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**ALTHOUGH 1 AUSTRALIAN DIES OF ASBESTOS-RELATED DISEASES EVERY 14 HOURS
ASBESTOS WARNINGS CONTINUE TO FALL ON DEAF EARS
“PREVENTION IS THE ONLY CURE”**

FRIDAY 24 NOVEMBER IS ASBESTOS AWARENESS DAY - NATIONAL ASBESTOS AWARENESS WEEK 2017

Although at least one Australian dies from asbestos-related diseases every 14 hours, and with deaths predicted to rise due to homeowners and tradies inhaling asbestos fibres when renovating or maintaining properties, tragically the warnings continue to fall on deaf ears.

Some believe that asbestos-related deaths remain buried deep in Australia's past but this is most definitely not the case. Every week, 13 Australians die of asbestos-related diseases - 12 from malignant mesothelioma and another 13 are diagnosed with this incurable cancer caused from inhaling asbestos fibres when asbestos-containing materials are disturbed.

Don Burke OAM, Ambassador for the National Asbestos Awareness Campaign said, “Even faced with these tragic statistics, people continue to ignore the warnings and unnecessarily expose themselves, their partners and sadly their kids to asbestos fibres that are known to kill.”

“Due to Australia's legacy of wide-spread use of asbestos-containing materials in homes and non-residential properties there remains a very real and present danger, particularly for DIY renovators and tradies who risk disturbing these products in their day-to-day work,” he said.

If asbestos is disturbed during renovations or in the demolition of homes or non-residential properties and fibres are released that can be inhaled, this can cause asbestos-related diseases including lung cancer and malignant mesothelioma which can develop 20-50 years after inhaling fibres - there is no cure and the average survival time after diagnosis is just 10-12 months.

In the past, Australians diagnosed with malignant mesothelioma were primarily men (including tradies) caused from work-related exposure. However, according to the Australian Mesothelioma Registry (2016) around one third of Australians exposed to asbestos fibres occurred in non-work-related situations, of these around 50% were women with exposure most common among people who had done major home renovations involving asbestos products.

In the ‘*Asbestos exposure during home renovation in NSW*’ study, more than 61% of DIY renovators reported asbestos exposure during renovations, 40% reported their partner had been exposed and almost 23% reported that their children had also been exposed to asbestos fibres - that is 1 in 4 children being exposed to the deadly fibres during DIY renovations.

With asbestos exposure linked to DIY and renovating, the evidence points to an increase in Australians (including women and young Australians) who will be diagnosed with asbestos-related diseases through non work-related exposure.

“It may not be this year, or even ten years from now, but rest assured that if Australian's continue to ignore the warnings there will be families across Australia devastated by the news that a loved one is diagnosed with a deadly asbestos-related disease that could have been prevented,” he said.

“While we don't know exactly how many asbestos fibres it takes to cause asbestos-related diseases, what we do know is that inhaling fibres is the only known cause and the greater the number of fibres inhaled, the greater the risk to health.



“Because Australia was among the highest consumers of asbestos in the world, it’s going to be many years (if ever), before ACMs are removed completely from properties so every Australian must make it their business to learn how to identify and manage asbestos safely because prevention is the only known cure.”

“With Australia’s passion for renovating fuelled by ever popular DIY lifestyle programs, if Australians don’t start taking the warnings seriously, we could be risking our lives and the lives of those we love,” Don Burke said.

Asbestos remains in one third of Aussie homes – it can be in any brick, weatherboard, fibro or clad home built or renovated prior to 1987, including apartments. If well maintained and left undisturbed asbestos is unlikely to pose a health risk. It’s only when these materials are disturbed and fibres are released and are inhaled, that they can cause asbestos-related diseases including incurable mesothelioma.

Asbestos materials were used everywhere in homes and in non-residential properties - lurking under floor coverings including carpets, linoleum and vinyl tiles, behind wall and floor tiles, in cement floors, internal and external walls, ceilings and ceiling space (insulation), eaves, garages, roofs, around hot water pipes, fences, home extensions, garages, outdoor toilets, backyard and farm structures, chook sheds and even dog kennels.

