than
13 six months in maintenance craft jobs for all
14 lymphopoietic cancers, specifically cancer of lymphatic
15 tissue -- there was an SMR of 233. That was
16 statistically significant, correct?

17 MR. FAULK: Again, I object to the
18 question as being vague. The category
19 "other lymphatic tissue" has not been
20 specified to the doctor as to what it
21 includes. And as such the question's
22 misleading.

23 A. Well, I see the 233; and I see that it's
24 statistically significant at the .01 level.

25 Q. Now, on Table -- And just so -- We were

75

1 referring -- That was Table XII that that question
2 referred to. Now we're looking at Table XIV, which is
3 "Observed and Expected Deaths, SMRs and 95% Confidence
4 Interval for Hematopoietic Cancers-Among Male
5 Maintenance Craftworkers by Duration of Employment."
6 That's a correct reading, isn't it?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. And there's a section for non-Hodgkin's
9 lymphoma, correct?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. And for workers who worked less than ten years,
12 there was an SMR of 244; is that correct?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. And if you worked 10 to 29 years, there was an
15 SMR of 174, correct?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. And that would represent a 74 percent increase
18 over what was expected, correct?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. And for the total there was an SMR of 168 of
21 non-Hodgkin's lymphoma amongst maintenance craft workers
22 at the Mobil - Beaumont refinery; is that correct?

23 A. Yes.

24 MR. FAULK: I'm going to object
25 because the question's misleading because

76

1 you're leaving out the confidence
2 intervals, and that's a necessary component
3 for understanding any SMR.

4 COURT REPORTER: And that's -

5 MR. FAULK: -- a necessary component
6 for understanding any SMR.

7 Q. And that would represent a 68 percent increase
8 over what was expected in the category of non-Hodgkin's
9 lymphoma amongst the maintenance workers, correct?

10 MR. FAULK: I'm going to object. The
11 question's vague because you're not
12 considering the confidence intervals.

13 Q. You may answer.

14 A. Well, the 168 is higher than 100.

15 Q. Sixty-eight percent higher.

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. Would it be important to you to know how many
18 of the maintenance workers actually worked in the
19 benzene area for those workers who developed' I
20 non-Hodgkin's lymphoma at the Beaumont refinery? Is
21 that something that you as a hematologist would like to
22 know?

23 MR. FAULK: I'm going to object
24 because you've not laid a foundation that
25 the doctor is familiar with the document in

77

1 any degree other than the pages you've
2 shown him, and I think it's manifestly
3 unfair to ask him questions and ask him to
4 interpret ultimate findings from a document
5 without him demonstrating familiarity with
6 it or even the ability to analyze it as an
7 epidemiologist.

8 MR. HYDE: So what your objection
9 is -

10 MR. FAULK: My object speaks for
11 itself.

12 MR. HYDE: Okay.

13 (By Mr. Hyde)

14 Q. Doctor, you may answer the question.

15 A. Well, the question -- the question would be,
16 what am I being asked? If I'm being asked something
17 that has to do with acute leukemia, I certainly would be
18 interested in knowing what specific chemicals were
19 involved. It really depends on the question I'm being
20 asked.

21 Q. If you were going to -- Hypothetically
22 speaking, if you as a hematologist were asked to
23 evaluate whether or not benzene played a role in any of
24 the deaths amongst former workers at Mobil from
25 non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, would you want to know how many

78

1 of those workers were exposed to benzene and what the
2 extent and duration of their exposure to benzene was?

3 MR. FAULK: Objection; calls for
4 speculation.

5 A. Well, all data would be useful. You'd like to
6 know that, plus the duration of exposure, plus the
7 latency period between the onset of the illness and
8 their exposure. There are many things you'd like to
9 know, the type of lymphoma.

10 MR. FAULK: You're asking -

11 A. The part of the data you'd be looking for.

12 MR. FAULK: You're asking this as a
13 physician?

14 MR. HYDE: Yeah.

15 MR. FAULK: Because I'm going to again
16 object because you've not laid a foundation
17 that physicians do that. Physicians treat
18 patients. Physicians make conclusions
19 based on particular cases. And I don't
20 think you've laid a proper foundation for
21 your question and move to strike the answer
22 on that basis.

23 (By Mr. Hyde)

24 Q. Doctor, have you ever acted as a consultant on
25 behalf of any labor union concerning hematological

79

1 questions?

2 A. No.

3 Q. Have you ever been requested by Mobil to review
4 their medical program as it relates to hematological
5 questions?

6 A. No.

7 Q. Have you been asked by any oil or chemical
8 company to review their medical program as it concerns
9 hematological issues?

10 A. No.

11 Q. Do you consider yourself to be an occupational
12 physician?

13 A. No.

14 MR. FAULK: Well, I'm going to object
15 to that question as being vague as to what
16 an occupational physician is and move to
17 strike the answer to that.

18 MR. HYDE: I'm almost through with
19 this one. When we finish this, I propose
20 that we take maybe a five-minute break.
21 Would that be agreeable to you?

22 THE WITNESS: Sure.

23 MR. HYDE: And I'll represent to you
24 that I really have about a page or so of
25 notes, and I think it deals more

80

1 specifically with your report. Okay?

2 THE WITNESS: Okay.

3 (By Mr. Hyde)

4 Q. Dr. Natelson, would you ever recommend that a
5 worker wash their hands with benzene?

6 A. No.

7 Q. Would you recommend that a worker wash their
8 tools with benzene?

9 A. No.

10 Q. And you as a hematologist would recognize that
11 as potentially unsafe, correct?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. Were you provided with Mr. Barrett's
14 deposition?

15 A. I'm sure I was.

16 Q. Did you read -

17 A. But if I was, it's in the pile of -- Whatever
18 I've been provided with is right there (indicating).

19 Q. I'm sorry. Dr. Natelson, do you recall reading
20 Mr. Barrett's deposition?

21 A. If I -- if I did, you'll have to jog my memory
22 what specifically I might have read.

23 Q. Do you recall Mr. Barrett discussing the use of
24 benzene to wash hands or tools while he was out at
25 Mobil?

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1 MR. FAULK: Be sure that you've read
2 the document.

3 A. Yeah. Well, as I say, if the document is in
4 there, I've read it. Now, it may be some weeks ago.
5 And I certainly don't remember that particular
6 statement.

7 Q. Certainly, you would not recommend -- you would
8 not have recommended that Mr. Barrett do that, correct?

9 A. No..

10 Q. Have you been provided with any depositions of
11 any current or former physicians employed by Mobil?

12 A. No.

13 Q. Has anyone provided you with any information
14 about the level of benzene exposure to pipe fitters at
15 either the Mobil chemical plant O and A facility or the
16 Mobil refinery in Beaumont?

17 A. No.

18 MR. HYDE: Off the record.

19 (AT THIS TIME THERE WAS AN

20 OFF-THE-RECORD DISCUSSION, AFTER WHICH THE
21 PROCEEDINGS RESUMED AS FOLLOWS:)

22 (By Mr. Hyde)

23 Q. Have you ever been provided with any benzene
24 exposure records for millwrights or maintenance
25 mechanics at either the Mobil - Beaumont refinery or

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1 chemical plant, specifically the 0 and A plant?

2 A. No.

3 Q. Have you been provided with any butadiene
4 exposure monitoring information that concerns the Mobil
5 refinery or Mobil chemical 0 and A plant?

6 A. No.

7 MR. HYDE: Let's take a break.

8 (AT THIS TIME A BRIEF RECESS WAS

9 TAKEN, AND NATELSON EXHIBIT NO. 11 WAS

10 MARKED FOR IDENTIFICATION PURPOSES AND IS

11 FULLY DESCRIBED IN THE "EXHIBIT INDEX"

12 HEREIN. SAME WILL BE FOUND AT THE

13 CONCLUSION OF THIS DEPOSITION. THE

14 PROCEEDINGS THEREAFTER RESUMED AS FOLLOWS:)

15 (By Mr. Hyde)

16 Q. Doctor, I think this is the letter that Mr.

17 Faulk sent you retaining you as an expert in this

18 litigation. Is that correct?

19 A. Let's just see. Yes. That would appear to be
20 the letter.

21 Q. And with that letter I take it that you got

22 certain medical records. Is that correct?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. Do you recall specifically which medical

25 records you received?

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1 MR. FAULK: I think --

2 A. I can say that probably about roughly
3 two-thirds came initially. And then I had -- a little
4 bit more came from time to time. There are some other
5 letters in that pile, indicating when some other things
6 came.

7 Q. I'm going to have marked as Exhibit 12 some
8 correspondence from a legal assistant at Mr. Faulk's
9 firm to you, enclosing some additional updated medical
10 records.

11 (AT THIS TIME NATELSON EXHIBIT NO. 12
12 WAS MARKED FOR IDENTIFICATION PURPOSES AND
13 IS FULLY DESCRIBED IN THE "EXHIBIT INDEX"
14 HEREIN. SAME WILL BE FOUND AT THE
15 CONCLUSION OF THIS DEPOSITION.)

16 Q. And you received those medical records sometime
17 around July 9th, 1997, correct?

18 A. Well, the letters and the corresponding
19 documents are a jumble. In other words, this letter
20 doesn't refer to this particular group of documents you
21 have here, I feel certain. I can't tell you which ones
22 came with what. There are numerous letters in there.
23 And because of the way I review them, I don't always
24 keep the form letter: and I don't always put it back in
25 , the same position that it came from. So I can't tell

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1 you exactly which documents came at which points in
2 time.

