

INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE FOUNDATION OF AMERICA, INC.
Mellon Institute, 4400 Fifth Avenue

Pittsburgh 13, Pa.

August 29, 1963

Mr. Don G. Fowler
Director of Health and Safety
Lead Industries Association, Inc.
892 Madison Avenue
New York, N. Y. 10017

Dear Don:

At a meeting of our Legal Committee earlier this year, Douglas Soutar, Vice President of American Smelting & Refining, mentioned that the potential for abuse in occupational disease hearings is astronomical as a result of inadequate evidence.

Even where industrial hygiene controls are excellent, current records may not provide adequate evidence. Health service personnel in industry may feel that the man's exposure did not produce the disease for which the claim is being made, but medical records do not ordinarily indicate the basis on which the doctor's and engineer's decisions were made. Although fewer in number than injury cases, occupational disease compensation cases are a significant and increasing problem. Medical and legal costs added to higher awards make them a costly problem today. The prospects for the future appear worse.

In an effort to assist in the solution of this problem, we are considering a study of medical records kept on a number of potentially hazardous materials used in IHF member companies. LIA is a member of IHF and ... Soutar, who posed the problem, is from ASAR (which is a member of both LIA and IHF). A joint study in the case of lead would involve a broader sampling of industry than either of us could conduct alone. The results might greatly assist our members in attaining improved management of their records in order to limit their liability to unfair awards.

Attached is a rough draft of the questionnaire we are contemplating sending to IHF member companies. Would you be willing to have LIA members participate in this study? In such studies, of course, confidentiality is a prerequisite to gaining cooperation. We would not publish any information relating to LIA or its members without your coordination and approval.

If you would be interested in cooperating in the above program, please let me hear from you.

With kind regards,

DeT:ds
Attach
cc: Douglas Soutar
Andrew Fletcher
R. A. Kehoe

Sincerely,
Bob
Robert T. P. deFreville, MD
Managing Director

ROUGH DRAFT

QUESTIONNAIRE

1. How do you determine lead hazard?
2. How do you prevent cases?
3. How many individuals are exposed?
4. How many cases?
5. What type medical records? (Attach copy with sample entry)