

FILE NAME: Colonial Sugar Refinery (CSR)

DATE: 1961 Mar 16

DOC#: CSR227

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION: Letter to Mr. Allan, Manager Wittenoom Mines from Dr. McNulty RE his Lung Damage from Asbestos with Handwritten Notes

COPY/

DISTRICT HOSPITAL

KALGOORLIE.

JMcM:MKV

16th March, 1961.

Mr. O. A. Allan,
 Manager,
 Australian Blue Asbestos Ltd.,
WITTENOOM.

Dear Os,

The lung function and other tests carried out at the Chest Hospital, confirm that your lungs have suffered some damage attributable to the inhalation of asbestos dust and that the damage is not severe. In fact, apart from what can be shown by X-Ray, tests etc., your health cannot be considered to be adversely affected.

You will appreciate that our experience of chest disease caused by asbestos is limited and indeed the various international experts publishing articles on it do not seem to know much more. This lessens the value of any advice which I can give. Unfortunately, with the numbers of men involved in a very few years, I shall soon be an expert on the course and prognosis of the disease. There are a few salient points on which I can enlighten you.

1. There is no immediate treatment.
2. Further exposure to asbestos or silica dust must cease (other than that experienced during short inspection trips to the mill and mine)
3. There is no guarantee that your health will remain good, although with the slight damage that you have suffered, I would hope that there will be no or insignificant deterioration.
4. Annual chest x-rays are advisable and with the passage of time, a more definite opinion can be given.

I shall be visiting Wittenoom again after the Mobile Unit completes its survey in August - September and look forward to seeing you. In the meantime, if you wish any further information, please write.

Kind regards,

Sd. Jim McNulty. CHEST PHYSICIAN.