3 Q. The fact that the letter, Exhibit 12, was on
4 top of the medical records from St. David's Health Care
5 System, what you're saying is that --

6 A. That's meaningless.

7 Q. -- may just be by chance.

8 A. That's correct.

9 Q. Did you make any copies of any of these medical
10 records for your own specific use?

11 A. No. Many of these are duplicates that I was
12 sent at different times.

13 Q. Did you pull out any excerpts from any of the
14 medical records and make copies of those documents?

15 A. No.

16 Q. Do you know why the documents -- I'm going to
17 have this marked 13 based on your testimony then.

18 (AT THIS TIME NATELSON EXHIBIT NO. 13
19 WAS MARKED FOR IDENTIFICATION PURPOSES AND
20 IS FULLY DESCRIBED IN THE "EXHIBIT INDEX"
21 HEREIN. SAME WILL BE FOUND AT THE
22 CONCLUSION OF THIS DEPOSITION.)

23 Q. I've had marked as Exhibit 13 some medical
24 records from the St. David's Health Care System in
25 Austin. And can you tell me approximately when you

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1 received those documents?

2 A. These -

3 MR. FAULK: I don't know if they're

4 not duplicated in some other stack either.

5 A. Well, I'm confident that these documents are

6 duplicated over there in that stack. These documents

7 relate to biopsy reports in general, and they're a

8 collection of biopsy reports from different time

9 periods. And I can't tell you with any certainty when

10 any of that stack came.

11 Q. Did you pull out these specific records?

12 A. Did I? No.

13 Q. Yes, sir. More than likely they were provided

14 to you in this little binder?

15 A. Correct.

16 Q. And do you know who collected the medical

17 records from St. David's Health Care System and bound

18 them together as Exhibit 13? Do you know who did that?

19 A. No.

20 Q. Did you make any writings on any of the

21 documents contained in Exhibit 13?

22 A. I think I may have highlighted something. Let

23 me look at that and see. Yes. I think these yellow

24 highlights are -- that I put on one of these pages are

25 mine.

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1 Q. Doctor, do you have any evidence that cigarette
2 smoking is a cause of non-Hodgkin's lymphoma?

3 A. No.

4 Q. Doctor, do you have any evidence that radiation
5 exposure is a cause of non-Hodgkin's lymphoma?

6 A. There are articles that say that it is and
7 articles that say that it doesn't. I would have to say
8 that the evidence is slim and equivocal.

9 Q. When you have evidence that is slim and
10 equivocal, does this equate in your mind as something
11 equivalent to a risk factor?

12 A. Well, I ans -- I don't know exactly how to
13 answer that question.

14 Q. Well, and maybe I'm unclear. I want to clear
15 it up. When we say A causes B, then that's very
16 specific, you know, A causes B. Whereas when we say A
17 is a risk factor for B, does that in your mind as a
18 physician mean there may be studies concerning
19 causation; but me, Dr. Natelson -- "I've not come to the
20 I conclusion that, in fact, A causes B: but I will concede
21 that it may be a risk factor that A causes B"?

22 A. I think -- Let me see if I can interpret what
23 you've asked me. For example, if I found that farmers
24 had a high incidence of acute leukemia, I would say -- I
25 might say farming is a risk factor for acute leukemia:

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1 but it doesn't necessarily mean farming causes leukemia.
2 It might be the chemicals they use. It my be organisms
3 in the soil. It might be viruses they got from their
4 cattle. But it doesn't necessarily mean being a farmer
5 causes the leukemia, but it might be a risk factor.

6 That's my understanding of what you're asking me.

7 Q. Exactly, Doctor. As someone who works with
8 radiation, are they at risk of acquiring non-Hodgkin's
9 lymphoma?

10 MR. FAULK: Object to the question as
11 vague.

12 Q. In other words, in your mind is radiation
13 exposure a risk factor for non-Hodgkin's lymphoma?

14 A. No, not in my mind.

15 (AT THIS TIME THERE WAS AN
16 OFF-THE-RECORD DISCUSSION BETWEEN MR. HYDE
17 AND MR. WIMBERLEY, AFTER WHICH THE
18 PROCEEDINGS RESUMED AS FOLLOWS:)

19 MR. HYDE: Off the record.

20 (AT THIS TIME THERE WAS AN
21 OFF-THE-RECORD DISCUSSION, AFTER WHICH THE
22 PROCEEDINGS RESUMED AS FOLLOWS:)

23 MR. HYDE: Back on the record.

24 (By Mr. Hyde)

25 Q. Do you know of any genetic risk factors

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1 concerning the causation of non-Hodgkin's lymphoma?

2 A. Yes.. There are risk factors in the causation
3 of non-Hodgkin's lymphoma that are genetic in that we
4 see that illness occasionally in multiple family
5 members. Now, what the specific defect is is uncertain
6 but it clearly is a genetic defect because we see it in
7 multiple -- maybe in siblings or father-daughter. And
8 there's enough of a pattern to say that there clearly is
9 a genetic influence. But specifically what the gene is
10 or what the defect is, we don't know.

11 We also see circumstances where there are
12 inherited diseases of the immune system where the
13 immunity is extremely reduced. And in these
14 circumstances a person may catch lymphoma; and, again,
15 we don't know if they caught the lymphoma because they
16 were so immunosuppressed that they couldn't handle a
17 particular virus or whether or not it was something the
18 matter with their DNA, let's say, that was innate and
19 related to the immune defect. But the bottom line is we
20 do recognize circumstances in which there are genetic
21 patterns to lymphoma.

22 Q. Is there any genetic pattern or risk factor
23 specifically concerning Mr. Lester Barrett and his
24 non-Hodgkin's lymphoma?

25 A. Well, in the information that I have, I don't

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1 have information that other people in his family have
2 lymphoma.

3 Q. So as we sit here today, you have no evidence
4 that Mr. Barrett, because of his genetic background, was
5 at increased risk of acquiring non-Hodgkin's lymphoma:
6 is that true?

7 MR. FAULK: One moment. That
8 mischaracterizes his testimony. His.
9 testimony -

10 MR. HYDE: Well, let him -

11 MR. FAULK: -- was very specific.

12 MR. HYDE: Let him answer.

13 MR. FAULK: Well, I don't want you -

14 MR. HYDE: Just state your objection.

15 MR. FAULK: -- to mis -

16 MR. HYDE: And I'd prefer that you
17 not -

18 MR. FAULK: Well, I just did.

19 MR. HYDE: Fine.

20 (By Mr. Hyde)

21 Q. Would you answer the question?

22 A. Run the question by again exactly.

23 MR. HYDE: Ms. Court Reporter -- And I
24 know Mr. Faulk -

25 THE WITNESS: Maybe she can read the

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1 question.

2 MR. HYDE: -- has an objection. Go
3 ahead and put the objection when you read
4 it back.

5 MR. FAULK: The objection is that the
6 question mischaracterizes his testimony.

7 (AT THIS TIME THE REQUESTED MATERIAL
8 WAS READ BACK.)

9 A. Is there any risk factor in his family? Is
10 that what you're asking? Not that I'm aware of.

11 (By Mr. Hyde)

12 Q. And I don't want to repeat myself, but I'm
13 going down this outline here, so I'm going to just go
14 down. Have you seen any opinions from anyone concerning
15 the level of exposure that Mr. Lester Barrett had to
16 benzene?

17 A. I don't recall seeing that.

18 Q. Have you seen any epidemiological studies
19 concerning the use of solvents and an increased SMR or
20 odds ratio or relative risk concerning non-Hodgkin's
21 lymphoma?

22 MR. FAULK: I object. The question's
23 vague without a definition of solvents.

24 A. I've seen -- I may have. I've seen summaries
25 of such studies that suggest an increased risk of

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1 non-Hodgkin's lymphoma.

2 Q. Doctor, do you recognize the possibility that
3 benzene may cause non-Hodgkin's lymphoma?

4 A. In my opinion there's no evidence that we have
5 today in 1997 that benzene causes non-Hodgkin's
6 lymphoma. And so with that in mind, I would have to say
7 there's no reason for me to think that benzene caused
8 this man's lymphoma.

9 MR. HYDE: Let me object.

10 (By Mr. Hyde)

11 Q. My question was kind of specific, though broad
12 in some ways. Do you, Dr. Natelson, believe that it is
13 possible -- and not probable but just there's some
14 possibility that benzene may cause non-Hodgkin's
15 lymphoma?

16 MR. FAULK: I object. The question's
17 vague because non-Hodgkin's lymphoma is not
18 sufficiently specific for him to answer.

19 Q. You may answer, Doctor.

20 A. I don't have any reason to think that benzene
21 causes non-Hodgkin's lymphoma..

22 Q. well, we have gone over the Chinese study -

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. -- where there was an SMR of 4.1 for workers
25 exposed to benzene over ten years and the formation of

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1 non-Hodgkin's lymphoma. We've gone over the Mobil
2 epidemiologic study and discussed specifically
3 non-Hodgkin's lymphoma amongst maintenance workers where
4 there was a 68 percent increase, though not
5 statistically significant but still an SMR of 168. And
6 you're aware of other studies concerning SMRs that are
7 elevated for non-Hodgkin's lymphoma amongst workers
8 exposed to either solvents or benzene, correct?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. And my question is not whether you assign
11 benzene as a cause of non-Hodgkin's lymphoma. My
12 question is: Do you recognize that benzene is a
13 potential risk factor for non-Hodgkin's lymphoma?

