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LITERATURE ABSTRACTS

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444 Chlorinated Hydrocarbon Pesticides in Cosmetics. W. F. Edmundson, et al. Ind. Med. & Surg. 36, 806-809 (Dec., 1967).

This study reveals that some cosmetic products contain considerably more pesticide chemicals than other cosmetic products, and that, with few exceptions, these products usually are those labeled as containing lanolin. Some products labeled as containing lanolin were, however, found essentially pesticide-free; in these cases, so little lanolin may be used that pesticide contamination was undetected, the wool fat may contain infinitesimal amounts of the pesticides or the processing of the product may be destructive to these chemicals. It may be concluded from this study that wool fat used in the manufacture of some cosmetic products is a probable source of contamination of lanolin by traces of chlorinated hydrocarbon pesticides. There are 3 references. -- Authors' discussion

445 Poisoning From Ingestion of a Stramonium-Belladonna Mixture. Flower Power Gone Sour. S. R. Goldsmith, I. Frank, and J. T. Ungerleider. J. Am. Med. Assn. 204, 169-170 (April 8, 1968).

Asthmador (a stramonium-belladonna mixture) caused poisoning in two individuals. At a time when Asthmador ingestion is becoming increasingly popular as a hallucinogen, it is well to include it in the differential diagnosis of acute psychotic reactions. The clinical picture may be similar to that of a lysergic acid diethylamide (LSD) psychosis. However, the marked pupillary dilatation, failure of the pupils to accommodate, the tachycardia seen with intoxication from Asthmador may be helpful in making the differential diagnosis. There are 7 references. -- Authors' abstract

446 Toxic Effect of Stramonium Simulating LSD Trip. J. N. DiGiacomo. J. Am. Med. Assn. 204, 265-267 (April 15, 1968).

Four cases of stramonium poisoning in teen-agers secondary to ingestion of Asthmador asthma powder (stramonium-belladonna mixture) presented as LSD reactions. The clinical manifestations were acute brain syndrome and physical signs of atropinization. The effects of stramonium ingestion are similar to the effects of the ingestion of amphetamine and LSD, but in addition to the psychosis due to toxic reaction, the patient who has ingested stramonium typically has dry mucous membranes and is hot and flushed. There are 14 references. -- Author's abstract

447 Toxicological Studies with a Hydrocarbon Solvent SBP 62/82. A. I. T. Walker and D. E. Stevenson. Food Cosmet. Toxic. 5, 19 (Feb., 1967).

Acute and subacute toxicity studies on hydrocarbon solvent, SBP 62/82, were carried out in rats and beagles. SBP (special boiling point) 62/82 is composed of approximately 40% n-hexane 50% 2- and 3-methyl pentane and methyl cyclopentane, and 3% benzene. Aspiration deaths were observed in the rat experiments. Otherwise rats were found to tolerate single oral doses up to 20 ml./kg. No systemic effects were noted when exposure to thrice-weekly oral doses 1 or 5 ml/kg. was continued for 13 weeks nor when once-weekly oral doses of 0.5 or 2.5 ml./kg. of a 20% emulsion of SBP were continued for 6 months. Similarly, daily oral doses of 0.005-0.5 ml./kg. administered to dogs for 24 weeks showed no effects. -- J. Occ. Med. Abstr

INDUSTRIAL DUSTS

448 Asbestos Exposure, Smoking, and Neoplasia. I. J. Selikoff, E. C. Hammond, and J. Churg. J. Am. Med. Assn. 204, 106-112 (April 8, 1968).

Asbestos insulation workers, as a group, have a high risk of dying of bronchogenic carcinoma (about seven or eight times expected). We have observed 370 such workmen from January 1, 1963 to April 30, 1967. Our findings indicate that asbestos exposure alone is not the entire explanation. Of 87 noncigarette smokers, none died of bronchogenic carcinoma. Of 293 workmen with a history of regular cigarette smoking, 24 died of bronchogenic carcinoma, although only three were expected to die of this disease. Calculations suggest that asbestos workers who smoke have about 92 times the risk of dying of bronchogenic carcinoma as men who neither work with asbestos nor smoke cigarettes. We conclude that asbestos exposure should be minimized, that asbestos workers who do not smoke should never start and those now smoking should stop immediately. -- Author's summary

Editor's Note: Also see Editorial pp. i-iii, this issue.

