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November 15, 1966

Dr. Robert H. Goldman
65 Merriam Avenue
Leominster, Massachusetts

Dear Dr. Goldman:

I don't know if you are located close to Springfield, Massachusetts. If you are, Dr. William Messell, who is our medical director at our Springfield plant, is quite familiar with the syndrome in PVC workers. I am sure he would be happy to discuss it with you in person.

Frankly, there isn't too much to say. Approximately 1% of the workers who are engaged in the polymerization of PVC develop a sort of Raynolds of the hands. This may or may not be associated with Osteolysis of the terminal phalanges. We have not seen any of these cases and we have X-rayed about 100 workers who had some exposure at our PVC kettles. Some individuals develop the bony changes without skin changes.

The cause is unknown and it appears that healing takes place after removal from the type of work.

I am sorry I can't be more definite but there is quite a bit that is unclear about this particular phenomenon.

Very truly yours,

R. Emmet Kelly, M.D.
Medical Director

REK:cjs

cc: Dr. William Messell

RSV 0009223

ROBERT H. GOLDMAN, M. D.
88 MERRIAM AVENUE
LEOMINSTER, MASSACHUSETTS
PHONE 534-4372

November 10, 1966

Maurice H. Johnson, M. D.
Asst. Director, Medical Department
Monsanto Company
Springfield, Massachusetts

Dear Dr. Johnson:

I am the plant physician for the PVC Division of the Borden Chemical Company here in Leominster, and I have read the report given at the Mfg. Chemists Assoc. Meeting concerning the problem of Solarodermis symptoms in the hands of PVC workers.

I would appreciate any information that you could give me concerning this problem.

Thank you for your courteous assistance.

Respectfully,

Robert H. Goldman, M.D.

Robert H. Goldman, M. D.

RRG/mc

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