14 MR. FAULK: I object to the question
15 as being vague, indefinite, and
16 misleading -

17 COURT REPORTER: I'm sorry. I need
18 you to speak up.

19 MR. FAULK: I'm sorry. I object to
20 the question as vague, indefinite, and
21 misleading because the category
22 non-Hodgkin's lymphoma is not a disease.

23 A. Well, my answer is that there are papers in the
24 literature, as you've pointed out, that suggest that
25 benzene is a risk factor. But when you look on balance

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1 in all of the information, I do not believe that benzene
2 causes non-Hodgkin's lymphoma.

3 Q. And do you think that it's even a possible
4 cause?

5 MR. FAULK: I'll object. The
6 question's asked and answered.

7 A. Well, I don't -- I don't -- I don't see that it
8 would be a possible cause.

9 Q. Do you agree that there is a need for
10 additional study with respect to benzene and whether or
11 not benzene exposure is associated -- or a cause of
12 non-Hodgkin's lymphoma?

13 MR. FAULK: Again object to the vague
14 category non-Hodgkin's lymphoma.

15 A. Well, I think that basically the benzene issue
16 is chasing your tail. In other words, you have a
17 situation where benzene exposure is going down and has
18 been going down for many years, where the diseases that
19 we associate with benzene, such as aplastic anemia and
20 acute leukemia, are virtually nonexistent. And you have
21 a situation where lymphoma is increasing -- despite this
22 the lymphoma is going the opposite direction and
23 increasing. So to me if someone wants to put energy
24 into epidemiologic studies, it's not to worry about
25 whether benzene causes non-Hodgkin's lymphoma but to

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1 look at other things. I think the benzene question has
2 been answered.

3 MR. HYDE: I probably need to object
4 to responsiveness.

5 THE WITNESS: All right.

6 (By Mr Hyde)

7 Q. Do you have any evidence as to the diet that
8 Mr. Barrett had prior to his diagnosis

9 A. No.

10 Q. -- of non-Hodgkin's lymphoma?

11 A. No.

12 Q. Do you know whether Mr. Barrett had anything
13 but an average intake of salt?

14 A. I have no idea what his salt intake was.

15 Q. Did you see any evidence that Mr. Lester
16 Barrett had a history of gastritis?

17 A. Well, he had dyspepsia, which certainly could
18 be gastritis. I believe that led to a gallbladder
19 operation. Isn't that right? I'd have to look again at
20 my comments, if we have them, about his history.

21 Q. They're here somewhere, Doctor.

22 MR. FAULK: Well, that's -- If you
23 need to review it, let's --

24 MR. HYDE: Yeah.

25 MR. FAULK: -- just pull it out. It

95

1 can be -

2 A. Let's just look and find that letter and see
3 just what I said about his history.

4 MR. FAULK: I think it's the second
5 exhibit.

6 Q. Take your time, Doctor.

7 A. Yes. In other words, he had a laparoscopic
8 cholecystectomy because of abdominal symptoms; and
9 gastritis may or may not produce abdominal symptoms.
10 Some people have a lot of abdominal symptoms from severe
11 gastritis. In other people it's almost an asymptomatic
12 condition. But he had the potential to have symptoms
13 from it because someone thought enough of his abdominal
14 pain to take out his gallbladder.

15 MR. HYDE: I'm sorry. I need to
16 object to the responsiveness.
17 (By Mr. Hyde)

18 Q. Have you seen any document in the medical
19 records that states Mr. Barrett had a history of
20 gastritis --

21 MR. FAULK: I'm going to object
22 because I think -

23 Q. -- that specific diagnosis?

24 MR. FAULK: Okay. I'm going to
25 object. I think the question is vague

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1 because you're not -- the question
2 doesn't -- Are you talking about the
3 history? Are you talking about any
4 document, including biopsies, gastrectomy,
5 or anything like that?

6 MR. HYDE: Any document.

7 A. Yes.

8 (By Mr. Hyde)

9 Q. Other than your report.

10 A. Yes. Certainly, he's -- we have here somewhere
11 these various biopsy reports. And I believe his initial
12 biopsy report showed inflammation in the stomach.

13 Q. Okay. Would you show me those? I think
14 they're in front of you.

15 A. Let's find that someplace. Let's see what
16 we've got here. Let's just see.

17 Q. And what I'm looking for is a document that
18 shows a history of gastritis.

19 A. Okay. Well, in the -- even the biopsy
20 that -- from the surgery -- Let's see where we are here.
21 This is a biopsy done on 8/11/94, where we talk about
22 background of inflammatory cells such as eosinophils and
23 neutrophils. We have a background of inflammation in
24 this biopsy. Now, that's not a history. In other
25 words, a history is something you take from the patient.

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1 This is a pathologic diagnosis.

2 Q. And that's the point I was trying to get to,
3 Doctor. Have you seen any document concerning Mr.
4 Barrett that states that Mr. Barrett had a history of
5 gastritis?

6 A. No.

7 Q. Have you seen any document or any evidence to
8 indicate that Mr. Barrett had a history of any type
9 ulcer?

10 A. No.

11 Q. Did you personally review any of the pathology
12 slides concerning any of the biopsies taken from Mr.
13 Barrett?

14 A. No.

15 Q. Are you a pathologist?

16 A. No.

17 Q. Obviously you're aware of the treatment that
18 Mr. Barrett received for his lymphoma, correct?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. And would you briefly describe the treatment
21 that Mr. Barrett received for his lymphoma?

22 A. Well, his initial treatment was with
23 chemotherapy with what's called the CHOP protocol, which
24 is probably the most widely used group of drugs for
25 large cell lymphoma in the -- in the country. And he

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1 had several courses of this type of CHOP chemotherapy -
2 C-H-O-P chemotherapy. And when there was no evidence
3 that he had had a major favorable response, he
4 subsequently underwent surgery and had removal of the
5 stomach -- or part -- part of it.

6 Q. Do you have any criticisms of the treatment
7 that Mr. Barrett received for his lymphoma?

8 A. No, in that CHOP chemotherapy is a standard
9 form of chemotherapy for non-Hodgkin's lymphomas.

10 Q. Now, one of the risks associated with
11 chemotherapy is the risk of a future leukemia, correct?

12 A. Yes. That would be true.

13 Q. And based on any epidemiological studies you've
14 seen, persons who receive chemotherapy are at an
15 increased risk of acquiring leukemia.

16 A. Well, as a generic statement, that wouldn't be
17 true. It depends on the type of chemotherapy, the doses
18 they get, the duration. But depending on -- If you want
19 high doses of therapy, as one might give in the CHOP
20 protocol, the answer would be yes

21 Q. In other words, because of the CHOP
22 chemotherapy that Mr. Barrett received, he's now at an
23 increased risk of a future leukemia, correct?

24 A. Yes. That would be so.

25 Q. And that's confirmed by valid epidemiological

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1 studies: is that correct?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. What is your understanding as it concerns Mr.

4 Barrett's prognosis?

5 A. Well, his prognosis -- I guess at this point

6 one would have to consider it to be uncertain because

7 lymphomas are very unpredictable. And at the moment

8 things look very good for him. He's gone some years

9 now, three years I take it, sense the surgery. And,

10 generally speaking, in large cell lymphomas, if you make

11 it past three years, you usually do very well from the

12 standpoint of reoccurrence. However, lymphomas that

13 involve the gastrointestinal tract tend to carry a

14 somewhat worse prognosis. And I would say he's probably

15 not totally out of the woods.

16 Q. So based on your experience, someone who

17 has -- someone like Mr. Barrett with his lymphoma,

18 they're at risk of having a subsequent lymphoma,

19 correct -- or subsequent tumors?

20 A. He may have a relapse.

21 Q. Relapse. And that -- In your mind that would

22 obviously be a very serious and potentially

23 life-threatening condition, correct?

2 4 A. Yes.

25 Q. In a general sense, the lymphoma that Mr.

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1 Barrett had was a life-threatening cancer, correct?

2 A. Correct.

3 Q. And I take it that in your practice you have
4 seen patients die of the type of lymphoma that Mr.
5 Barrett has, true?

6 A. Well, yes. I would say that would be true.

7 Q. Therefore, you -- as a physician you recognize
8 the stress that Mr. Barrett was under when he received
9 his diagnosis and his treatment, correct?

10 A. I would assume that would be very stressful for
11 most people.

12 Q. And you also understand that it would be a very
13 painful condition, correct, that requires the
14 administration of certain pain medicine?

15 A. Well, the surgery would be associated with some
16 pain. Now, the chemotherapy is not particularly a
17 painful process -- taking chemotherapy.

18 Q. But the ill effects from chemotherapy can be
19 very painful, correct?

20 A. I wouldn't use the term "painful." They might
21 be unpleasant. Your hair might fall out. But that's
22 not painful. It might be psychologically painful, but
23 it doesn't hurt. It depends -- You might get -- get a
24 little nausea, but that's very minimal these days. You
25 might get, low blood counts, but that doesn't cause pain.

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1 So pain is probably not the right word to use.

2 Q. Well, during the time period when Mr. Barrett
3 was receiving treatment for his lymphoma, do you know
4 what pain medicine was prescribed to Mr. Barrett?

5 A. I don't recall.

6 Q. Certainly morphine is not given to all your
7 patients, correct?

8 A. It's certainly not, no.

9 Q. And typically when a doctor prescribes morphine
10 to a patient, that is because the patient has reported
11 significant pain.

