

March 15, 1974

LIVER FUNCTION TESTING PROTOCOL

Interim Procedure

This procedure applies to the five PVC manufacturing plants and to the Calvert City vinyl chloride manufacturing plant.

Each of these plants has underway a vigorous program to control atmospheric concentrations of vinyl chloride and the exposure of employees to vinyl chloride and polyvinyl chloride.

This procedure sets forth (1) the medical testing protocol for employees of the six subject plants and (2) the procedure for removal of employees with substantial liver malfunctions from continued exposure to vinyl chloride or polyvinyl chloride.

I. Medical Testing Protocol

1. All employees regularly exposed to vinyl chloride or polyvinyl chloride will undergo routine testing every six months using the SMA-12 and the Gamma Glutamyl Trans Peptidase (GGTP).
2. An employee with one abnormality in any of the following five measures will be retested in three weeks.
 - (1) Total Bilirubin
 - (2) Alkaline Phos.
 - (3) LDH
 - (4) SGOT
 - (5) GGTP
3. An employee who has, on initial testing, two or more abnormalities in the five measures listed above will be examined using the following battery of tests:
 - (1) Repeat SMA-12 and GGTP
 - (2) Fractionated Bilirubin
 - (3) Fractionated LDH
 - (4) CBC and Platelet count
 - (5) Chest X-ray
 - (6) Physical Examination
4. If after undergoing the test battery in item 3 above, in the judgement of the plant physician further diagnostic work is indicated, a liver scan will be performed.

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II. Removal of Employees with Symptoms of Liver Malfunction from Exposure to Vinyl Chloride or Polyvinyl Chloride

When, in the judgement of the plant physician, medical findings indicate that an employee should be removed from continued exposure to vinyl chloride or polyvinyl chloride (such determination usually will be made only after the testing protocol described in Section I above is completed), he will consult with the Plant Manager and/or the Industrial Relations Manager and with M. N. Johnson, M.D. or R. H. Guyton, M.D., Akron Medical Department. If the decision is reached to so remove the employee, Cleveland Employee Relations will be notified. Such decisions will be made on a case-by-case basis, taking into account the pertinent facts of each case, such as the degree of abnormality of the employee's test results, the degree of exposure to vinyl chloride or polyvinyl chloride required by his work and the employee's health history.

If possible, an employee who is removed from his work because of adverse medical findings, as indicated above, will be assigned other work in areas of minimal exposure to vinyl chloride or polyvinyl chloride after consultation with the plant physician.

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