

CMA - VINYL CHLORIDE TECHNICAL PANEL MEETING

March 4, 1980



CUSA2458-1

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I. Attendance

Torkelson	--	Dow (Chairman)
Seawell	--	CMA
Kiskland	--	Shell
Wheller	--	Union Carbide
Parks	--	Firestone
Broddle	--	Conoco
Abramowitz	--	Hooker
Gabbett	--	Georgia Pacific
Cohen	--	Great American
Harris	--	Uniroyal
Sauerkoff	--	Stauffer
Johnson	--	Goodyear
Wen	--	Gulf
Hopper	--	Gulf
Bell	--	PPG
Reed	--	Tenneco
Blakeslee	--	Certain-teed

II. Agenda

- 1.0 Status - 5 yr. update, basic epidemiological study by Equitable Environmental Health, Inc. (EEH)
- 2.0 Review of plans for raw data assessment and evaluation by EEH for brain study and 5 year update.
- 3.0 Review of the preparatory work for the OSHA March 20, 21, 1980 VCM & PVC Conference in Bethesda, Maryland.
- 4.0 Status Report on current research.
 - a. Domestic
 - b. International

III. Discussion

A. Agenda reference 3.0.

Discussion on the OSHA/NIOSH/NIHES Conference. Tentative schedule is supplied.

1. Epidemiological study of VCM by EEH/MCA was accepted for the conference.
2. Other data not accepted by OSHA
 - a. Review of sarcoma records for VCM.
 - b. Statistical review of Mattoni's paper.
 - c. Other study, but could not remember exact study.
3. Extension to May 9, 1980 - deadline for OSHA request for information.

4. Rumor - Joe Wagoner has a bomb shell to drop. OSHA trying to build a record for standard for PVC dust and possible to lower level of exposure to vinyl chloride.
5. Symposium, in an open forum, seats 400 people. Reserve early to participate.

B. Agenda reference 1.0

VC Epidemiological Studies

1. Do not have to use EHA as the contractor, but can ask for bids.
2. Timing of follow-up of brain cancer cases is critical. Controversial issue here, thus need to act quickly.
3. Need agreement of 31 companies to update data. Taking list of survivors in 1972 and checking to see what deaths have occurred. (5 year update)
4. Comment that we may find out what we do not want to know with regards to brain cancer. If company has a brain cancer questionable incidence, which Union Carbide has, then should people be contacted. Union Carbide does not want any contact with families.
5. Proposed and seconded that middle paragraph on Page 4 of CMA will be deleted and that middle paragraph Page 2 of EHA will be inserted with changing of the wording of may be to will be. Last sentence is deleted from this paragraph. This was accepted by the group.
6. Dr. Wen pointed out that we do not have a protocol that provides a case control study. This was acknowledged by Dr. Torkelson. It was noted by Mr. Seawell that data was moved from Rockville, Maryland to EHA in California.
 - a. Should consider what else could cause brain cancer, besides vinyl chloride. Six of the 12 cancers reported are in Louisville.
 - b. Is there another approach besides a case control? Dr. Wen stated that it is more efficient and economical to perform the case control study. For a case control study need to consider health factors such as life style, smoking, family interviews, etc. If there are doubts as to the 12 cancer cases, need to clarify the existing data. If brain cancer believed to be due to VCM, then should do a case control study. Dr. Wen, recommends to do a case control on the 12 cancers, and then a follow-up of case controls on any other brain cancers uncovered in the 5 years update. Discussion followed.
 - c. Dr. Wen motioned and was seconded that we request a revised protocol with a cost estimate for a proposal for a case control study. What we need is a statistical evaluation, instead of a clinical evaluation. Motion passed-cost to be roughly \$30,000 to \$40,000.
 - d. What we don't know is whether those people with brain tumors had other types of tumors. Also, don't know what type of brain tumors these 12 are. All of cohorts are white males. For a case study need to match up certain parameters, but not all.



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