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. And as we sit here today, that's just not an
14 area of Mr. Barrett's medical records that you've
15 reviewed with an eye on the details, correct?

16 A. That would be correct, yes.

17 Q. And certainly in your work as a hematologist,
18 you've seen the effect on the spouses and family members
19 when the patient has been told of a diagnosis of
20 lymphoma and undergoes the treatment, correct

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. And that is in your mind a very stressful time
23 period for the family.

24 A. Certainly can be, yes.

25 Q. I'm sorry. Where is your report, Doctor? Let

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1 me see if I can find mine real quick. I've got mine so
2 let me give you yours. And we're looking at Exhibit 2,
3 your report in this matter; is that correct?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. Have you seen any other reports other than
6 Exhibit 2 as it relates to this case?

7 A. No.

8 MR. FAULK: Where did you get that?

9 That's what he sent to you -- his report?

10 MR. HYDE: Actually, we got it in Otto

11 Wong's deposition.

12 MR. FAULK: Oh, okay. Okay. I was

13 just curious.

14 (By Mr. Hyde)

15 Q. Doctor, are you a board certified oncologist?

16 A. I'm a board certified hematologist.

17 Q. Are you a board certified oncologist?

18 A. No. Hematologists do oncology but there -- The
19 division of oncology occurred after my training.

20 Q. Okay.

21 A. In other words, there wasn't such an entity at
22 the time I was trained.

23 Q. I understand that. In May of 1993, Mr. Barrett
24 had his gallbladder removed, correct?

25 A. Yes.

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1 Q. Anything abnormal about that in your mind?

2 A. No.

3 Q. Mr. Barrett then later in August of 1994 had a
4 workup, including gastroscopy --

5 A. Uh-huh.

6 Q. -- and gastric biopsy: is that correct?

7 A. Correct.

8 Q. What are those, Doctor?

9 A. Well, gastroscopy is looking inside the stomach
10 with a flexible lighted tube.

11 Q. And that's usually done on an outpatient basis:
12 is that correct?

13 A. Typically, yes.

14 Q. Additionally, he had -- Mr. Barrett, that is,
15 in August of 1994 had a gastric biopsy.

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. And I take it that's when some tissue was
18 removed during the gastroscopy, correct?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. And there's some device that allows you to
21 remove tissue?

22 A. Correct.

23 Q. And from what exact organ was this tissue
24 removed?

25 A. From various parts of the stomach.

1 Q. In your mind is gastric carcinoma and gastric
2 lymphoma the same thing?

3 A. No, definitely not.

4 Q. Totally different cancers, correct?

5 A. Well, they're totally different cancers. Now,
6 they may occur in the same individual; but they're
7 totally different cancers.

8 Q. And in August of 1994, Mr. Barrett received the
9 unpleasant diagnosis of lymphoma, correct?

10 A. Correct.

11 Q. And from August of 1994 through November of
12 1994, Mr. Barrett received the chemotherapy or the CHOP.

13 A. Yes, chemotherapy.

14 Q. In November Mr. Barrett continued to have
15 lymphoma in his stomach area, correct?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. And on December 8th, 1994, Mr. Barrett
18 underwent a gastric resection; is that correct?

19 A. Correct.

20 Q. Would you explain to the judge and jury what a
21 gastric resection is?

22 A. Well, the stomach is a large organ; and there
23 are names for various parts of it. And a gastric
24 resection is where part of the stomach is removed. It
25 may vary from a small part to a large part. But

1 resection means a part is removed, and then the remnant
2 is hooked back together.

3 Q. And, of course, when an individual receives a
4 gastric resection, there are many future problems that
5 that individual will likely have associated with that
6 resection, correct

7 A. As a general rule, that's true.

8 Q. And what are some of those problems that
9 someone would have when receiving a resection of their
10 stomach -

11 A. Well -

12 Q. -- or removal of part of their stomach?

13 A. Probably the most common would be a failure to
14 gain weight or have difficulty in gaining weight because
15 part of the absorptive surface is gone. Now, there are
16 many other potential complications. In part they depend'
17 on what sort of a reconstruction is done. Depending on
18 the type of reconstruction, a person may have what's
19 called a dumping syndrome, where they get episodes of
20 abdominal pain and sudden diarrhea. They may get
21 bleeding complications from the anastomosis lines or
22 where the stomach was put back together. They may get
23 loss of vitamin B12 absorption and have to get some
24 vitamin B12 shots. Those are some of the things that
25 come to mind.

1 Q. Also, when a person like Mr. Barrett receives
2 his resection or removal of part of his stomach, that
3 has some effect on the stomach acids, correct?

4 A. Well, depending on what part is removed.

5 The -- the higher part of the stomach has most of the
6 acid-forming glands in there, and the lower part of the
7 stomach has some of the more enzyme-producing cells. So
8 it depends on what -- actually what part is taken out.

9 Q. One effect of having your stomach -- part of
10 your stomach removed is that you may be subject to
11 infection at a higher rate than someone who has not gone
12 through this procedure, correct?

13 A. Certain types of infections it's thought
14 that -- At least in the older literature, it was thought
15 that tuberculosis can occur in a higher incidence in
16 people who have had part of their stomach removed.
17 Certain kinds of infections are present at higher rates.

18 Q. And that's even with someone who didn't have a
19 history of tuberculosis, correct?

20 A. That would be correct, yes.

21 Q. Now, the dumping syndrome that you talked
22 about, that is something that would result in someone
23 having diarrhea because of the smaller stomach, correct?

24 A. Well, it's not because of the smallness of the
25 stomach. But generally stomachs are put back together

1 by what used to be called either a Billroth I or a
2 Billroth II type procedure. In the Billroth I
3 procedure, everything looks the same except the stomach
4 is just a little smaller. And that doesn't have a lot
5 of dumping associated with it. In the Billroth II
6 operation, you have what's referred to as a blind loop.
7 You have a piece of intestine sort of floating in the
8 breeze with the bile ducts connected to it. And that
9 intestine can suddenly fill up with liquids and kink and
10 create problems. And I must say I've forgotten what
11 type of resection he had as to what his hookup was. But
12 in part it depends on how the reconstruction is done.
13 Q. Mr. Barrett -- Have you seen any evidence that
14 he had problems with diarrhea and as such was required
15 to wear a diaper?
16 A. I don't recall seeing that.
17 Q. Certainly, that's something you've heard about,
18 individuals who have had stomach resections -- that they
19 may need to wear diapers because of this dumping
20 syndrome, correct?
21 A. Well, that would be very unusual. I suppose
22 it's possible; but that certainly wouldn't be the rule.
23 Q. Now, to save myself the embarrassment of having
24 to say this name over and over and over, I'm going to
25 try to say it one time: and then I'm going to try to do

1 a little abbreviation. But Helicobacter pylori -

2 A. Uh-huh.

3 Q. -- is what?

4 A. Helicobacter pylori is a bacteria that may live
5 in the stomach and colonize the stomach. And it's been
6 associated with a number of problems because of that.
7 In recent years it's been recognized that ulcer
8 disease -- peptic ulcer disease is a common consequence
9 of that infection. One can also have chronic gastritis
10 or inflammation of the stomach as a result of that
11 infection, which may or may not produce any symptoms.
12 In recent years it's been recognized that that organism
13 can stimulate the transformation of lymphocytes from
14 normal lymphocytes into lymphomatous lymphocytes. And
15 we call this a MALT lymphoma.

16 COURT REPORTER: A what?

17 THE WITNESS: A MALT, M-A-L-T,
18 lymphoma.

19 A. And it's also been thought to -- The chronic
20 inflammation that may result has also been thought to
21 cause gastric carcinoma, which is a different type of
22 tumor of the stomach. It's an organism that is
23 sensitive to many antibiotics, but sometimes it's
24 difficult to eradicate.

25 Q. What percentage of the males 'in the 50 age

10 9

1 category in the United States have H. pylori in their
2 stomach?

3 A. I don't know the exact number.

4 Q. Do you know whether we're talking
5 about -- Well, let's talk in general. Of the male
6 population in the United States for adult males, what
7 percentage of that population has H. pylori in their
8 stomach?

9 A. I don't know the number. I mean, it's a
10 significant number. It's not a rare finding. ,But
11 certainly not everybody has it.

12 Q. Are we talking millions of males in the United
13 States who have H. pylori in their stomach?

14 A. Well, I -- As I say, I don't know the exact
15 figures: but it could be as much as 10 to 15 percent,
16 which would translate to a lot of people.

17 Q. Is there anyplace in particular where you have
18 gotten that number that maybe 10 to 15 percent of the
19 males in the United States may have H. pylori in their
20 stomach?

21 A. No. I took it you asked me to speculate.

22 These numbers are in the GI literature. They vary all
23 over the world, depending on where you live. You said
24 the United States.

25 Q. Yes, sir.

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1 A. And so I may subliminally have seen a number
2 like that in one of these articles. But I wouldn't -
3 refuse to be held to a specific number because I don't
4 know it.

5 Q. You're giving me your best recollection -

6 A. I'm just giving you a guess.

7 Q. Are there different types of H. pylori,
8 different strains?

9 A. There are different strains of the bacteria,
10 yes.

11 Q. What specific strain of H. pylori do you
12 contend that Mr. Barrett had?

13 A. I don't know what strain he had.

14 Q. Do you know when -- at what point in time Mr.

15 Barrett was, if ever, infected with H. pylori?

16 A. Well, the gastric resection biopsy demonstrated
17 evidence of chronic inflammation with plasma cells and
18 other inflammatory cells, suggesting that it had been
19 present there at least months, possibly longer. But the
20 exact time would be unknown.

