

## Increased Concern About the Use of Talcum Powder and the Development of Certain Cancers

There is an increased concern about the use of talcum powder and the development of cancers such as mesothelioma and ovarian cancers. Women must be aware of the scientifically proven facts about this link to be safe or file for compensation if diagnosed with ovarian cancer.

Ovarian cancer targets one of the main components of the female reproductive system, the ovaries. Ovaries are of almond sized and are responsible to produce egg and major female hormones, progesterone, and estrogen. The eggs formed in these ovaries travel through the fallopian tube and go to the uterus where the egg is fertilized after merging with sperm.

Under currently available science, it is impossible to detect progression of ovarian cancer until the cancerous cells spread within the abdomen and pelvis. At this late stage of ovarian cancer, it becomes extremely difficult to treat.

The chances of American women being diagnosed with ovarian cancer are in 1 in 78, while the chances of dying a woman with ovarian cancer are 1 in 108. More than 14,000 women die with this disease every year and 22,000 women a year are newly diagnosed.

Therefore, it is exceptionally important to beware of the scientifically proven causes of ovarian cancer such as the perineal use of talcum powder. Regarding this, consistent use of talcum powder has been scientifically proved to be associated with the development of ovarian cancer. The main ingredient of talcum powder is talc which is obtained from mines in the United States and abroad.

Refined, and finely powdered form of talc is particularly known for its smoothness, characteristic moisture absorbing quality, and soft feel. And that makes it a perfect choice to use in cosmetics.

Recently, thousands of lawsuits have been filed against the signature talcum powder brand, "Johnson & Johnson's," claiming the contamination of carcinogenic (cancer-causing) substance in the talcum powder. The company had paid millions of dollars in compensation as a result of their negligence; has been subjected to literally billions of dollars of verdicts against them as a result of jury trials across the country, yet they continue to deny all claims and worse, stubbornly fail to place a label on their bottles that would warn women about these horrible possibilities.

Nonetheless, as a woman, you should be well aware of the facts yourself.

### **Possibility of Talc and Risks of Cancer Development Were Provided Decades Ago!**

There is nothing new or shocking about the carcinogenic effects of talcum powder scientifically. As there have been more than 30 scientific research done in the past correlating the match between ovarian cancer patients and the presence of talc/ asbestos in their samples.

A British study, published in the year 1971 titled as "Talc and Carcinoma of the ovary and Cervix", in the Journal of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, was the first research that raised the possibility of talc as the cause of ovarian cancer. In this study, researchers analyzed 13 ovarian tumors and talc was found "deeply embedded" in 10 of these tumors.

The study says,

*".... talc particles were found deeply embedded within the tumor tissue. The close association of the talc to the asbestos group of minerals of interest"*

In 1982, a team of researchers from the Department of Obstetrics, Division of Brigham and Women's Hospital, Boston led by Daniel Cramer, published research in "Cancer" Journal titled as "Ovarian Cancer and talc. A case-control study". This study is the first ever scientific proof of linkage between regular and excessive use of talcum powder and the development of ovarian cancer. Since then, there have been more than 30 peer reviewed studies that show a statistically significant increase of ovarian cancer caused by the perineal use of talcum powder.

Soon after the publication of this 1982 study, Professor Cramer was called to a meeting with an executive of Johnson & Johnson's company in Boston. Professor Cramer is now working as a scientific expert for the plaintiffs. During a court filing in 2011, Cramer shared this experience. He said.

*"Dr. Semple spent his time trying to convince me that talc use was a harmless habit, while I spent my time trying to persuade him to consider the possibility that my study could be correct and that women should be advised of this potential risk of talc."*

The researchers found noticeable amounts of carcinogenic asbestiform in half of the talcum powder samples.

The author of the research wrote,

*"Of the 20 products JO contained detectable amounts of tremolite and anthophyllite, principally asbestiform, while some also contained fragmented forms of these minerals."*

This indicates that consistent use of talcum powders from any of these 10 brands can be the cause of mesothelioma or ovarian cancer.

Talking about the percentage of these minerals in the talcum powder and its harmful range, then there is no particular limit of asbestos exposure when it comes to causing cancer. The researchers found a varying amount of minerals in the talcum powder samples.

"The amounts ranged from tenths of a percent to over 14% by weight; two contained detectable amounts of chrysotile asbestos fiber."

Interestingly, not most of the talcum powders produced had 100% pure talc in them. More importantly, this reveals that there had been scientifically proven data available since the 70s, but the companies still kept on selling their product, while keeping the laboratory test reports a secret.

The researchers concluded their study as,

*"The analyses showed that the consumer products examined were rarely the pure mineral talc, but rather were mixtures of various minerals; some samples consisted of three to five minerals, only one of which was talc. "*

But, there are several other talcum powder brands that may be proved guilty. However, J&J has ruled over the cosmetic and pharmaceutical industry with these signature products, and thus simultaneously have millions of dedicated users, so the reversing impact is powerful as well.

Definitely, it is the responsibility of pharmaceutical companies and cosmetic brands to reveal all the information regarding the components used in the formulation of their products. If you have been using talcum powder for decades and are diagnosed with ovarian cancer then you might be eligible to file for compensation. Reach out today, to know your chances.

At the law firm of Golomb & Honik, P.C., we are leaders in the talcum powder litigation and represent more than 300 women who have been diagnosed with ovarian cancer after decades of perineal use of talcum powder without the knowledge it may ultimately cost them their lives.

If you or a loved one has been diagnosed with ovarian cancer after decades long use of Johnson & Johnson's Baby Powder, please call the pharmaceutical and mass tort lawyers at Golomb & Honik, P.C. We will be happy to have a no fee/ no obligation conversation to discussing your particular case. Our phone number is 215-278-4449 or you can go onto our website at [www.golombhonik.com](http://www.golombhonik.com) and complete the contact page.

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