Dear Dr. Lederberg,

Thank you for the Bandrella review and Carrighard reference. I am enclosing a reprint of our paper on asbestos transfection. Did you see the "editorial" by Brooke Massman et al. in the Science Jan 197? (Science 291, 244-301). It has some seriously misleading statements and implicit assumptions about chrysotile and I am drafting a response letter now.

We are currently involved in experiments to directly demonstrate insertional mutagenesis mediated by asbestos in rat mesothelin in vivo. We use a PCR method to amplify up potential insertion sites. The experiments are long ones, and results encouraging.
but not finished yet. We are also looking at the possibility that the p53 tumor suppressor gene is altered (inversional neogenesis?) in the induction of mesothelium. We shall keep you apprised.

Sincerely,

(R.S.)

(Johnson)