Professor Ken Takahashi, Director the Asbestos Diseases Research Institute (ADRI) said, “With the number of Australian’s affected by asbestos-related diseases predicted to remain high in coming years, instead of ignoring the warnings, homeowners and tradies have a responsibility to learn the dangers of asbestos and how to manage it safely to prevent exposure to fibres that can develop into a deadly diseases including mesothelioma.”

If you’re thinking of renovating and you think a product might be asbestos, play it safe, treat it as if it is asbestos and take all the necessary precautions including getting the experts in. A licenced asbestos assessor can come to your home and assess the property and if you need to remove asbestos, only use licenced asbestos removalists because it’s not worth the risk!

When it comes to asbestos and renovating, GO SLOW - Asbestos it’s a NO GO! Visit asbestosawareness.com.au to find out what you need to know!

-ENDS-

Visit asbestosawareness.com.au for information and useful, practical resources including:

- **[Asbestos Awareness - 20 Point Safety Check](#)** (asbestos risks and how to manage asbestos safely)
- **[Asbestos in Your Home – The Ultimate Renovators Guide](#)** (easy to follow video hosted by Australia’s Renovation Queen and Asbestos Awareness Ambassador, Cherie Barber)
- **[Asbestos Awareness Healthy House Checklist – A Homeowner’s Guide to Identifying Asbestos-Containing Materials](#)** (user-friendly step-by-step guide to identifying asbestos in the home)
- **[Fact Sheets for Homeowners](#)** (when, why and how to use Personal Protective Equipment (PPE))
- **[Residential Checklist for Tradies – A Tradespersons Guide to Asbestos](#)** (Identify the product types and locations in residential properties)
- **[Trade Specific Checklist for Tradies – A Tradespersons Guide to Asbestos](#)** (Tailored to trades)
- **[Fact Sheets for Tradies](#)** (when, why and how to use Personal Protective Equipment (PPE))
- **[Asbestos Product Database](#)** – (Australia’s only comprehensive online asbestos product database)

-ENDS-

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For images of asbestos-containing materials: <https://asbestosawareness.box.com/v/AsbestosAwarenessImages>

Journalist Notes: For information about asbestos, resources and statistics see page 3 of this release.



ASBESTOS AWARENESS WEEK - JOURNALIST NOTES

Does Your Home Contain Asbestos? How Would You kNow?

Don't Play Renovation Roulette! Renovating? Go Slow! Asbestos – It's a NO GO!

NATIONAL ASBESTOS AWARENESS WEEK CAMPAIGN

The National Asbestos Awareness Campaign is the initiative of the Asbestos Education Committee working in partnership with the Asbestos Diseases Research Institute and the Heads of Asbestos Coordination Authorities.

Launched in 2011, the campaign became a national initiative in 2012 with the aim of increasing awareness of the dangers of asbestos among homeowners, renovators and tradespersons and has been internationally recognised as a world leading community health education campaign featuring www.asbestosawareness.com.au in the prevention of asbestos-related diseases.

The history of asbestos and asbestos-related diseases in Australia is lengthy and menacing. Widely used between the mid-1940s and mid-1980s, any Australian home built or renovated prior to 1987 is likely to incorporate asbestos-containing building products and materials. When damaged, disturbed, neglected or dismantled, asbestos products can release fibres that if inhaled may cause asbestos-related diseases 20-40 years after exposure including malignant mesothelioma. There is no cure. The average survival time following diagnosis is 10-12 months.

Currently, identifying, removing and disposing of every asbestos-containing material in homes and on properties isn't feasible. Implementing a national Asbestos Awareness Education campaign to educate Australians on safe asbestos management and disposal is. In 2017, we will continue to build on the success national Asbestos Awareness Month (AAM), increasing awareness of the dangers of asbestos and how to manage it safely to prevent exposure among homeowners, renovators and tradespeople which is vital to saving lives 20-40 years from now.

THE HEALTHY HOUSE CHECKLIST

The Healthy House Checklist is designed to empower homeowners and renovators with a better understanding of the possible locations of asbestos-containing materials in homes and the knowledge they need to ensure it is managed safely.

