

JK
7-19-67

Dr. C. U. Dernehl

June 28, 1967

NEW YORK OFFICE

Dear Carl:

Attached you will find detailed cost report for the Vinyl Resins Survey. Since the project was not included in my 1967 budget I would appreciate whatever you could do toward back charging or refunding those expenses which were direct costs to the Medical Department.

All x-rays and questionnaires were done on company time in the Medical Department. Because of the difficulty in scheduling relief, the subjects were handled on overtime. We surveyed five employees per session. The oncoming evening shift came in one hour early and the outgoing day shift remained one hour after their normal departure time. With this method we were able to survey ten hourly employees per day, plus additional salaried employees at other hours.

I thought you might find this detailed report of interest in predicting costs in other plants.

Cordially,

R. E. Joyner, M. D. /eb
Encl.

UCC 100798

actually mailed 7-27-66

eb

Dr. C. U. Dernehl

July 22, 1966

NEW YORK OFFICE

Dr. E. Q. Hull
SOUTH CHARLESTON PLANT

Dear Carl:

I am enclosing the interview-examination form used on 22 laborers who have performed significant amounts of vinylite autoclave cleaning work.

A few general comments are in order:

1. All interviews and examinations were conducted by me. X-rays were made in our department and were read by a radiologist, (Dr. Jesse B. Johnson, Jr.). The radiologist was generally familiar with what we were looking for but, like me, has never seen an example of the pathology.
2. Examinations were conducted on all employees who have had more than transient, brief exposure to autoclave cleaning.

Significant findings included:

1. Six of the laborers included had no symptoms or findings whatever and had completely normal x-rays.
2. Patient Lugene Willis gave the most significant history of pain, tenderness, and pain on motion localized to the distal IP joint of the middle finger of the left hand. These symptoms have been present 3 to 4 months and the patient denies any knowledge of trauma to this area. His x-ray shows that the distal end of the distal phalanx is absent having "apparently been amputated." Fortunately we have an x-ray of this same finger made in 1960 and the radiologist notes that "the changes in the distal end of the distal phalanx show no change" since that time.
3. Patient Mark Garrett gave a vague history of slight stiffness in the IP joint associated with slight swelling. This has occurred sporadically and is unrelated to physical activities. His x-rays were normal except for the healed fracture known to us by history.
4. Patient Earnest Jarmon gave a similarly vague history of episodes of stiffness in the proximal IP joints. His x-rays were normal.
5. Patient John Jenkins demonstrated pigmented spots on the palmar surfaces of the hands, the significance of which is not known.

UCC 100829

July 22, 1966

Dr. C. U. Dernehl
New York Office

6. Patient Wilbert Lawson gave a fairly definite history of numbness of his fingers which developed in cold weather. His x-rays were normal.
7. Patient Douglas Cooper has a subcutaneous nodule overlying the distal head of the right radius.
8. Patient George Moore gave a history of occasional numbness and tingling of the fingers on awakening in the mornings. His x-rays were normal.
9. Patient A. J. Urps gave a history of development of numbness of fingertips on exposure to cold. His tufts were normal.

On the whole I feel that this survey has failed to establish the existence of any consistent pathology among vinylite autoclave workers in this plant. Specifically I have not observed Raynaud's phenomenon, scleroderma, or other findings similar to those noted by Goodrich. Indeed, the only faintly suspicious observation is that of the case of Lugine Willis. I do not know if you recall him, but he is a very suggestable individual and would probably develop any symptoms you mentioned when questioned with sufficient vigor. The observation that the distal end of the distal phalanx is absent, however, cannot be refuted.

I enclose the x-rays made on the ²⁻⁶~~22~~ laborers. Keep them as long as you wish but please return them to me when they are no longer needed. I would also appreciate the return of the interview-examination forms when you have finished your review.

Cordially,

R. E. Joyner, M. D. /eb
Encls.

UCC 100830