

I. Objective

The study's objectives are:

- A. To determine which jobs are associated with asbestos related pulmonary abnormalities (ARPA).
- B. To determine whether Du Pont workers with asymptomatic ARPA are at higher risk of developing symptomatic ARPA than are workers with no asbestos-related abnormalities.
- C. To determine if Du Pont workers with any non-malignant asbestos-related abnormality are at increased risk of developing a malignancy.
- D. To determine the prognostic significance of specific ARPA's.

II. Specific aims

The study's specific aims are to:

- A. Establish a case file of workers who have been diagnosed as having ARPA.
- B. For each case choose a matched control worker who does not have ARPA.
- C. Determine by case-control methods which jobs are associated with ARPA.
- D. Follow the subjects over time to determine whether there are differences in respiratory disease-free survival rates between cases and controls.

III. Methods

A. Sources of cases

Cases will be identified through the company's asbestos screening program.

This program was begun in October 1980 as a comprehensive review of medical findings and histories of certain high risk employees. These high-risk employees were 40 or more years old, had at least 10 years' experience with Du Pont, and may have been exposed to asbestos dust through work with insulation or in manufacturing operations. The X-rays of other plant employees are being reviewed as part of their regular periodic physical examination.