

Re: OT:Thanksgiving

Source: <http://coding.derkeiler.com/Archive/Cobol/comp.lang.cobol/2007-12/msg00078.html>

- *From:* "Rick Smith" <ricksmith@xxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Sun, 2 Dec 2007 11:59:09 -0500
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"Alistair" <alistair@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message
<news:801d95d7-eb25-40b8-b579-23d9ff881331@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>

On 2 Dec, 02:23, "Rick Smith" <ricksm...@xxxxxxx> wrote:

[snip]

I am not certain how that question relates to the obligation, of those making scientific claims, to establish credible scientific evidence; but yes, I do smoke and, when I first saw the U.S. mandated warning on cigarette packages in 1969, I found the claims to be not credible. Having since examined some of the scientific evidence, I have found no reason for me to change my mind. ["Experimental Production of Carcinoma With Cigarette Tar", Ernest L. Wynder, Evarts A. Graham, and Adele B. Croniger, June 8, 1953, is presented often as proof that "smoking causes lung cancer". While the experiment did find the presence of "carcinogenic factors in cigarette smoke", it never determined how the cancer developed.]– Hide quoted text –

– Show quoted text –

Perhaps a modern repeat of that experiment with cell lines showing before and after DNA profiles (highlighting DNA damage caused by the carcinogen) would help you?

H'm, I believe I could help epidemiologists, so, no, in my opinion, a repeat of the experiment would be of no value to either of us.

Or perhaps you would need a detailed analysis of the chemical pathways permitting the carcinogen to enter the cell and cause said damage?

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Unnecessary.

Don't you place any emphasis on the association of a carcinogenic chemical with a damaged cell?

I would not use the term "carcinogenic chemical" (it implies the relation "chemical causes cancer") and prefer the term "carcinogenic factors" (which implies nothing more than an association that may lead to cancer).

I will say that my emphasis involves the association between carcinogenic factors in chemicals and damage to cells.

I am tempted to ask whether you would remove all three forms of asbestos from a building without protective equipment because the exact mechanism by which asbestos causes lung cancer has not been proven?

Not that I would be involved in such activities; but, if I were, I would chose to wear protective clothing because of the dust and dirt and not because of any fear of mesothelioma.

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