

National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health
850 Main Street, Federal Office Bldg., Rm. 7033
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

May 23, 1972

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George Hurst, M.D.
East Texas Chest Hospital
Post Office Box 2003
Tyler, Texas 75701

Dear Dr. Hurst:

We have finally finished compilation of the medical data on each of the Pittsburgh Corning employees and the paperwork involved in notifying them and reporting the summaries to their personal physicians. I'm afraid I didn't realize how much time this would take when I agreed to Mr. Wodka's request to report on each man.

To review the procedure I used in issuing our findings: each employee will receive one of four basic form letters (depending on his results) informing him that we have completed our analysis and have sent a summary of the findings to his personal physician, to Dr. Grant, and to you. The personal physician is being sent, at the same time, a carbon of the patient's letter, a data sheet on the patient accompanied by an explanation form, and a cover letter explaining the survey.

Enclosed with this letter you will also find a carbon of the patient's letter, the data sheet and the explanation form. Dr. Grant will receive the same. This project has been complicated by the fact that not all the workers signed both releases. There are five men who consented to notifying you and Dr. Grant, but who had no personal physician. As you will see in the enclosures, we recommended they see you to learn specific results of their study. In addition, I'm enclosing one of the form letters to the local doctors addressed to you with these men's names. I trust this arrangement will be satisfactory.

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Furthermore, seven men agreed to release of information only to their personal physician. Correspondence concerning them is, therefore, not included, even though most of the data is merely a repetition of your findings. Four men did not sign any releases and are now being contacted individually.

The total number of workers who received both your and our examinations came to fifty. We do not intend contacting anyone who participated in any one. Your roentgenograms will be returned under separate cover along with the interpretation by our panel of radiologists on each film whether or not they were examined by us. Once again, I thank you for their use and apologize for the long delay in returning them.

On the technical side, you will note that on the data sheet, we have used your raw figures to calculate the $FEV_1\%$ (FEV_1/FVC ratio) which we felt was a helpful parameter in differentiating restrictive and obstructive ventilatory defects. I'm anxious to hear if you have any comments on the explanation sheet or the various impressions.

I'm sure there will be some confusion resulting from all this correspondence, and I only hope you don't get involved in the storm. Thank you again for all your help. Please write or call if any problems develop.

Sincerely yours,

Richard M. Spiegel, M.D.
Medical Investigations Branch
Division of Field Studies and Clinical Investigations

Enclosures:

- Letters of Patients
- Data Sheets of Patients
- Explanation Form

cc:

Lee B. Grant, M.D.
William M. Johnson, M.D.

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