

EX. X-17
WIT. Dr. Mancuso
DATE 8-19-83
C. AMATI RPTER

January 23, 1961

Dr. W. M. O'Donnell
Lancaster General Hospital
Lancaster, Pennsylvania

Dear Doctor O'Donnell:

A few days ago I had an opportunity of studying sections of tissues obtained at autopsy from two former employees of the asbestos plant in Mannheim, which has proved to be, according to your experience, a rich source of asbestosis cancer of the lung. While one of these workers seemed to have died from a multicentric adenocarcinoma of the lung without showing any asbestos bodies in the lung, the second one had scattered asbestos bodies in the lung in addition to an extensive mesothelioma of the peritoneum. Similar cancers involving the pleura and the peritoneum have occasionally been observed in Germany, while a rather large number of such cancers has been found among South African miners of blue Cape asbestos.

I am enclosing photocopies of two papers dealing with such observations since they may not readily be available to you and because you may have come across similar cases in your own work.

You may be interested to know that Dr. Thomas Mancuso, Columbus, Ohio, has recently conducted an epidemiologic analysis of the occurrence of cancers of all sites among present and former employees of the Mannheim plant, which seems to have yielded some interesting results. If you should have kept alive your scientific interest in this problem, I wonder whether it might be mutually profitable if you and Dr. Mancuso would get together to exchange experiences. I am certain that Mancuso's interest in this occupational cancer hazard is essentially limited to epidemiologic observations as they could be ascertained from a follow-up of data provided by the Bureau of Old-Age and Survivors' Insurance, although he has also some information on pathologic aspects.

In view of the defective data and misleading if not false conclusions recently published by Braun and Truan who missed 34 cases of asbestosis cancer of the lung studied at Saranac Lake Laboratories for the asbestos interests of Quebec by Verward (15 cases) and later on Schepers (23 cases), it would be most important, in my opinion, if

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your observations on cancers of the lung in workers having contact with Canadian asbestos would be made the subject of a comprehensive report. Perhaps it may add to the significance of such a contribution if such a paper of yours would be published at the same time and in the same journal together, but separately with the report on the epidemiologic survey of Mancuso. I am certain that Mancuso would let you have all the pathologic data he has available for you to include in your paper if you so desire.

If this proposition should appeal to you I should be glad to approach Mancuso on this matter so as to bring you two together. Will you kindly let me have your reaction?

Cordially yours,

W. C. Hooper, M. D., Chief
Environmental Cancer Section
National Cancer Institute
Enclosures
Leicher, F., Primärer Deckzellentumor des Bauchfells bei Asbestose,
Archiv für Gewerbepathologie und Gewerbehygiene. 13:302-392, 1954;
Wagner, J. C., Sleggs, C. A. and Marchand, P., Diffuse Pleural Mesothelioma and asbestos exposure in the North Western Cape Province.
Brit. J. industr. Med. 17:260-271, Oct. 1960.

cc - Dr. Thomas F. Mancuso, Ohio St. Health

The Lancaster General Hospital

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OFFICE OF THE PATHOLOGIST

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EX.	X-15
WIT.	Dr. Mancuso
DATE	8-19-83
C. AMATI RPTR.	

February 6, 1961

W. C. Hueper, M.D., Chief
Environmental Cancer Section
National Cancer Institute
Bethesda 14, Md.

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Dear Dr. Hueper:

I am still accumulating data with respect to the association of pulmonary asbestosis and bronchogenic carcinoma. I now have 39 cases of proven pulmonary asbestosis, 19 of which have associated bronchogenic carcinoma. It had been my hope to get 40 cases of this disease to show our incidence of carcinoma. This would be a presentation of a material comparable to Lynch.

We have seen no case of mesothelioma of either pleura or peritoneum in our material.

I will be glad to discuss this problem with Dr. Thomas Mancuso if he desires to visit Lancaster.

Very truly yours,

Ward M. O'Donnell
Ward M. O'Donnell, M.D.
Director of Laboratory.

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