

FILE NAME: Talc (TALC)

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DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION: Memo - Call Report between Dr. Shapiro and Dr. Langer

Memorandum for the Record of a Telephone Conversation.

late Monday afternoon, 1 March 1976

between

Dr. R. E. Shapiro
Epidemiology Unit, HPV-103

and

Dr. A. Langer
Mount Sinai School of Medicine
New York, New York

Dr. Langer had just finished speaking with Marion Burros concerning asbestos in talc, and wanted to inform me of the information he had given Ms. Burros.

Dr. Langer had examined twenty brands of talcum powder which were purchased off-the-shelf. These were, admittedly, single grab samples for each of these brands. X-ray diffraction step-scanning analysis was used and the numbers below represent weight percent. Ten of the twenty samples contained asbestos, ranging from two to twenty percent. Five contained anthophyllite and tremolite (A + T), 3 contained tremolite (T) alone, and two contained anthophyllite (A) alone. The asbestos containing talcum powders are:

Cashmere Bouquet	20% (A+T)
Baner & Black Baby talc	15%
Coty Air	11%
Rosemary	11% (A+T)
	plus 30% quartz
ZBT Baby	8%
Fabregi Brut	5%
Yardley Invisible	5%
Yardley Black	3.5%
English Leather	2% (A)
Mennen	2%

Dr. Langer promised to send a letter confirming the information given over the telephone, with some additional details.

Discussing these results, Dr. Langer remarked that if these "grab" samples represent more than a one time occurrence, simple x-ray diffraction analysis should pick up asbestos, at least at the five percent level and above.

I have written Dr. Langer to obtain samples of these talcs for our chemists.