21 MR. HYDE: I need to object to the
22 responsiveness.

23 (By Mr. Hyde)

24 Q. My question was: Do you know or have any
25 evidence specifically as to when Mr. Barrett was first

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1 infected with H. pylori?

2 A. No.

3 Q. Have you reviewed any literature in scientific
4 or medical journals concerning the ways in which someone)
5 can be infected with H. pylori?

6 A. Well, it's generally considered to be the oral
7 route. In other words, one of the describers of the
8 illness gave it to himself by -- by swallowing the
9 bacteria.

10 Q. That's one way.

11 A. Yeah. I mean, certainly that would be
12 the -- the way one would expect to get it is some type
13 of oral contamination.

14 Q. Have you read any published literature
15 concerning the risk of infecting a person with H. pylori
16 through gastroscopy?

17 A. Gastroscopy, yes. Many infections have been
18 introduced, from tuberculosis to a number of things,
19 through improperly sterilized equipment. And generally
20 the gastroscopy devices are gas sterilized. But if they
21 weren't sterile, it might be passed from one person to
22 another.

23 Q. You certainly recognize that gastroscopy is a
24 risk factor concerning the infection from H. pylori?

25 A. Well, a risk factor with dirty equipment. I

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1 mean, I don't think it's a risk factor inherent to being
2 gastroscoped. It depends on whether the equipment is
3 sterile or not sterile.

4 Q. Are you aware of any cases of H. pylori
5 infections from gastroscopy?

6 A. Gastroscopy?

7 Q. Yes.

8 A. I can't cite a particular article, but I'm
9 quite certain that that's occurred. I'm sure I've seen
10 that in the literature.

11 Q. Have you seen any -- Well, strike that. Have
12 you seen instances of contamination of a gastroscope
13 here at St. Joseph's Hospital?

14 A. No.

15 Q. Would that be something that you would know
16 about?

17 A. Probably, almost certainly.

18 Q. A copy for you and a copy for me.

19 MR. HYDE: Mark in that order.

20 (AT THIS TIME NATELSON EXHIBIT NOS. 14

21 AND 15 WERE MARKED FOR IDENTIFICATION

22 PURPOSES AND ARE FULLY DESCRIBED IN THE

23 "EXHIBIT INDEX" HEREIN. SAME WILL BE FOUND

24 AT THE CONCLUSION OF THIS DEPOSITION.)

25 (By Mr. Hyde)

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1 Q. Doctor, on Exhibit 13 you had some specific
2 medical records concerning biopsies?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. And I've had marked as Exhibits 14 and 15 some
5 additional medical records which, I think, concern the
6 same subject.

7 A. All right.

8 Q. So I think between Exhibits 13, 14, and 15, all
9 of the biopsies associated with Mr. Barrett's stomach
10 should be included in those three exhibits. I'll give
11 you a chance to look at it and see if you know of any
12 others -- any other studies concerning biopsies of Mr.
13 Barrett's stomach. Take your time.

14 A. Well, this first one has two sets of biopsies
15 in here, it looks like. This one is from 11/1/94, and
16 then there's a second one that's from 1/6/95.

17 Q. Now, let's see -

18 A. Okay.

19 Q. Those are some biopsies -

20 A. Okay.

21 Q. -- of Mr. Barrett. And then you had some more
22 in your stack under Exhibit 13, correct?

23 A. Let's see. Where is -- Yes.

24 Q. Okay. Why don't you read the dates on those
25 biopsies, please?

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1 A. All right. Okay. Let's see. First one we
2 have here is 8/11/94.

3 Q. That's a biopsy of Mr. Barrett's stomach,
4 correct?

5 A. Right.

6 Q. What's the next one?

7 A. The next one is same as this, I guess, 11/1/94.

8 Q. All rightie.

9 A. And then we've got 12/8/94.

10 Q. 12/8/94. All right. Any others?

11 A. We've got 1/4/95. We've got 2/6/96.

12 Q. Okay. Any more?

13 A. That looks to be it.

14 MR. FAULK: There's another exhibit.

15 A. Yeah. There's another exhibit. Let's see

16 if -

17 Q. Yeah. Go ahead and do that.

18 A. This may be a duplication.

19 Q. Yeah. There may be -- may be some duplication
20 there, so we want to make sure that we've got all this
21 down.

22 A. Here's one from 2/6/96. I think we had that
23 one.

24 Q. I think we had that one, yes.

25 A. I think that's it.

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1 (AT THIS TIME THERE WAS AN
2 OFF-THE-RECORD DISCUSSION, AFTER WHICH THE
3 PROCEEDINGS RESUMED AS FOLLOWS:)

4 (By Mr. Hyde)

5 Q. Okay, Doctor. I have -

6 MR. HYDE: Go ahead and mark that as
7 the next exhibit.

8 (AT THIS TIME NATELSON EXHIBIT NO. 16
9 WAS MARKED FOR IDENTIFICATION PURPOSES AND
10 IS FULLY DESCRIBED IN THE "EXHIBIT INDEX"
11 HEREIN. SAME WILL BE FOUND AT THE
12 CONCLUSION OF THIS DEPOSITION.)

13 (By Mr. Hyde)

14 Q. Now, I've had marked as Exhibit 16 a piece of
15 paper that I have entitled, "Lester Barrett Stomach
16 Biopsies." And I've listed six dates, that being August
17 11th, 1994; November 1st, 1994; December 8th, 1994;
18 January 4th, 1995; January 6, 1995; and February 6th,
19 1996. And it's my understanding that as it relates to
20 the medical records, those are the biopsies -- the dates
21 of the biopsies from Mr. Barrett's stomach. Is that -

22 A. Yes. That seems to be correct here.

23 MR. FAULK: I'm going to object to the
24 use of this document in the format that
25 you've prepared it because by referring to

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1 them generally as the subject of biopsies,
2 they're not sufficiently specific to
3 describe the types of biopsies involved.

4 And I'll object that it's misleading in
5 that regard.

6 Q. Doctor, would you get Exhibits 13, 14, and 15
7 out -

8 A. Okay (complying.)

9 Q. -- and find specifically the biopsy work
10 performed on Mr. Barrett on August 11th, 1994? Are we
11 there?

12 A. Yes, we're there.

13 Q. How many samples were collected on Mr.
14 Barrett -- Mr. Barrett's stomach on August 11th, 1994?

15 A. Five irregular tan soft tissue fragments.

16 Q. So five biopsies?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. Five biopsies we're taken on August 11th, 1994;
19 is that correct?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. Were there any more?

22 A. On that date? It just said received in
23 formalin are five biopsies from that session.

24 Q. What were the results of those five biopsies as
25 it concerns H. pylori and the presence or absence of H.

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1 pylori?

2 A. H. pylori was not seen in these biopsies.

3 Q. I'll put over here, "No H. P." Now, would you
4 turn with me in the medical records to the biopsies
5 taken of Mr. Barrett on November 1st, 1994?

6 A. 11/1/94. Is that what we're after? Yes.

7 Q. Yes, sir. How many biopsies were taken of Mr.
8 Barrett on November 1st, 1994? And I'm talking about
9 biopsies in Mr. Barrett's stomach.

10 A. Seven biopsies.

11 Q. Now, of the seven biopsies taken of Mr. Lester
12 Barrett's stomach on November 1st, 1994, how many of
13 those biopsies showed the presence of H. pylori?

14 A. H. pylori is not identified.

15 Q. I've put under there next to those biopsies on
16 my Exhibit 16, "No H. P.," meaning no H. pylori,
17 correct?

18 A. Correct.

19 Q. Now, the next sample was taken December 8th,
20 1994; is that correct?

21 A. Correct.

22 Q. And how many biopsies were collected from Mr.
23 Barrett's stomach on December 8th, 1994?

24 A. Well, the part of the stomach was removed;-and
25 they -- The pathologist did the biopsy on this occasion

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1 by removing part of the stomach to look at it. And he
2 lists -- He or she lists this as A & B, C, D, E, F, G,
3 H, I, J. SO that's 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, and a
4 - K, 11. So he has at least 11 sections here that they're
5 looking at.

6 Q. So would it be correct to say that there were
7 11 biopsies taken of Mr. Barrett's stomach, the portion
8 that was removed, and examined December 8th, 1994? Is
9 that correct?

10 A. Well, there were -- You know, culling these
11 biopsies, they're really apples and oranges. These are
12 not exactly biopsies. They're hunks of the stomach that
13 the person's putting under the microscope. They're not
14 really biopsies.

15 Q. Okay.

16 A. They're separate slides that are being
17 prepared.

18 Q. Why don't I put on December 8th, 1994, instead
19 of putting biopsies, then part of stomach.

20 A: You could put part of stomach, yes.

21 Q. Part of stomach.

22 MR. FAULK: Or more correctly,

23 -parts -

24 A. Parts of stomach.

25 Q. Parts of stomach.

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1 MR. FAULK: -- 11 parts.

2 Q. Now, as it relates to the testing on December
3 8th, 1994, was H. pylori found according to the
4 pathologist?

5 A. Helicobacter-like organisms identified, reads
6 the report.

7 Q. Now, it says H. pylori-like organisms, correct?

8 A. Correct.

9 Q. Do you have any idea what strain of H. pylori?

10 A. No.

11 Q. Prior to December 8th, 1994, is there any
12 medical record concerning Mr. Lester Barrett that
13 suggests by pathology the presence of H. pylori in Mr.
14 Barrett's stomach?

