

contain asbestos products from the roof to the basement. It would be a hard turn of fate if the avoidance of ordinary pulmonary asbestosis might lead to an increased frequency of mesothelioma of the pleura or peritoneum, presumably because the population is living longer and the carcinogenic action of asbestos has a longer time to act. It might be well to start now to restrict some of the unnecessary and possibly dangerous uses of asbestos.

-- APCA Absts

- 376 Peritoneal Tumours in Asbestosis. J. B. Enticknap and W. J. Smither.
Brit. J. Ind. Med. 21, 20-31 (Jan. 1964).

Eleven cases of diffuse abdominal tumors in association with exposure to asbestos were discovered in the years 1958 to 1963. There were 8 men and 3 women, all of whom had worked in the same factory. In 7 of the men the age at death ranged from 38 to 78 years; one man is still alive at the age of 46. The women died at 44, 61, and 67. The survival time after the first exposure varied from 20 to 46 years. The shortest period of exposure was 10 months and the longest 32 years. All three of the main commercial types of asbestos had been involved in their working operations. Histological confirmation of the nature of the tumor has been obtained at necropsy in 9 of the 10 deceased and at biopsy in 6, including the survivor. A remarkable feature of these cases is the minimal fibrosis found in the lungs. In 3 men and one woman, asbestosis was not diagnosed during life, and no patient was completely disabled by pulmonary fibrosis.

-- Authors' abst.

PHYSICAL ASPECTS OF THE ENVIRONMENT

- 377 Laser—Medical and Industrial Hygiene Controls.
H. E. Tebrock, W. N. Young and W. Machle. J. Occ. Med. 5, 564-567 (Dec. 1963).

The principles of controlling environmental laser hazards are as follows: (1) Avoidance of principal beam and its reflection. (2) Proper education of personnel involved. (3) General information given those who might be casually exposed. (4) Use of warning devices to indicate laser in operation. (5) Policing and clearing of area for long-range operation. (6) Use of proper antilaser eye shields on any observer likely to be exposed. (7) Use of count-downs, with persons closing eyes or looking away from pulsed, high-power beam. (8) Reporting of all persistent after-images to medical department. (9) Fundoscopic and slit-lamp examination of all people involved in laser operations. Laser research may well lead to beams of longer and longer wave length as new materials are discovered that satisfy laser requirements. There is also a simultaneous effort to secure increased power output. Since new effects may be noted as the equipment changes, new or additional health and safety requirements must necessarily be formulated to meet the ever changing experiments.

-- Authors' summary

- 378 How to Cope With Electric-Motor Noise. J. Campbell.
Machine Design 35, 139-158 (March, 1963).

Noise of magnetic and mechanical origin in electric motors is discussed; diagrams of airborne noise and vibration levels are presented for various types of electric motors; establishing specifications for maximum permissible noise values, and steps to reduce motor noise are described. This article is based on a two-year investigation performed at the Norwood Development Laboratory of the Allis-Chalmers Manufacturing Company.

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