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17 April 1973

Dr. F. L. Pundsack
Johns-Manville Corp.
P.O. Box 5108
Denver, Colorado 80217

Dear Dr. Pundsack:

Enclosed is an abstract of a paper that we would like to present at a meeting of the American Industrial Hygiene Association in Boston on 23rd of May.

Benzo(a)pyrene is a carcinogen known to be present in cigarette smoke. The paper offers data to show that chrysotile delays clearance of benzo(a)pyrene from hamster lungs.

The current (April) issue of Arch. Environmental Health carries on pages 197-201 a paper by Creasia et al at Oak Ridge showing that flu virus infection delays clearance of chromic oxide dust from mouse lungs.

Their findings and ours thus suggest that non-specific irritation of lungs may allow carcinogens to reside longer and hence enhance tumorigenesis.

Our work on this problem was carried out under support from Johns-Manville Fund and Rippel Foundation. We are preparing a manuscript and will offer it for your comment before submitting it to a journal.

Sincerely,

Bill

William E. Smith, M.D.
Director
Health Research Institute

WES/elc
cc: Dr. J. Leineweber
Dr. E. Marriner
Dr. S. Speil
Dr. G. Wright