15 A. Now, prior to which date, did you -

16 Q. Fair enough. So we can get clear, prior to
17 December 8th, 1994, is there pathology that specifically
18 states that Mr. Barrett has H. pylori in his stomach?

19 A. No.

20 Q. So on December 8th, 1994, for the parts of the
21 stomach that were examined, H. P.-like organisms were
22 found.

23 A. Correct.

24 Q. Let me put that in there. "H. P.-like

25 , organisms found." Now, would you turn with me to the

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1 January 4th, 1995,-biopsies?

2 A. Let's see. Which-- January 4, 1995, correct.

3 Q. How many biopsies were collected on January

4 4th, 1995?

5 MR. FAULK: Let me stop you just a

6 minute. I'm going to object to the way

7 that -- Well, I'll wait until you finish

8 with your chart. It's misleading because

9 you didn't put the number of parts of the

10 stomach that were listed and you did with

11 respect to the other biopsies.

12 A. Here the numbers are not identified. It just

13 says multiple.

14 Q. What does it say, sir?

15 A. It says multiple.

16 Q. Multiple what?

17 A. Soft pale tan tissue fragments.

18 Q. Multiple -- And I'm just going to put M-u-1-t.

19 Multiple what?

20 A. Soft pale tan tissue fragments, which range in

21 size from minute up to 3 millimeters.

22 Q. Mult -- You've got to slow down here. Multiple

23 soft -

24 A. "Received in formalin labeled "fundus" are

25 multiple soft pale --

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1 Q. Pale.

2 A. -- tan -

3 Q. Pale as in p-a-1-e?

4 A. P-a-1-e, pale -

5 Q. -- slash, tan?

6 A. -- tan tissue fragments -

7 Q. Tissue fragments?

8 A. -- which range in size from minute up to 3

9 millimeters."

10 Q. And we don't know how many multiple -

11 A. No.

12 Q. -- soft pale tan tissue fragments; is that

13 correct?

14 A. Correct.

15 Q. And what was found by the pathologist

16 concerning H. pylori from those samples?

17 A. H. pylori was not commented upon.

18 Q. "No comment," I'm going to put, "re: H. P."

19 Now, on January 6th, 1995, what type of biopsies were

20 taken?

21 A. 195 or 196?

22 Q. I'm sorry. January -- January 6th, 1995, I

23 thought we also had a sample somewhere amongst these

24 records.

25 A. You could be right. Let's see.

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1 Q. Yeah. It might be in the records that I have
2 there, Doctor.

3 A. Okay. We've got a January 4, '95 that we've
4 gone over. Okay.

5 Q. And what is the date of that document? Can you
6 tell?

7 A. January 4.

8 Q. Okay.

9 A. That's when it was dictated.

10 Q. Okay. The January 6th?

11 A. Yeah. -

12 Q. Okay. So --

13 A. I think we're talking about the same -- you've
14 got the same thing. It was done on -- His procedure was
15 done on the 4th but typed on the 6th.

16 Q. Here we go. I'm going to put this
17 little -- join together those two samples as being
18 really one.

19 A. Okay.

20 Q. Okay. Now, let's go to the February 6th, 1996,
21 biopsy work. Do you see that?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. How many biopsies were taken February 6th,
24 1996?

25 A. Five.

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1 Q. And what was mentioned on February 6th, 1996,
2 from the five biopsies concerning H. pylori?

3 A. That's not commented on.

4 Q. Let me put that in there. "No comment re: H.

5 P." Turn back please, Doctor, to the December 8th,
6 1994, biopsy work.

7 A. December 4. December 8, '94?

8 Q. Oh, I'm sorry. December 8th, 1994.

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. May I see that report for one second? I mean,

11 I know I've seen it. I just want -- Doctor, you

12 indicated that there were 11 slides or 11 parts of the
13 stomach that were biopsied or samples collected on

14 December 8th, 1994; is that correct?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. How many of those slides or parts of the

17 stomach for Mr. Barrett were found to have H.

18 pylori-like organisms?

19 A. Well, I don't know from his report. In other

20 words, he -- he's talking about B, which is one of them

21 and that's when he mentions it. And he doesn't mention
22 it again.

23 Q. So as we sit here today, looking at the medical

24 records, the pathology from December 8th, 1994, H.

25 P. -like organisms were found and attributed to one slide

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1 based on the report based on its literal reading,
2 correct?

3 A. Well, he mentions it under category B, in the
4 proximal shave margin.

5 Q. And -

6 A. Now, whether it was in other reports, other
7 areas, I don't know. He mentions it on that particular
8 one.

9 Q. The pathologist did not mention the presence of
10 H. pylori like organisms in any of the other ten slides,
11 correct?

12 A. That's correct.

13 Q. Okay.

14 (AT THIS TIME THERE WAS AN
15 OFF-THE-RECORD DISCUSSION BETWEEN MR. HYDE
16 AND MR. WIMBERLEY, AFTER WHICH THE
17 PROCEEDINGS RESUMED AS FOLLOWS:)

18 Q. Doctor, I'd like for you to -- And I've got it
19 right here, so it'll make it easier. Looking at the
20 November 1st, 1994, biopsy results -- or the pathology
21 results, I counted a few more samples, few more biopsies
22 than I think you originally counted. And I just want to
23 make sure if there's some mistake in my reading
24 or -- you know, or at least my ability to read this
25 - document. But it looks to me like --

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1 A. Wait a minute.

2 Q. -- there were more biopsies taken.

3 A. He starts out the sentence by saying, "Received
4 in formalin labeled "antrum" are seven biopsies varying
5 from 2 to 3 millimeters." Then he distributes them. In
6 other words, they put them into what they call
7 cassettes. And he says, submitted in to to as A I put
8 some; submitted are two of them into B and so many into
9 C and so many into D. And the way I interpret it is he
10 started out with seven biopsies, and he distributed them
11 amongst his cassettes.

12 Q. Okay.

13 A. Now, I don't know about his math here; but -

14 Q. Okay. But -

15 A. That's the way I would interpret this.

16 Q. Well, you've explained that to me: and I
17 appreciate that. On the December 8th sample result, the
18 H. P.-like organism was found in sample B; is that
19 right?

20 A. Yes. The proximal shave margin B. And then he
21 starts talking about that shave margin.

22 Q. Okay. There we go. And as Mr. Faulk pointed
23 out, there were 11 parts of the stomach that were
24 collected for this analysis; is that correct?

25 A. That's correct.

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1 Q. Dr. Natelson, what types of cancers are
2 specifically -- Well, strike that. What types of
3 cancers do you contend are specifically caused by
4 infection of H. pylori?

5 A. Certain lymphomas and certain gastric
6 carcinomas would appear to be caused by H. pylori.

7 Q. And I'm certain of this, but I want to make
8 sure. Mr. Barrett did not have gastric carcinoma,
9 correct?

10 A. He did not have gastric carcinoma.

11 Q. Now, in any of the epidemiologic studies that
12 you've reviewed, have you seen any comparison in the
13 group of H. pylori infected individuals who have a
14 lymphoma and compare what percentage of those lymphomas
15 were large cell versus small cell?

16 A. All right. If you're talking about primary
17 gastric lymphoma, in some of these articles, it comments
18 what the numbers are. And I'd have to review that to
19 see which -- which types are the most common. It's late
20 and I'm getting sleepy. But both small cell lymphomas
21 and large cell lymphomas are seen with Helicobacter
22 infection.

23 Q. Do you know if the incidence of small cell
24 versus large cell lymphomas differ amongst those
25 individuals with H. pylori infection such that there are

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1 more small cell lymphomas as compared to large cell
2 lymphomas in H. pylori infected individuals?

3 A. Well, I mean, you have to say that the concept
4 of MALT lymphoma has to do with small cell lymphomas as
5 the initial phase of the illness -- the initial
6 malignant phase and that the concept is that small cell
7 lymphomas. proceed into large cell lymphomas. So it
8 depends when in the course of the illness you decide to
9 make the diagnosis.

10 Q. Have you seen any pathology or any diagnosis of
11 Mr. Lester Barrett that would indicate that Mr. Barrett
12 ever had small cell lymphoma?

13 A. We see gastric nodules within the stomach in
14 this particular report. It's interesting to note that
15 there are benign lymphoid aggregates scattered in deep
16 zones of the edematous gastric wall. In other words, we
17 have normal lymphoid tissue in that stomach. We also
18 have what they describe as large cell lymphoma with a
19 background of marked chronic active gastritis. And in
20 the description, what we see is that in a particular -
21 a typical lymphoma that's a large cell type, we don't
22 see normal lymphoid follicles. In other words, the
23 findings in this stomach suggest to me a progression
24 from lymphoid follicle to a large cell tumor in the
25 setting of chronic gastritis. That's what this report

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1 shows.

2 MR. HYDE: I need to object to the
3 responsiveness.

4 (By Mr. Hyde)

5 Q. I probably had a -- And you probably told me a
6 lot of information. Any other time I'd probably
7 understand or at least have a feel for what it is. But
8 my question was very, very specific. Have you seen any
9 pathology report to indicate that Mr. Barrett had
10 specifically small cell lymphoma?

11 A. No.

12 Q. When you collect biopsies from someone with a
13 gastric lymphoma, normally how many samples do you
14 suggest should be collected?

15 A. Well, I don't normally make that suggestion.
16 That's generally left up to the gastroscopist, depending
17 what -- what that physician sees. One might be enough
18 if it's a good sample.

