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MARYPIRG
MARYLAND PUBLIC INTEREST RESEARCH GROUP, INC.
3110 Main Dining Hall
College Park, Maryland 20742
University of Maryland
(301) 454-5601

Consumerism

April 17, 1975

Dr. Gavin Hildick-Smith, M.D., F.A.A.P.
Director of Clinical Research
Johnson & Johnson
New Brunswick, New Jersey 08903

Dear Dr. Hildick-Smith:

Several years ago I received a letter from you (September 19, 1972) in response to my concern that talc per se may be a carcinogen. You referred to several ongoing studies, and I would like to receive prints or reports of any that have been completed. I would also like to know of any new literature (1972—) in which cohorts of talc-exposed individuals were followed up for mortality, any case reports regarding the possible carcinogenicity of talc, and pertinent animal studies.

Specifically, your letter mentioned:
(1) controlled studies on hamsters inwhich talc was introduced into the lungs and pleura.
(2) separate, extensive animal inhalation studies with talc
(3) an extensive epidemiological survey of the cause of death in a group of talc-exposed workers
(4) other studies on the mortality of talc miners.

I hope this request is not overly burdensome. As one who is sometimes asked about the health effects of talc, I try to keep as up-to-date on the literature as possible.

Sincerely,

Barry Castleman

Barry Castleman
Environmental Engineer

BC:ljk

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