

Monsanto

FROM (NAME & LOCATION):

P. E. Bureau - Springfield, Ma.

DATE

September 11, 1980

cc W. R. Gaffey, M. D. C2SH
W. E. Smith/A. Z. Garrison
C. S. Winfield

SUBJECT

Monsanto's Health Study

REFERENCE

TO

J. L. Shriver

On September 11, 1980, I called Gary Marsh at the University of Pittsburgh to discuss the status of Monsanto's study.

Gary indicated that he had not as yet made any analysis of our data, but would be doing so shortly, i.e.; by early October. He had no feel for the probable results of the study at this point. I informed Gary that we would be mailing today a reply to his information request dated August 29th. While we were not able to answer all his questions, we were able to resolve a good portion of them. Considering the age of the data, I expect Gary will have some more questions of us when he receives our information.

Gary will be talking with Dr. W. R. Gaffey in St. Louis shortly to arrange for an early October visit to Springfield to wrap up any final questions before writing his report. He indicated an interest in touring our facility at that time along with Dr. Gaffey and perhaps John Henshaw.

At this point, it looks like a final report will be available October ending.


P. E. Bureau

PEB/SBN

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SEP 24 1980

University of Pittsburgh

GRADUATE SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH
Department of Biostatistics

September 19, 1980

J. L. Henshaw
Dept. of Medicine & Environmental Health
A2 SC
Monsanto Company
800 N. Lindbergh Blvd.
St. Louis, MO 63166

Dear Mr. Henshaw:

As you probably know, my upcoming analysis of the Springfield data will attempt to relate historic formaldehyde exposures at the plant to employee mortality patterns during 1950-1976. In order to do this accurately I need to be certain which departments at the plant were associated with either formaldehyde production, useage, or storage. For this purpose, primary source of data thus far has been the formaldehyde useage charts you developed, which were forwarded to me through Dr. Gaffey. My interpretation of your charts is that only four areas at the plant have used formaldehyde and these are associated with the following department numbers which appear on personnel records.

<u>Plant Area</u>	<u>Department Number(s)</u>
1. Cast Phenolics	13, 14, 15
2. Resinox	50, 52, 53, 55, 56, 57
a. Resins Dept.	50
b. Resin Compounding Dept.	52
c. Molding Powder Dept.	53, 55, 56, 57
3. Resimines	68, 71, 72, 73, 74
4. Formalin Plant	54

Following the computer coding of the work histories for the 600 decedents in the Springfield cohort, a number of departments were discovered whose names suggested formaldehyde exposure. Since these departments were not included in your above scheme, I am uncertain

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as to their formaldehyde exposure status. The following is a listing of these questionable departments.

<u>Department Number</u>	<u>Name</u>
17	Vuepack
58	Resinox
109	Resinox-Tank Form Operator
114	Resinox Lab
133	General Plant
149	Shaping Resinox
173	Service Depts. Waste Disposal
210	Vuepack Scrap Cutter
512	Laboratory-Saflex
509	Laboratory-Resinox
513	Laboratory-"Fome Cor"

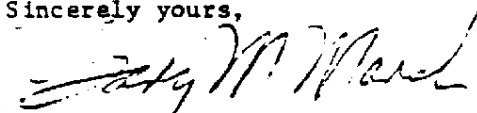
There are also some inconsistencies that need to be resolved concerning the appropriate time periods of formaldehyde exposure within many of these departments.

More generally, I would also like, if available, any additional information that you might have on the nature and intensity of the formaldehyde exposures which occurred in these departments. This could conceivably be used to rank order formaldehyde exposures among the study members thus permitting a more sensitive analysis to be done.

Dr. Gaffey and I thought that perhaps a joint meeting with you at the Springfield plant might best serve to answer these issues prior to my statistical analysis.

Please contact me by telephone shortly after you have considered these problems. Due to the time constraints involved, I am hoping that it may be possible to resolve these issues without visiting the plant. Thank you very much for your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely yours,



Gary M. Marsh, Sc.D.
Assistant Professor of Biostatistics

GMM/jmt

cc: ✓ Dr. Gaffey/Monsanto, St. Louis
Mr. Paul Bureau, Monsanto, Springfield

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