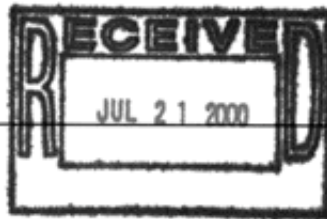


Sabella.Annalee



From: Jameson.Bill
Sent: Friday, July 21, 2000 11:14 AM
To: Sabella.Annalee
Cc: Lunn.Ruth; Jeter.Shawn
Subject: FW: 10th Edition of the Report on Carcinogens

AnnaLee,

This should be logged in as a public comment for talc. Thanks,

Bill

*C. W. Jameson, Ph.D.
National Toxicology Program
P.O. Box 12233
79 Alexander Drive
Research Triangle Park, NC 27709
(919)-541-4096
(919)-541-0144 (fax)
Jameson@niehs.nih.gov*

From: Mary Wolfe
Sent: Thursday, July 20, 2000 6:09 PM
To: jameson@niehs.nih.gov
Cc: lange@niehs.nih.gov; portier@niehs.nih.gov; bucher@niehs.nih.gov
Subject: Fwd: 10th Edition of the Report on Carcinogens

X-Comment: Origination Date moved to X-Date to prevent security breach
X-Date: Thu, 20 Jul 2000 17:01:13 -0400
From: "Thomas Kurt" <kurtskarma@worldnet.att.net>
To: <wolfe@niehs.nih.gov>
Subject: 10th Edition of the Report on Carcinogens
Date: Thu, 20 Jul 2000 15:56:17 -0500
MIME-Version: 1.0
X-Priority: 3

Executive Secretary of the Board, NTP
Dr. Mary Wolfe:

In the July, 2000, NTP Update, page 4, "Talc (Non-Asbestiform)" is described as a nomination.

I would like to strongly second the nomination for several reasons:

1. Talc has had extensive industrial use in a large variety of products where occupational exposures occur during use, not just in those exposed during the manufacture of the products.
2. Talc has had an extensive use in sports and sports medicine where millions continue to be exposed.
3. Talc has been used in nearly every baby powder, although Johnson & Johnson now has an alternative containing starch, a recent change. As such, all of us have been exposed since infancy, perhaps accounting for the background rates of some cancers, such as cancer of the lung in non-smokers and ovarian cancers in women.
4. Talc has been used in feminine hygiene products. Six epidemiological studies cited by Schottenfeld and Fraumeni in the *Cancer Epidemiology Y Prevention*, 2nd Edition, Oxford University Press, have associated increased risk of cancer of the ovary in women with feminine hygiene products containing talc and used in the perineal area. Such talc particles migrate up the Fallopian tubes, just like sperm and can be found in the abdominal cavity proximal to the ovaries. See the studies by Cramer et al (1982), Whittemore et al (1988), Booth et al (1989), Chen et al (1982), Harlow et al (1999) and Rosenblatt et al (1992).
5. Talc has been used in medicine, to lubricate surgical gloves, cuffs, and still exists as an approved FDA medicine to insert into chest cavities to cause a fibrosis to prevent air leaks, such as a pneumothorax in those with repeated occurrences. Case reports of cancer, but no group epidemiologic studies have been reported in these. Also, the Center for Devices and Radiologic Health (CDRH) of the FDA has overseen the removal of talc from surgical gloves about 5 years ago, being aware of the danger, but there was no general public announcement about this. Plastic surgeon, PT Chander, MD, has published articles in *Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery* showing that talc from surgical gloves has been a factor in the fibrous contractures that occur around breast implants. Therefore, as a medical toxicologist, former NIEHS Fellow at Harvard and former FDA medical officer, who is aware of these problems; and raised 3 daughters to adulthood without using talcum powder in our house, I would like to call your attention to the potential hazards of talc, which is a silicate very similar to asbestos, to be nominated for listing in the *10th Report*.

Thomas L. Kurt, MD, MPH
FACPM, FACMT, FACOEM, FAACT, FCP
Clinical Professor, Department of Internal Medicine
University of Texas Southwestern