

FIGURE 7. Ashed slide from case of Silicosis (× 100). No mounting medium.

saline). At the time of intubation, the fibers had been in the dye solution for approximately two weeks. One month later, one animal was sacrificed under Nembutal anesthesia and the lungs dissected out and examined under ultraviolet (Wood's lamp). The lungs displayed a slight yellow fluorescence which appeared to be brighter along the internal (parietal) edges. The lungs were hot formalin fixed, and frozen sections were mounted in water. No fibers were visible in white light, but fibers were readily visible by fluorescence using a No. 9863 Corning filter and a Euphos glass (Leitz) secondary filter in the ocular. Large fibers (>10 microns) could be readily located by fluorescence under lower power (100 ×). The second animal received an additional intubation after four weeks and was examined one week later. The fibers, again, were easily visible by fluorescence. These results raise the possibility that other materials may similarly be retained by asbestos fibers in the body. This is in sharp distinction to the investigations by Falk and Kotin[24] and Harington and his colleagues who measured the elution of carcinogens from soots and mineral dust.[25] The fraction remaining on the fiber is likely to have more effect on adjacent cells than the fraction that is eluted by and diluted in body fluids.

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