

Findings of Chest X-rays and Asbestos-Related Diseases among Workers of a Shipyard

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Abstract

Among the findings on chest X-rays of 519 male retirees of a shipyard who consulted our clinic during fourteen years, small granular opacities corresponding to category 1-3 were found in 66 men (12.7%), and small irregular opacities corresponding to category 1-3 were found in 496 men (95.6%) including almost all job categories in the shipyard. Pleural changes due to asbestos exposure were found in 320 men (61.7%). Irregular opacities are still seen now in new patients coming to our clinic after the investigated period.

On the other hand, 118 men (22.7%) were certified as suffering from pneumoconiosis, 42 men (8.1%) were compensated for complications or classification Grade 4. Finally 21 men (4.0%) died from lung cancer, pleural mesothelioma or respiratory failure.