Experimental Asbestosis. Studies on the Progressiveness of the Pulmonary Fibrosis Caused by Chrysotile Dust. P. Gross and R. T. P. deTreville. Arch. Environmental Health 15, 638-642 (Nov., 1967). (Reprints available from Industrial Hygiene Foundation, 4400 Fifth Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15213.)

Rats, hamsters, and guinea pigs were given various lung dust burdens of chrysotile asbestos; some, by inhalation and others, by intratracheal injection. For the rat, chrysotile has about the same order of pathogenicity as quartz dust, insofar as a single intratracheal injection of between 2 and 5 mg of either dust will produce minimal lesions in rats. Evidence for the nonprogressiveness of chrysotile asbestosis in rats consists of the observations that the minimal asbestotic lesion is limited to the wall of the respiratory bronchiole and of the adjoining alveolar ducts and does not extend into adjoining normal alveoli and that the minimal asbestotic lesions heal by becoming collagenized and hypocellular. In hamsters, the asbestotic lesions are not delimited. They are diffuse, cellular, and do not collagenize. These lesions are therefore progressive. The early chrysotile asbestotic lesion in guinea pigs resembles that of rats. The progressiveness of the chrysotile asbestotic lesion in hamsters is ascribed to a less effective pulmonary clearance mechanism and to a greater reactivity of the pulmonary tissue than exist in rats. The efficiency of the clearance mechanism of man approximates more that of the rat than that of the hamster. Man's lung tissue reactivity also more closely resembles that of the rat, being characterized by the ability to heal.

-- Cond. from author's summary.

Asbestos Bodies in Routine Necropsies on Tyneside. T. Ashcroft. Brit. Med. J. 1, 614-617 (March 9, 1968).

Smears prepared from an incision in the base of the right lung in a series of 311 routine necropsies in patients over 15 years of age were examined microscopically for asbestos bodies. In cases giving a positive smear 6μ-histological sections of lung were also examined. The occupational history was obtained by questionnaire or by interviewing the relatives. Asbestos bodies were found in 20.3% of cases (25.5% of 196 males; 11.3% of 115 females). Histological sections of lung revealed bodies in less than half of the cases examined. Minimal asbestosis was found in patients dying from gastrointestinal or lung carcinoma. Positive smears were more common in patients from urban areas. Where information was available, definite, or probably occupational exposure of asbestos occurred in over half the cases with positive smears. A significantly higher incidence of bodies was found in histological sections of lung from 23 cases of diffuse mesothelioma of pleura or peritoneum than in the series of routine cases.

-- J. Am. Med. Assn. References & Reviews

Airborne Fibrous Glass Particles. Chest Roentgenograms of Persons With Prolonged Exposure. G. W. Wright. Arch. Environmental Health 16, 175-181 (Feb., 1968).

The effect, as revealed in the chest roentgenogram, of ten to twenty-five years of exposure in an environment containing airborne particles of fibrous glass has been studied. No unusual pattern of radiologic densities was observed. The frequency of various radiologic appearances known to occur in the general population was no higher in those with greatest exposure than in those with the least. Two references are given. -- Author's summary

The Evaluation of the Performance of an Electrostatic Precipitator Using a Pollak-Nolan Nucleus Counter. G. McGreevy. Atmospheric Environ. 1, 87-95 (March, 1967).

When an electrostatic precipitator was employed to sample a heterogeneous aerosol, there was a bias in favor of both small and large particles. The results were independent of the original charged condition of the aerosol entering the precipitator and of the concentration of the nuclei in the aerosol. There are 16 references. -- Public Health Eng. Abstr.

Rapid Method for Evaluating Dust Collectors. W. O. Bianconi. Occ. Health Rev. (Ottawa) 19, No. 1-2, 20-22 (1967).

A new method utilizing particle size data alone is suggested for the rapid determination of dust collector efficiency at low cost and good accuracy. Two comparisons with conventional thorium thimble technique on a large electrostatic precipitator are reported.-- Author's abst.