

The data obtained showed that the exposed animals at natural death showed no difference in incidence of any pathology noted from that observed in the control animals studied (Wehner et al., 1975). These data and those obtained in other animal studies have failed to produce any evidence that cosmetic talc is a carcinogen (Hildick-Smith, 1976a).

Prospective and retrospective epidemiological studies of employees milling and mining cosmetic grade talc have shown no difference in the incidence of pulmonary fibrotic disease or cancer between the mine employees and a control unexposed cohort, even where a group of talc millers was exposed to approximately 7,800 times as much talc dust in 1 wk as a consumer would be exposed to in 1 wk (Hildick-Smith, 1976a, 1976b).

Although Rohl et al. suggest that cosmetic grade talc may be hazardous to health, the available data indicate that the normal usage of cosmetic grade talc by the consumer is not a hazard to health.

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Gavin Hildick-Smith
Department of Pediatrics,
College of Medicine and
Dentistry of New Jersey,
Rutgers Medical School
Piscataway, New Jersey

The purpose of the paper entitled "Characterization," *Journal of Occupational and Environmental Health*

The paper is common to talc and asbestos powders. The authors are of questionable qualifications and have not examined the literature principally as to the

The article is a light touch on the mineralogy of talc and asbestos; (2) the authors fail to achieve; (2) the authors fail to reach the conclusion to the conclusion that the sound scientific points are discussed.

The portion of the paper dealing with occurrences and health effects is correct, with the exception that the presence of asbestos and serpentine are not mentioned. The professional geological and mineralogical erroneous conclusions are a rule rather than an exception. These minerals do not account for less than 1% of the total. Further, tremolite cleavage, where the cleavage is essentially a mirror image.

The analytical methods and quantification of