The Healthy House Checklist provides a practical guide for homeowners enabling them to conduct a simple step-by-step easy to follow visual inspection of their property.

These Checklists include product images and lists each possible location where asbestos-containing materials might be found both inside and outside homes. By following simple step-by-step instructions, in less than an hour homeowners can have a better understanding of the types of products that might be in their home and if it's in need of maintenance, repair or removal.



Importantly, if planning any renovation or refurbishment to their property such as replacing floorcoverings, fencing or roofing, homeowners will know in advance if they need to engage a licenced asbestos assessor or removalist to ensure the work is done safely.

The Checklist also enables homeowners to maintain a record of possible asbestos locations should work or renovations be anticipated in the future and monitor asbestos-containing materials to ensure they remain sealed.

An APP version of the Healthy House Checklist is being released during the 2017 Asbestos Awareness Month Campaign at the beginning of November.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: <http://asbestosawareness.com.au/fact-sheets>



RESIDENTIAL CHECKLIST FOR TRADIES: A TRADESPERSONS GUIDE TO ASBESTOS CONTAINING MATERIALS IN DOMESTIC PROPERTIES

Tradespersons are particularly at risk of exposure to asbestos because they can encounter it in their day-to-day work and all too often they've come from a culture where asbestos risks have been ignored.

The 'Residential Checklist for Tradies – A Tradespersons Guide to Asbestos Containing Materials in Domestic Properties' is a valuable tool for Tradies that increases their understanding of the various products they need to be wary of when working on residential properties to ensure they engage suitably qualified professionals to conduct asbestos-related work or remove asbestos-containing materials safely.

The Checklists provide instructions on how to conduct a visual inspection only and homeowners and tradies are encouraged to have an inspection conducted by a licenced asbestos assessor if they suspect asbestos-containing materials may be in need of repair or removal.

While tradies may have worked with asbestos in the past and ignored the warnings, they need to be aware that the more a person is exposed to fibres, the greater the risk of developing asbestos-related diseases so it's vital that they conduct visual inspections of properties to look for the potential dangers to ensure they're managed safely.

Tradespersons can access 28 various Asbestos Awareness Checklist resources for domestic properties from asbestosawareness.com.au including instructions on how to conduct a house check and trade specific checklists.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: <http://asbestosawareness.com.au/asbestos-for-tradies/tradies-fact-sheets/>

THE ASBESTOS PRODUCTS DATABASE

The Asbestos Products Database is Australia's first and only online resource that assists homeowners, renovators and tradespeople in identifying asbestos-containing materials so they can be managed safely.

Accessible on mobile and desktop devices, the database is user friendly and provides people with multiple search options including products commonly used in Domestic Homes, Agricultural, Automotive, Commercial, Industrial, Marine, Plant and other options. People can also search by construction period and asbestos type. The database features 60 different product types and more than 550 product photographs with descriptions and locations where these products might be found in homes built or renovated prior to 1987. There are also PDFs itemising product information that can be downloaded if required.

The database can also be searched by residential location with information and photographs about the various product types that might be found specific to multiple areas including kitchens, bathrooms, living areas, laundries, exterior house and so on.

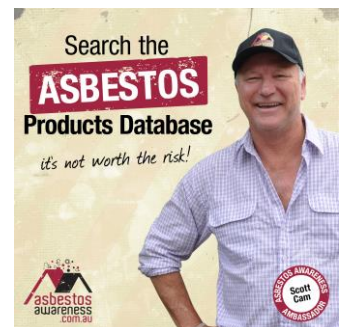
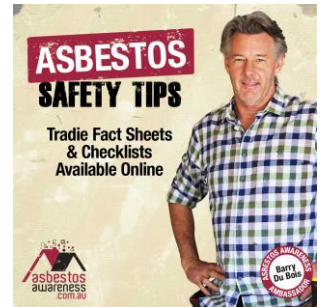
FOR MORE INFORMATION: <http://asbestosawareness.com.au/asbestos-products-database>

ASBESTOS IN YOUR HOME – THE ULTIMATE RENOVATORS GUIDE (ONLINE VIDEO)

Asbestos In Your Home – The Ultimate Renovators Guide online video is the leading visual information resource helping Australians identify the various locations in homes where asbestos might be found providing the most practical and easily accessible resource for homeowners, renovators and tradespersons.

