

in only three per cent in the silicosis group in stage 3. No definite conclusion was reached as to oxygen debt after graded exercise. It is suggested that some of these investigations may be of value in the diagnosis of an early silicotic process in the lungs. -- Condensed from Brit. J. Ind. Med.

- 32 Diagnosis of Asthma, Emphysema and Silicosis by Inhalation of Aerosols Containing Vasodilators or Vasoconstrictors. J.C. Gerrits. Nederl. tijdschr. v. geneesk. 93, p. 1507 (May 7, 1949) Dutch.

Gerrits shows that respiratory disturbances which follow the inhalation of an aerosol of a bronchoconstrictor substance ("acetylcholine 1 per cent") can reveal the existence of a latent bronchospasm. Likewise the inhalation of a bronchodilator ("aleudrine 1 per cent" ["aleudrine" is isopropylarteresol]) will show to what extent emphysema is reversible. Thus the inhalation of aerosols can be of help in arriving at a diagnosis. In healthy subjects these aerosols cause no changes. The author says that in 9 of 13 patients with silicosis bronchospasm was detected by means of these aerosol tests. He suggests that this might explain the discrepancy between the slight roentgenologic changes and the severe functional disturbances and shortness of breath in certain cases of silicosis. --- Arch. Ind. Hyg. & Occ. Med.

- 33 The Work of the E.N.P.I. and the Clinica del Lavoro in the Control of Silicosis and Tuberculosis in Silicosis-Producing Industry. E.C. Vigliani, L. Parmeggiani, G. Saita and E. Janetti. Med. d. Lavoro 39, 301-309 (Nov. 1948) Italian.

In 1941 the medical organizations mentioned in the title began a survey of silicosis and tuberculosis in dust industries in Italy. Mass miniature radiography and some large x-ray films were used, and for some of the work a mobile x-ray unit was used. Over 200,000 examinations were made, and in this article the findings in 152,277 miniature films are analyzed in 10 tables. The figures show that in 100,000 workers insured against the risk of silicosis there are from 4,000 to 7,000 silicotics, of whom 1,000 to 3,000 are in the nodular or confluent stage, besides 1,500 to 2,000 workers with tuberculosis requiring medical treatment. This does not include those who have had to give up work on account of their disease. The problem of silicosis is, therefore, a serious one in Italy. The advantages of mobile x-ray units are pointed out. -- Condensed from English Summary

- 34 New Developments in Medical and Surgical Treatment of Pulmonary Tuberculosis. G.W. Holmes and P.A. Alfano. Ind. Med. 18, 497-502 (Dec. 1949).

Industrial physicians must assume their responsibility for the diagnosis, management and subsequent rehabilitation of employees found to have active pulmonary tuberculosis. (2) The importance of immediate classification of employees with x-ray evidence of pulmonary lesions, into tuberculosis active and tuberculosis activity-undetermined groups, is stressed for further study and diagnosis. (3) The various modalities for the present day treatment of active pulmonary tuberculosis have been discussed.

-- Authors' Summary