



INTERNAL CORRESPONDENCE

cc: ~~REB, NF, Cdy~~
cc: JAR
5-1-70

UNION CARBIDE CORPORATION

270 PARK AVENUE, NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10017

RECEIVED

To (Name) Mr. C. E. Metten
Division Chemicals & Plastics
Location 2770 Leonis Blvd.
Los Angeles, Calif. 90058

Date March 21, 1970
Originating Dept. Medical Department

APR 6 - 1970

UCC - CALIDRIA
KING CITY, CA.

Answering letter date

Copy to bcc: M. B. VerNooy - TT
W. J. Fitzpatrick - LA
W. G. Farrell - LA
John Meyers - King City

Subject Toxicity of Calidria Asbestos

Asbestos has practically no acute toxicity regardless of its type or form. The harm associated with asbestos is from the fibrogenic properties of the inhaled dust. This usually is seen only after prolonged exposure measured in terms of 15-20 years although cases rarely will occur in less time.

Because of the rather unique structure characteristics of Calidria Asbestos, there was concern that it might be unusually fibrogenic and perhaps cause an acute asbestosis.

To test this possibility, Calidria Asbestos was injected into rats and rabbits intraperitoneally using a standard long fibre asbestos as a control. The results of this test showed Calidria Asbestos to be slightly more fibrogenic than long fibre asbestos but the difference was not so great as to suggest an unusual degree of hazard. From this I conclude that the same precautions to avoid breathing asbestos dust must be observed whether the dust be from Calidria Asbestos or from a standard long fibre form.

Some people believe there is an association between exposure to asbestos dust and the development of lung cancer and mesothelioma. There is no information regarding Calidria Asbestos in this respect as yet. It would be prudent to assume that Calidria Asbestos will behave like other asbestos in this regard.

C. U. Dernehl, M. D.
Associate Medical Director

CUD:dp

A03158

Union Carbide Corporation
Mining and Metals Division
270 Park Avenue
New York, New York 10017

RECEIVED

FEB 9 1968

T. F. FRANGOS

February 8, 1968

Mr. Peter R. Cheston
Union Carbide Limited
8 Grafton Street
London, England

*Asbestos
Toxicology*

Dear Peter:

Your suggestion that we consider including "UK paper industry" comments in our General Sales Meeting is well taken -- and I plan to review the notes with Ian Sayers.

Apropos of your letter on toxicological studies relative to asbestos -- we have reviewed the two excerpts you sent us with Dr. Carl Dernehl. He counsels that the papers "do not by any means present incontrovertible proof nor do they profess to do so." Further: "Our position should remain that in United States experience there has been no increased incidence of lung cancer when the threshold limit has not been exceeded."

From past publications, we have also noted the references to organic contaminants, with the thought that proof of absence of polycyclic aromatics in Union Carbide asbestos might be useful. We are planning some extraction studies and analyses for 3,4-benzo(a)pyrene by techniques employed at South Charleston. We will let you know the results, probably in an appropriately written statement by Dr. Dernehl.

The matter of soft papers, facial and other tissues, has been a recurring subject with us. Primarily this is a question of skin sensitization. While the over-all statements by our Industrial Medicine and Toxicology people should suffice -- we have given thought to "patch tests," which, incidentally, cost appreciably to run. It would be meaningless to conduct such tests with paper containing UCC asbestos, since the other components of the furnish bear on the results. Hence we are considering patch tests using straight asbestos -- which, of course, would absolve only our product. The other components (including, as you know, a variety of organic compounds) of specific furnishes would have to be considered by the paper company involved. We shall let you know our plans.

Very truly yours,

A.E. Pufahl:dk

cc: M. F. Reichard
T. F. Frangos
R. F. Gray (Australia)

A.E. Pufahl

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