Produced by Cherie Barber (National Asbestos Awareness Ambassador) and her Renovating for Profit team is presented in a reality TV format that Australians easily relate to. Featuring Cherie Barber (Australia's Renovation Queen), the video takes audiences on a 14:23 minute tour of a typical un-renovated Australian home and features special appearances by National Asbestos Awareness Ambassadors, Don Burke OAM, Barry Du Bois (Australia's Renovation King) and Scott McGregor.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: <http://asbestosawareness.com.au/asbestos-in-the-home/video-asbestos-in-your-home/>

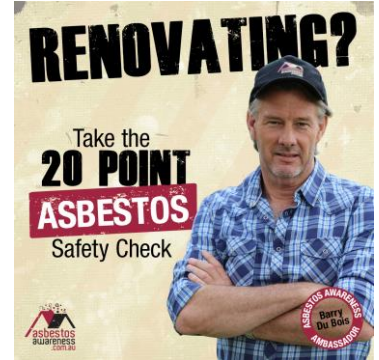




TAKE THE 20 POINT ASBESTOS SAFETY CHECK! ASBESTOSAWARENESS.COM.AU

20 Point Asbestos Safety Check

1. At least 1 in 3 Australian homes contains asbestos including brick, weatherboard, fibro and clad homes.
2. Asbestos was widely used in building materials before 1987 so if your home was built or renovated before 1987 it most likely contains asbestos in some form or another.
3. If asbestos is disturbed during renovations or maintenance, your health and the health of your family could be at risk.
4. DIY is not recommended where asbestos is present.
5. When renovating or working in and around homes, if in doubt assume asbestos materials are present and take every precaution.
6. Dealing with asbestos is important and serious, but it's not overwhelming – IT IS MANAGEABLE!
7. If you're not sure if asbestos is in your home you can have it inspected by a licenced removalist or a licensed asbestos assessor.
8. Products made from asbestos cement include fibro sheeting (flat and corrugated), water, drainage and flue pipes, roofing shingles, guttering and floor and wall coverings. It could be anywhere!
9. If you find asbestos in your home; Don't cut it! Don't drill it! Don't drop it! Don't sand it! Don't saw it! Don't scrape it! Don't scrub it! Don't dismantle it! Don't tip it! Don't waterblast it! Don't demolish it! And whatever you do... Don't dump it!"
10. If left undisturbed asbestos materials in good, stable condition are unlikely to release dangerous fibres and pose a health risk. Generally, you don't need to remove the asbestos. Paint it and leave it alone but remember to check it occasionally for any signs of wear and tear.
11. There are legal requirements regarding asbestos management, its removal and disposal.
12. While some might follow the regulations and safety requirements to remove small amounts of asbestos, the safest way to manage its removal is to retain a licenced professional asbestos removalist equipped to protect you and your family from the dangers of asbestos dust and fibres.
13. Where asbestos fibres are friable (loose and not bonded into building materials), ONLY licenced friable asbestos removalists are allowed to remove it.
14. Professional removal of asbestos is affordable. You can't afford not to use a professional!
15. The cost of asbestos removal by a licenced professional is comparable to most licenced tradesmen including electricians, plumbers and tilers.
16. The cost of disposal at a lawful site is often included with the cost of removal by a licenced professional.
17. If you must work with any material that may contain asbestos or remove asbestos yourself, protect yourself and your family and follow the legal and safety requirements for the management of asbestos to minimise the release of dust or small particles from the asbestos materials.
18. There are a number of safety precautions needed including wearing specific protective clothing, the correct mask or breathing apparatus and ensure you minimise dust and dispose of asbestos legally.
19. Never use tools on asbestos materials as they will make asbestos fibres airborne including:
 - a. Power tools such as electric drills, angle grinders, circular saws and electric sanders.
 - b. Never use high pressure water blasters or compressed air.
20. Are you playing renovation roulette? Get to kNOw Asbestos this NOvember! Visit asbestosawareness.com.au Because it's not worth the risk!



