

was most frequently the antioxidant monobenzyl ether of hydroquinone, which is used in the rubber adhesive in the combined linings of the shoe. Some of these patients were specifically sensitive to other rubber antioxidants and accelerators.

-- Authors' Summary

- 964 Occupational Arsenical Dermatitis: A Study among Employees at a Copper-Ore Smelting Work, Including Investigations of the Skin Reaction to Contact with Arsenic Compounds. I. Holmquist. *Acta dermatovenereol.* 31, Supp. 26, 1-214 (1951).

The sensitizing effect of several arsenic compounds was studied in employees of a copper-ore refinery by means of patch tests. Positive reactions to pure arsenic trioxide were shown in 80.4% of arsenic workers, 35.2% of other employees, and 30.3% of new employees, independently of age groups. Ointments (50% arsenic trioxide) with antipyrine or alkaline base caused more positive reactions than those with petrolatum base. A 1% solution of disodium arsenite caused positive reactions only in sensitized persons, but a 2% solution induced positive reactions in all cases. A 5% solution of arsenic pentoxide affected all persons, while a 2.5% affected only sensitized individuals. Few positive reactions occurred with lead and calcium arsenates, on account of their low solubility. Tests were also made with non-arsenical compounds in solution; 0.5% chromic acid, 0.1% mercuric chloride, 10% nickel sulfate, 5% silver nitrate, and 1% potassium dichromate caused only 1 to 4 positive reactions in a large number of tests. Sodium selenite and selenious acid in 0.5% solution failed to cause allergic reactions. Concentrations of selenious acid above 1% had pronounced toxic irritative effects. Corrosive reactions occurred with sulfuric acid in concentrations above 5%, independently of arsenic exposure. The factory operations are reviewed in detail, and statistics on arsenic sensitization in various operations are given.

-- Cond. from Chem. Absts.

- 965 Harmful Effects on the Skin of Dichlorodiethylmethylamine (Nitrogen Mustard). M. Leder. *Dermatologica* 104, 176-179 (1952) German.

Skin changes produced by nitrogen mustard gas were similar to those seen after exposure to ordinary mustard gas. Nitrogen mustard gas appeared to have a longer latent period and produced changes associated with increased sensitivity.

-- Chem. Absts.

Worry is like a treadmill--It can wear you to a frazzle,
and you still don't get anywhere.

-- Carbo Wheel