



CHEMICAL MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION

April 29, 1985

Dr. Michael Alavanja
National Cancer Institute
Epidemiology and Biostatistics Program
Room 4C03
Landover Building
Bethesda, MD 20205

Dear Dr. Alavanja:

In response to your request for information on titanium dioxide, the following reports on CMA sponsored activities are enclosed:

1. "Feasibility Analysis for an Epidemiological Study of Titanium Dioxide Workers," prepared by Tabershaw Occupational Medicine Associates (TOMA report)
2. "Audit of Report From Tabershaw Occupational Medicine Associates, 'Feasibility Analysis for and Epidemiological Study of Titanium Dioxide Workers'", prepared by SRI International (SRI report)
3. "Report to CMA Titanium Dioxide Panel," prepared by Consultants in Epidemiology and Occupational Health, Inc. (CEOH report)

The CMA Titanium Dioxide Program Panel has been trying to resolve the issue of a feasibility epidemiologic study of TiO_2 workers for quite some time. Even though the TOMA report concludes that an epidemiologic study of the mortality experience of TiO_2 workers is feasible, it does not address the basic issue that if an increased risk of death from any cause were found, that risk could be attributed to titanium dioxide. Both the SRI and The CEOH reports also point this out. We hope that your feasibility study can be aimed at answering this basic question.

As we have discussed in our prior meetings, inadequate smoking histories on workers, a continuous exposure to asbestos, and mobility within the work force tend to confound the outcome of a study. DuPont's ongoing

epidemiologic study at two of its plants may shed some light on these issues.

After you have reviewed these reports, please call me at 887-1192, if you have any question or would like to discuss any of the issues in these reports in greater detail.

I wish you good luck in your endeavors with titanium dioxide.

Sincerely,

Has Shah

Hasmukh Shah, Ph.D.
Manager

Titanium Dioxide Program Panel

Enclosures

cc: Titanium Dioxide Program Panel
Dr. Barry Miller

CMA 101746