FOR MORE INFORMATION: <http://asbestosawareness.com.au/20-point-safety-check/>



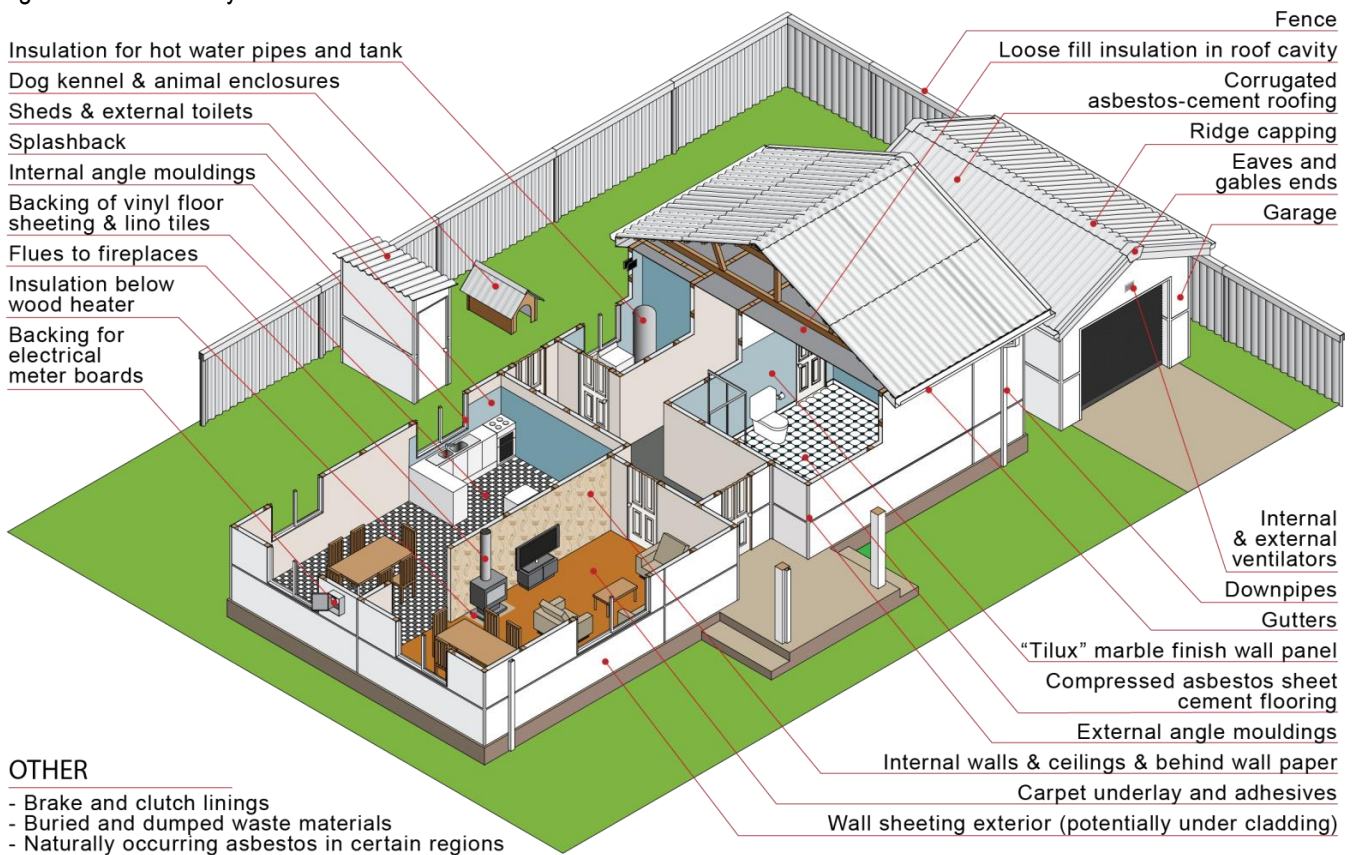
WHERE ASBESTOS MIGHT BE IN HOMES?