19 Q. Doctor, I promise we will be done by 10:00.

20 A. Okay.

21 MR. HYDE: And why don't we do this,
22 Ms. Court Reporter? Could you mark these,
23 please?

24 Q. And I assume that those are your original.

25 A. Yes.

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1 Q. If you have some stickies, she can take them
2 back; and we can put a copy -- I mean, an exhibit
3 sticker on the copy so that you can have these back in
4 the original form unless you care. If you don't care,
5 then we'll put --

6 A. I don't care.

7 MR. HYDE: Go ahead and put stickers
8 on it real quick.

9 MR. FAULK: Separately?

10 MR. HYDE: Huh?

11 MR. FAULK: Separately?

12 MR. HYDE: Yeah. Well, no.

13 (AT THIS TIME NATELSON EXHIBIT NO. 17
14 WAS MARKED FOR IDENTIFICATION PURPOSES AND
15 IS FULLY DESCRIBED IN THE "EXHIBIT INDEX"
16 HEREIN. SAME WILL BE FOUND AT THE
17 CONCLUSION OF THIS DEPOSITION. THERE WAS
18 AN OFF-THE-RECORD DISCUSSION, AFTER WHICH
19 THE PROCEEDINGS RESUMED AS FOLLOWS:)

20 (By Mr. Hyde)

21 Q. Doctor, would you identify generally the
22 documents that are contained in Exhibit 17? What are
23 they and of what use are they to you?

24 A. These are copies of articles from the medical
25 literature that generally deal with gastric lymphoma and

1 lymphomas of what we call the MALT category. Some of
2 them also deal with Helicobacter pylori and the
3 association between Helicobacter pylori and lymphomas.
4 Some have to do with non-Hodgkin's lymphoma in general
5 and classifications of that illness. Some have to do
6 with the relationship between Helicobacter pylori and
7 gastric cancer. And that would be the sum and substance
8 of these articles.

9 Q. And I think the last document in Exhibit 17 is
10 the IARC document, correct?

11 A. Correct.

12 Q. Have you made any kind of summary document
13 concerning the epidemiology that concerns non-Hodgkin's
14 lymphoma and H. pylori?

15 A. No.

16 Q. And you've reviewed, I take it, all the
17 epidemiological studies concerning non-Hodgkin's
18 lymphoma and H. pylori; is that correct?

19 A. All? I would say certainly not. I've reviewed
20 a substantial number of studies that I had in my file
21 and some from the recent literature. And I continue to
22 look at literature on the subject. But I -- I would be
23 presumptuous to say that I reviewed all of the
24 literature in this area.

25 Q. Did Mr. Faulk provide you with any of the

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1 documents in Exhibit 17?

2 A. He provided me with I -- this manual that you
3 have, this IARC.

4 Q. Uh-huh.

5 A. I alerted him to its existence, and he then
6 procured it.

7 Q. Have you seen any documents in any of the
8 scientific or medical journals that concern when you
9 have a biological carcinogen and a chemical carcinogen,
10 what procedure should be used in weighing the
11 contribution of each of those carcinogens, that being a
12 biologic and chemical carcinogen, as it concerns the
13 formation of cancer in a person?

14 A. Well, it depends on, number one, what the
15 cancer is and what type of exposure one has had to a
16 potential carcinogen. I think it's difficult to answer
17 that question. You'd have to know what type of exposure
18 you have with the two possible etiologies. How close is
19 the relationship? How frequent is the cancer after
20 either exposure? There would be a number of factors
21 involved.

22 Q. As it relates to your analysis of Mr. Barrett,
23 you didn't have any benzene exposure data that
24 specifically concerned Mr. Barrett.

25 A. Correct.

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1 Q. And, see, my question dealt with have you
2 reviewed any scientific papers that concern the
3 weighting process when you have exposure to two
4 carcinogens: one chemical, one biological

5 A. No.

6 Q. -- as to the role of those carcinogens in
7 causing cancer?

8 A. I haven't reviewed any such paper.

9 Q. Would you consider H. pylori a very common
10 infection in society?

11 A. Yes, and also depending on which society you're
12 talking about. It varies around the world. But it is
13 generally considered to be common.

14 MR. HYDE: Off the record.

15 (AT THIS TIME THERE WAS AN
16 OFF-THE-RECORD DISCUSSION, AFTER WHICH THE
17 PROCEEDINGS RESUMED AS FOLLOWS:)

18 MR. HYDE: Go back on the record.

19 (By Mr. Hyde)

20 Q. Have you reviewed any serology studies
21 concerning Mr. Barrett, specifically whether the
22 antibody for H. pylori was present in Mr. Barrett's
23 blood?

24 A. I did not -- If it's in there, I-didn't notice
25 it. I don't recall that determination.

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1 Q. Doesn't IARC suggest that most gastric
2 lymphomas caused by H. pylori are the small cell type?

3 A. Well, we'll look at what it said. But you also
4 have to keep in mind that -- when this was written, and
5 these concepts are developing. This was written in
6 1994.

7 Q. Well, you'd certainly consider 1994 - a
8 reasonably current document.

9 A. Reasonably current. But many areas of medicine
10 change surprisingly rapidly. Let's look specifically to
11 see what they say.

12 MR. FAULK: Off the record.

13 (AT THIS TIME THERE WAS AN
14 OFF-THE-RECORD DISCUSSION, AFTER WHICH THE
15 PROCEEDINGS RESUMED AS FOLLOWS:)

16 A. On Page -

17 MR. HYDE: Well, let's go off the
18 record and make sure you've got it, Doctor.

19 (AT THIS TIME THERE WAS AN
20 OFF-THE-RECORD DISCUSSION, AFTER WHICH THE
21 PROCEEDINGS RESUMED AS FOLLOWS:)

22 MR. WIMBERLEY: Go back on.

23 A. It was the -

24 Q. Let me see if I can find it again. Really, if
25 you --

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1 MR. WIMBERLEY: Small cell.

2 MR. HYDE: Oh, yeah. Yeah. Yeah.

3 (By Mr. Hyde)

4 Q. Does it say in the IARC document that the small
5 cell type of gastric lymphoma is the type of lymphoma
6 most associated with H. pylori?

7 A. Well, it doesn't -- The paragraph I have in the
8 summary doesn't say that. They simply talk about
9 lymphoma and mucosal-associated lymphoid tissue
10 lymphomas. And they don't talk about a specific type in
11 the summary.

12 Q. Are those types of lymphomas typically small
13 cell?

14 A. Generally speaking, small cell lymphoma is the
15 more frequent lymphoma that one sees.

16 Q. Let me get to your report. I will tell you
17 what.

18 MR. HYDE: Go off the record one
19 second.

20 (AT THIS TIME THERE WAS AN
21 OFF-THE-RECORD DISCUSSION, AFTER WHICH THE
22 PROCEEDINGS RESUMED AS FOLLOWS:)

23 (By Mr. Hyde)

24 Q. Dr. Natelson, do you have any idea whether Mr.
25 - Barrett's parents had cancer?

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1 A. In my report I mention both his parents had
2 some form of cancer, but the type was not mentioned in
3 the records.

4 Q. And, again, you're not in any way associating
5 that fact, which I don't know to be true, that his
6 parents may have had some type of cancer, as any -- as
7 having anything to do with Mr. Barrett's lymphoma,
8 correct?

9 A. Well, I don't know what type of cancers they
10 were: so there's not much I can do with that piece of
11 information.

12 Q. Mr. Barrett also had some significant vascular
13 problems or significant vascular disease in 1996,
14 correct?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. One of the side effects of chemotherapy, is it
17 not, is an effect upon the heart: is that correct?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. And it's possible that his vascular disease was
20 caused as a result of his chemotherapy, correct?

21 A. No. I wouldn't agree with that statement.

22 Q. You see no possibility?

23 A. No possibility.

24 Q. Have you seen any scientific literature
25 concerning vascular disease and chemotherapy?

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1 A. With respect to the chemotherapy that he
2 received?

3 Q. Yes, sir.

4 A. No.

5 Q. And did you do any research in that area for

6 Mr. Faulk?

7 A. No.

8 Q. You have seen no evidence that Mr. Barrett had
9 chronic gastric infection based on specific pathology.

10 MR. FAULK: Object. That

11 mischaracterizes his testimony regarding
12 the surgical pathology report.

13 Q. Other than the one sample collected on December
14 8th, 199 -- Well, let's -- I'm sorry. Let me rephrase
15 that. I don't have many questions left. I'm trying to
16 get this over with, but I don't want to rush this. You
17 say in your report, "By contrast, the notion that
18 benzene and other chemicals may cause lymphoma, in man,
19 remains speculation." That's a correct reading, isn't
20 it?

21 A. That's correct.

22 Q. Though you are aware of some literature that
23 attributes benzene exposure to non-Hodgkin's lymphoma,
24 correct?

25 MR. FAULK: Object. That

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1 mischaracterizes his testimony.

2 A. Well, I'm aware of literature in which the
3 association has been suggested because of epidemiologic
4 data.

5 Q. Doctor, have you been asked to prepare any
6 demonstrative aids relative to your testimony in this
7 case?

8 A. No.

9 Q. And do you plan on doing such work as we sit
10 here today?

11 A. Well, I've discussed it with Mr. Faulk in terms
12 of diagrams: but I haven't prepared any.

13 Q. Have you in the past utilized demonstrative
14 aids relative to your work as an expert witness?

15 A. No.

16 Q. What have you discussed with Mr. Faulk
17 specifically concerning the demonstrative aids relative
18 to your testimony in Mr. Barrett's case?

