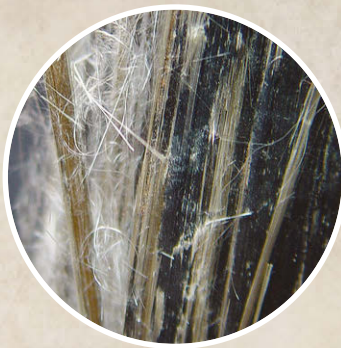


TYPES OF ASBESTOS



CHRYSOTILE

Chrysotile is the most common variety of asbestos found in North America. It accounts for approximately 90-95% of asbestos that was used in commercial applications in the United States. Chrysotile asbestos fibers are long, white, and curly, with a more “fluffy” appearance than other types of asbestos. It is classified as **serpentine asbestos** because of its curly, flexible fibers that can be woven.



AMOSITE

Amosite is often referred to as brown asbestos due to its high iron content. It was most commonly used within different types of insulation products. Amosite, along with the following four types, is classified as **amphibole asbestos** because of its straight, brittle, and needle-like fibers.



CROCIDOLITE

Crocidolite consists of highly friable fibers, often strikingly blue in color. It is considered to be the most dangerous type of asbestos because its long, sharp fibers can readily be inhaled.



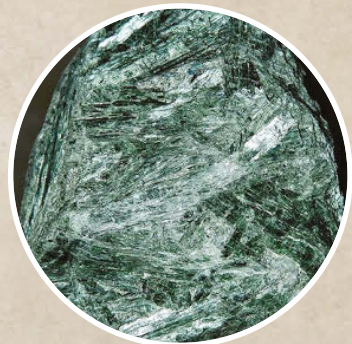
TREMOLITE

Tremolite was not used commercially on its own, but could be found as a contaminant in chrysotile asbestos, vermiculite, and talc powders. Tremolite can appear brown, gray, white, green, or even translucent.



ANTHOPHYLLITE

Like tremolite asbestos, anthophyllite had limited commercial use. Traces of anthophyllite can be found in vermiculite and talc products. Anthophyllite asbestos can range in color from white to gray to brown.



ACTINOLITE

Actinolite is a rare form of asbestos that can be found as a trace contaminate in products, including ones containing talc and vermiculite. It has a harsh texture and is most often found in metamorphic rock. It can appear in many shades, such as green, yellow, brown, white, or gray.

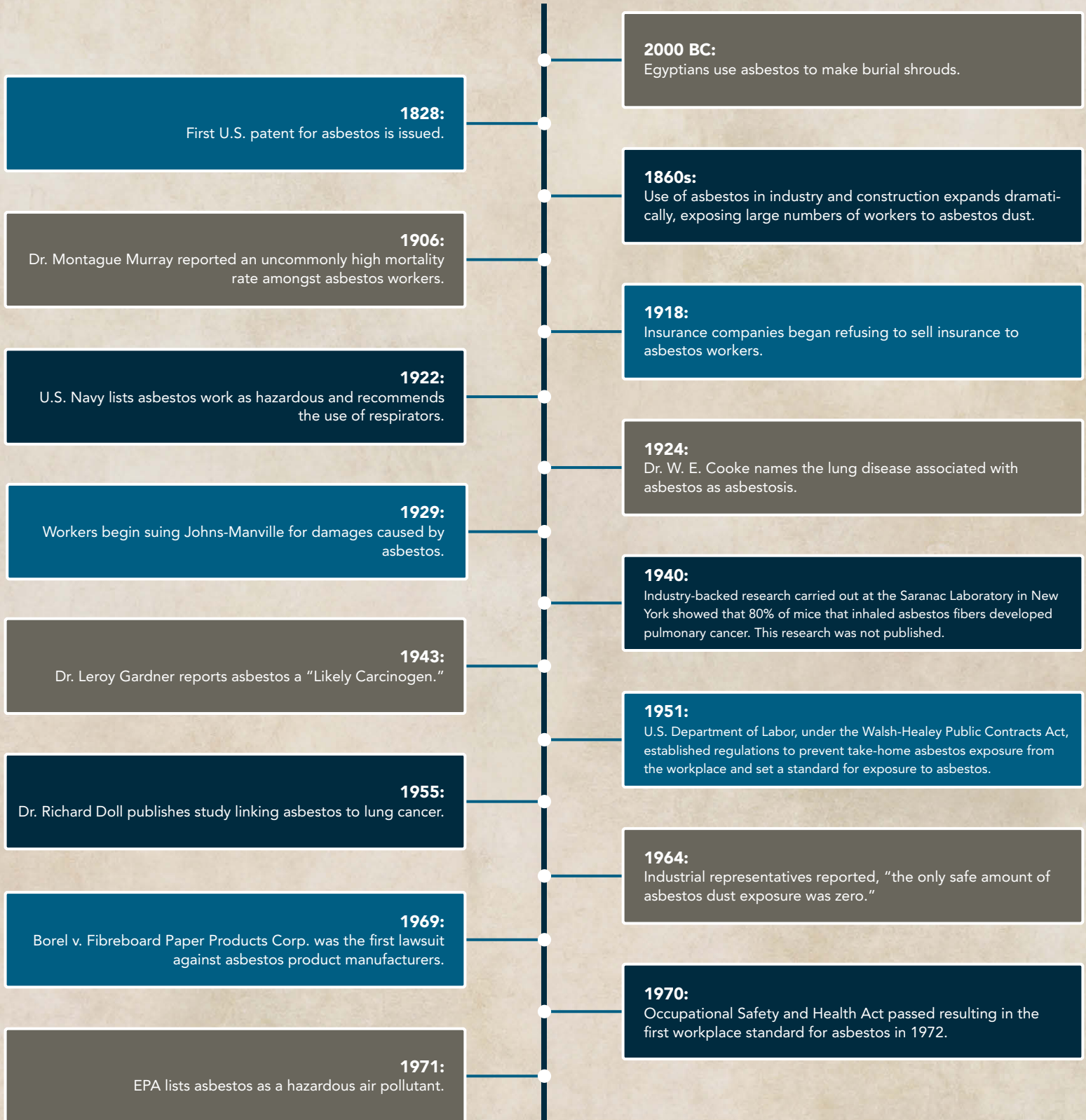


While these six types of asbestos have physical and chemical differences, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the EPA, and the International Agency for Research on Cancer classify all types of asbestos as carcinogens and hazardous to human health.

HISTORY OF ASBESTOS

The word *asbestos* derives from ancient Greek, meaning “inextinguishable.” Asbestos use dates back at least 4,500 years—evidence shows that inhabitants of the Lake Juojärvi region in East Finland strengthened earthenware pots and cooking utensils with the asbestos mineral.

Source: Asbestos Disease Awareness Organization



Continued...



If you know someone that has been diagnosed with an asbestos disease, O'Brien Law Firm will provide them a full case evaluation at no cost or obligation. Contact us today.

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