

Important autopsy observations made on South African gold miners, in whom silicosis is of frequent occurrence, were used in a study of the alleged causative interrelation of lung cancer in silicotic individuals (Reports of the Miner's Phthisis Medical Bureau of South Africa, 1932 and 1935). Among 3,215 autopsies performed on European males employed in the mines or members of the white population of Johannesburg (deaths in the Johannesburg General Hospital), there were 16 cases of lung cancer during a period of eight and a half and eleven years, respectively (report of 1932). The relative percentage of lung cancer of these groups was as follows:

	<i>European Non- Miners</i>	<i>Miners with- out Silicosis</i>	<i>Miners with Silicosis</i>
Autopsies	1023	1109	1083
Per cent of Lung Cancer	0.58	0.54	0.37

Similar relations were stated in the report of the year 1935

Autopsies	1393	1679	1438
Lung cancers	13	12	10
Per cent	0.93	0.71	0.70

These data, obtained through post-mortem examinations, indicate clearly that the presence of a silicosis does not predispose or favor the development of a pulmonary malignancy. Similar extensive studies of the question, based on the roentgenological and clinical examinations of persons exposed to dust, were reported by Vorwald and Karr, using evidence collected from the literature and their own observations. The following tables are taken from the paper of these two investigators:

Incidence of Pulmonary Tumors in Clinical and Roentgenological Examinations of Individuals Exposed to Dust, as Reported in the Literature

<i>Number of Cases</i>	<i>Non-Silicotics</i>	<i>Silicotics</i>	<i>Pulmonary Tumor</i>
57,362	45,156	12,206	3(0.005%)

Incidence of Pulmonary Tumors as Revealed by Serial Chest Roentgenograms in Individuals Exposed to Dust and Examined in the Saranac Laboratory

<i>Occupation</i>	<i>Number Examined</i>	<i>Pulmonary Tumor</i>
Iron Mines	7,324	3
Foundries	6,613	0
Cement plants	823	0
Gypsum plants and mills	762	0
Copper mines	65	0
Silicotics	1,357	1 (0.074%)
Non-Silicotics	14,230	2 (0.014%)
Total	15,587	3 (0.019%)