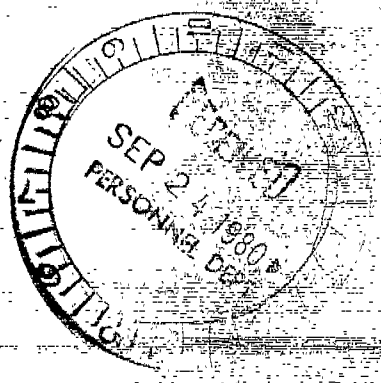
University of Pittsburgh

GRADUATE SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH
Department of Biostatistics



September 19, 1980

J. L. Henshaw
Dept. of Medicine & Environmental Health
A2 SC
Monsanto Company
800 N. Lindbergh Blvd.
St. Louis, MO 63166

Dear Mr. Henshaw:

As you probably know, my upcoming analysis of the Springfield data will attempt to relate historic formaldehyde exposures at the plant to employee mortality patterns during 1950-1976. In order to do this accurately I need to be certain which departments at the plant were associated with either formaldehyde production, useage, or storage. For this purpose, the primary source of data thus far has been the formaldehyde useage charts you developed, which were forwarded to me through Dr. Gaffey. My interpretation of your charts is that only four areas at the plant have used formaldehyde and these are associated with the following department numbers which appear on personnel records.

Plant Area	Department Number(s)
1. Cast Phenolics	13, 14, 15
2. Resinox	50, 52, 53, 55, 56, 57
a. Resins Dept.	50
b. Resin Compounding Dept.	52
c. Molding Powder Dept.	53, 55, 56, 57
3. Resimines	68, 71, 72, 73, 74
4. Formalin Plant	54

Following the computer coding of the work histories for the 600 decedents in the Springfield cohort, a number of departments were discovered whose names suggested formaldehyde exposure. Since these departments were not included in your above scheme, I am uncertain

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as to their formaldehyde exposure status. The following is a listing of these questionable departments.

Department Number	Name
17	Vuepack NO
58	Resinox
109	Resinox-Tank Farm Operator low
114	Resinox Lab med
133	General Plant NO
149	Shipping Resinox low - formaldehyde
173	Service Depts. Waste Disposal low
210	Vuepack Scrap Cutter NO
512	Laboratory-Saflex NO
509	Laboratory-Resinox low
513	Laboratory-"Fome Cor" NO

There are also some inconsistencies that need to be resolved concerning the appropriate time periods of formaldehyde exposure within many of these departments.

More generally, I would also like, if available, any additional information that you might have on the nature and intensity of the formaldehyde exposures which occurred in these departments. This could conceivably be used to rank order formaldehyde exposures among the study members thus permitting a more sensitive analysis to be done.

Dr. Gaffey and I thought that perhaps a joint meeting with you at the Springfield plant might best serve to answer these issues prior to my statistical analysis.

Please contact me by telephone shortly after you have considered these problems. Due to the time constraints involved, I am hoping that it may be possible to resolve these issues without visiting the plant. Thank you very much for your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Gary M. Marsh

Gary M. Marsh, Sc.D.
Assistant Professor of Biostatistics

GMM/jmt

cc: Dr. Gaffey/Monsanto, St. Louis
Mr. Paul Bureau, Monsanto, Springfield 216

U. of Pitts. – more details

L. & Peck in Sfld – survey of Labs

He sent Pitts.

20 Dept codes ~~corr.~~ recs. recv.

1090 Res. Tech form of.

11 codes

↑

Vers Sec
Lab Tech or
Lab Res.
Lab. Supvr

} determine

Some uses of cyl. conc.
in all depts.

high – irritating
Med – detect. not object
Low – seldom smells

RSV0029780

form role

Cast Phenolics? — raw material

Resins — "

Resin Comp — trapped in comp. no free form

Molding Powders — "

Resinous — raw material

Formalin — end product (formalin)

RSV0029781

Monsanto

MONSANTO PLASTICS & RESINS CO.
730 Worcester Street
Indian Orchard, Massachusetts 01151
Phone: (413) 788-6911

December 12, 1980

Mr. Gary Marsh, Sc.D.
Assistant Professor of Biostatistics
University of Pittsburgh
Graduate School of Public Health
Pittsburgh, PA 15261

Dear Gary:

I am sorry for being late in responding to your request for information to complete your case-control study. I have enclosed your original copy of Monsanto Department History for reference. Enclosure #2 is the abridged edition of the 149 original department codes.

Note that the departments were categorized by monomer used, finished product handled and service group and given an arbitrary department code. Please note that some departments indicated on the last page were not included because they are unknowns.

I hope this satisfies your request and please feel free to call (413-788-6911 ext. 2375) if you have any questions regarding this information.

Sincerely,

Catina S. Winfield

Catina S. Winfield

/bes

cc: Dr. William Gaffey/Monsanto St. Louis
Paul E. Bureau/Monsanto, Springfield

RSV0029782

University of Pittsburgh

GRADUATE SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH
Department of Biostatistics

November 6, 1980

Ms. Tina Winfield
Industrial Hygiene Dept.
Monsanto Company, Indian Orchard Plant
730 Worcester St.
Indian Orchard, MA 01151

Dear Tina:

Thank you again for the information you provided me with during our recent telephone conversation. I have enclosed a copy of a letter I sent to John Henshaw which describes the information I need in order to successfully conduct a case-control study. I have also sent you a copy of the Monsanto Product Department History which has served as the basis for our Springfield plant work history analyses. Anything you can do to help answer my questions will be greatly appreciated. I hope to hear from you soon.

Sincerely,

Gary M. Marsh, Sc.D.
Assistant Professor of Biostatistics

GMM/jmt

cc: Dr. William Gaffey/Monsanto, St. Louis
Mr. Paul Bureau/Indian Orchard Plant

Draft waiting

PITTSBURGH, PA. 15261