WILLIAM RAY RUMEL, M.D. · PRESTON R. CUTLER, M.D.
THORACIC SURGERY
BRONCHOSCOPY · ESOPHAGOSCOPY
CARDIAC SURGERY

MEDICAL ARTS BUILDING
SALT LAKE CITY 1, UTAH

TELEPHONE
4-1001 0 20H

February 8, 1952

Johns-Manville Corporation
22 E. 40th Street,
New York City, New York

Gentlemen:

I have become interested in the development of a surgical operation to increase the blood supply to the heart muscle by introducing asbestos powder into the pericardial or heart sac. Upon inquiring and reading about asbestos I have been told that it's chemical structure may be somewhat variable which brings up the question as to whether or not the tissue reaction in the body would be consistent if different batches of asbestos powder were used which might come from different mines. We, of course, would like to have the reaction standard in order to evaluate the results of the procedure.

I wonder if you would be good enough to give me some information about powdered asbestos if you have it available.

(1) If I order #7 asbestos, or perhaps crysotile, would I have any assurance that the particle size and the chemical make-up would be consistent? If not, is there any way I might obtain this same material on re-ordering it?

(2) Could you tell me how powdered asbestos is packed and sold and also the cost?

(3) Could you tell me how to obtain powdered asbestos of small particle size? We would be interested in having the fine powder.

With thanks for this information and any other which you feel may have some bearing on the problem, I remain

Sincerely,

W. R. Rumel, M.D.

WRR: da

P. S. Could I order this material directly from you or would I have to go through your jobbers here in Salt Lake?

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