19 A. Well, we've discussed illustrating the concept
20 of MALT lymphoma.

21 MR. FAULK: That's about as general as
22 it gets.

23 (AT THIS TIME THERE WAS AN
24 OFF-THE-RECORD DISCUSSION, AFTER WHICH THE
25 PROCEEDINGS RESUMED AS FOLLOWS:)

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1 Q. Do you know of any other risk factors for
2 non-Hodgkin's lymphoma that in any way would be a risk
3 factor for Mr. Barrett in the development of his
4 non-Hodgkin's lymphoma other than what we've talked
5 about already?

6 A. Well, I'd have to look again. I've forgotten
7 from the records. We know -- And there are increasing
8 reports in hepatitis C being associated with
9 non-Hodgkin's lymphoma. And I think he had hepatitis
10 testing done, but I just can't recall. But if he didn't
11 have hepatitis testing done and one found he was
12 positive for hepatitis C, that potentially could be a
13 risk factor.

14 Q. As we sit here today, you have no evidence that
15 Mr. Barrett had hepatitis C; is that correct?

16 A. No, I do not.

17 Q. Let me phrase it this way. Do you have any
18 evidence that Mr. Barrett has or has ever had hepatitis
19 C?

20 A. No, I do not.

21 Q. Have you examined the cost for the treatment of
22 Mr. Barrett for his lymphoma?

23 A. Well, specific reference to his hospital bills,
24 you're talking about?

25 Q. Yes, sir.

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1 A. No.

2 Q. So you have no opinions as to whether the
3 medical costs were reasonable or not; is that correct?

4 A. No. I have no opinions about that.

5 Q. And were you provided with Dr. Spindel's report)
6 concerning what his opinion was as to what may have
7 caused Mr. Barrett's non-Hodgkin's lymphoma?

8 A. I don't recall. If it's in that pile of
9 documents, then at some time I saw it: but I don't
10 recall seeing it.

11 (AT THIS TIME NATELSON EXHIBIT NO. 18
12 WAS MARKED FOR IDENTIFICATION PURPOSES AND
13 IS FULLY DESCRIBED IN THE "EXHIBIT INDEX"
14 HEREIN. SAME WILL BE FOUND AT THE
15 CONCLUSION OF THIS DEPOSITION.)

16 Q. Doctor, I've had marked as Exhibit 18 Dr.
17 Spindel -- one of Dr. Spindel's reports concerning Mr.
18 Barrett. Do you specifically recall seeing this
19 document prior to today's deposition?

20 A. I don't recall seeing this document.

21 Q. And Dr. Spindel states that in his opinion
22 exposure to benzene is a risk factor concerning Mr.
23 Barrett's non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, correct?

24 A. No. He doesn't say that at all.

25 , Q. Okay. Let me see it, please

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1 A. (Tendering document.)

2 Q. Dr. Spindel states, "I recognize that benzene
3 exposure is a risk factor in developing lymphoma under
4 reasonable medical probability." He did say that,
5 correct?

6 A. He's -- But not with specific reference to the
7 patient.

8 Q. Yes. But he said what I said he said.

9 A. No. You said he said that -

10 Q. Okay.

11 A. You mentioned, I believe, the patient.

12 Q. I see where the confusion is.

13 A. Okay.

14 Q. Dr. Spindel in Exhibit 18 states, "I recognize
15 that benzene exposure is a risk factor in developing
16 lymphoma under reasonable medical probability," correct?
17 That's what he said?

18 A. That's what it says there. But -- but that
19 doesn't mean that it applies to this particular patient.

20 Q. Well, when it says, "Referencing Charles Lester
21 Barrett," do you have any reason to believe that he'd be
22 talking about anybody else other than Charles Lester
23 Barrett?

24 A. Well, I mean, this -- this person writing the
25 letter mentions what he did that -- It says he's a

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1 practicing physician, that he's treated someone for
2 large cell lymphoma. And then he has a paragraph that
3 says benzene is a risk factor for developing lymphoma.
4 But there might be many other risk factors, and he's
5 not -- I don't see any place where he says this guy has
6 lymphoma from this particular risk factor.

7 Q. Do you agree or disagree with the statement
8 benzene is a risk factor in the development of Hodgkin's
9 lymphoma?

10 A. I disagree.

11 Q. But certainly if the epidemiological studies
12 evolve, that opinion is something that is subject to
13 change, isn't it?

14 A. Well, over the years medical opinions change on
15 many issues.

16 MR. HYDE: We're done.

17 MR. FAULK: Just a second. I may
18 have -

19 MR. HYDE: Oh, okay.

20 MR. FAULK: -- just short redirect.

21 Matter of fact, I probably do. We'll just
22 go ahead and do it. It won't take long.

23 EXAMINATION BY MR. FAULK:

24 Q. Dr. Natelson, do you recall in your testimony
25 earlier in this deposition -- I know it's been a

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1 while -- that you referred to a level of -- I think it
2 was 200 PPMs that was necessary to induce hematopoietic
3 cancers by benzene?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. Have you had an opportunity to think about
6 that? And is that still your testimony?

7 A. Well, I think we also talked further after that
8 statement was made; and I mentioned that what we're
9 talking about is part per million years or cumulative
10 exposure over time.

11 Q. And is that based on any materials that you've
12 reviewed?

13 A. That's based on the opinions in part of Dr.
14 Wong in some of the papers I've reviewed.

15 Q. And do you recall whether or not you reviewed a
16 risk assessment done by Dr. Wong?

17 A. Well, that one particular paper involved risk
18 assessment, yes.

19 Q. When did you first have an opportunity to
20 review the opinions -- any opinions expressed by any of
21 the Plaintiff's experts in this case?

22 A. Well, this is the first time I've seen this
23 particular letter, which would be that opinion.

24 Q. And -

25 MR. HYDE: Off the record.

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1 (AT THIS TIME THERE WAS AN
2 OFF-THE-RECORD DISCUSSION, AFTER WHICH THE
3 PROCEEDINGS RESUMED AS FOLLOWS:)

4 Q. You've reviewed an affidavit-by Dr. Gardner; is
5 that correct?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. And did you review that within the last month?

8 A. Probably, yes.

9 Q. Was that the first time that you knew of Dr.
10 Gardner's opinions in this case?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. And have you yet had an opportunity to review a'
13 deposition of Dr. Gardner?

14 A. No.

15 Q. Or a deposition of any of the Plaintiff's
16 experts?

17 A. No.

18 MR. FAULK: That's all I have.

19 RE-EXAMINATION BY MR. HYDE:

20 Q. Doctor, did you know that the depositions of
21 Dr. Lemmon and Dr. Bingham have already been

22 transcribed; and they're two of Plaintiff's experts?

23 A. I don't know either of those people. I don't
24 know anything about that.

25 Q. And you haven't received any testimony from

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1 those individuals, correct?

2 A. No.

3 Q. I believe you've testified before that you knew

4 Dr. Gardner; is that correct?

5 A. Yes, I know Dr. Gardner.

6 Q. And as a hematologist you have respect for him,
7 correct?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. What specific paper from Dr. Wong have you

10 reviewed concerning risk assessment? I mean, can you

11 identify that for me as we sit here?

12 A. No, because I have all his papers over in my
13 other office. It's not among the papers I brought here
14 today.

15 Q. And I take it those are papers that have been
16 provided to you by lawyers representing defendants -
17 some of them?

18 A. No. Those are papers that I've accumulated
19 over the years that have to do with different subjects
20 in hematology.

21 Q. As we sit here today, do you have an opinion as
22 to what is a safe level of benzene exposure? I know you
23 didn't in the Frias deposition. Do you have one today?

24 A. Well, I don't have a particular safe level.

25 We're talking about -- As we said, a certain number of

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1 parts per million years can be very dangerous and may
2 cause acute leukemia; but that level should be very
3 high.

4 Q. As we sit here today, do you know specifically
5 of a safe exposure level to benzene with no risk?

6 A. With no risk associated to it?

7 Q. Yes, sir.

8 A. I'd have to say no.

9 Q. And certainly you agree that -- agree with the
10 concept of individual susceptibility and that some
11 individuals may be more susceptible to the effects of
12 benzene as compared to others, correct?

13 A. Well, I don't know that to be a fact.

14 Q. Do you disagree with that?

15 A. Well, I don't -- I don't know -- I don't have
16 an opinion on it.

17 Q. That's fair enough.

18 A. I don't know.

19 Q. So the record's clear, you have no opinion as
20 to individual susceptibility of a benzene-related
21 disease from benzene exposure; is that correct?

22 A. No. I don't -- I -- What we know is that
23 benzene exposures that cause acute leukemia require
24 generally very high levels in the range, as we said,
25 cumulative part per million years 100 to 200 or so.

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1 Now, someone might require 100. Some of them might
2 require 200. But they require a bunch.

3 Q. Have you formulated any other opinions other
4 than those stated in your report and those contained in
5 this deposition as it relates to Mr. Lester Barrett?

6 MR. FAULK: I'm going to object to the
7 question, as you did, with respect to the
8 witness's last week. It's up to you to ask
9 the questions to elicit the opinions. I
10 think that question's too vague.

11 MR. HYDE: Good. That verifies my
12 other objection. That's all the questions
13 I have.

14 **(AT THIS TIME THE DEPOSITION WAS**
15 **CONCLUDED.)**

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