Australians may unknowingly put their health and the health of families, children, and neighbours at risk because they don't know the dangers of asbestos or where it might be found in and around homes.

Products made from bonded asbestos cement that may have been used in your home include:

- Fibro sheeting (flat and corrugated) which may have been used in internal walls and ceilings, external walls and cladding, infill panels in windows and doors, eaves, fencing, carports, backyard sheds and dog kennels, electrical switchboards, sheeting under floor tiles, bathroom walls, backing to floor tiles and sheet vinyl, carpet underlay, and the backing behind the ceramic wall tiles and textile seals to the oven.
- Water drainage and flue pipes.
- Roofing shingles and guttering.
- In some homes, loose-fill asbestos was used in ceiling space as insulation in homes in NSW and the ACT.

IMPORTANT: If fire, hail or water blasting damages non-friable asbestos, it may become friable asbestos material and must be managed and removed by a licenced Friable Asbestos Removalist.



USEFUL LINKS

Refer to websites where the community can access vital information about managing asbestos safely.

1. Visit www.asbestosawareness.com.au to find out where you might find asbestos in the home and how to manage it safely.
2. Visit [WorkSafe Tasmania](http://www.worksafe.tas.gov.au)
3. Visit www.asbestosfreetasmania.org.au
4. Visit www.adri.org.au to find out more about research into asbestos-related diseases.
5. Visit www.asbestossafety.gov.au for information

GET TO KNOW THE LEGAL REQUIREMENTS WHEN WORKING WITH ASBESTOS!

Tasmania

- WorkSafe Tasmania: http://www.worksafe.tas.gov.au/safety/safety_subjects/subject/asbestos_safety

National

- Asbestos Awareness www.asbestosawareness.com.au
- Asbestos Safety and Eradication Agency www.asbestossafety.gov.au



IS IT SAFE TO REMOVE ASBESTOS YOURSELF?

If you must remove it yourself, you **MUST** take precautions! Removing asbestos can be a dangerous and complicated process. We recommend using licenced professional removalists who will also dispose of it in accordance with NSW Government regulations.

However, if you are thinking about removing even a small amount of asbestos yourself, at the very minimum you should meticulously follow ALL of the steps listed at asbestosawareness.com.au in order to protect your health and the health of those around you including children.

The important point is this: if you need to work with materials that may contain asbestos, you must work so there is a minimal release of fibres, dust or small particles from the asbestos materials. It is recommended that if you are considering removing or working with asbestos yourself, you undertake a training course to ensure you have the training to do it safely. A list of asbestos removal registered training organisations can be found via asbestosawareness.com.au.

IMPORTANT: If the asbestos is in powder form or can be crumbled, pulverised or reduced to powder by hand pressure when dry, it **must be removed by an asbestos removal contractor** with a friable asbestos licence.

GET TO KNOW WHICH OCCUPATIONS MAY COME IN CONTACT WITH ASBESTOS IN THEIR WORK?

Trades - Carpenters, joiners, builders, bricklayers, painters and tillers, electricians, electricity industry supply workers, building maintenance workers, building construction and civil construction workers, plumbers, roofers, boilermakers, welders, metal and mechanical trades including fitters, turners, machinists, telecommunications technicians, landscapers, automotive repair workers, demolition workers, emergency services workers and their volunteers, landfill operators, waste disposal facility workers, ship and boat builders, marine engineers, waterside workers.

GET TO KNOW ABOUT ASBESTOS WASTE DISPOSAL

- Asbestos waste can only be disposed of at authorised landfills.
- To arrange to dispose of asbestos, you must first contact your local council to locate your nearest licenced waste landfill site.
- Ensure asbestos waste has been wetted, wrapped in 200um thick plastic, and sealed with tape before it is transported to a landfill site that may lawfully receive the waste.
- It must be clearly labelled as "asbestos waste".
- It must be transported in a covered, leak-proof vehicle.
- It is wise to keep copies of receipts from landfills where asbestos was taken as councils or the Environment Protection Authority may require you to produce these receipts as proof of proper disposal.

ASBESTOS EDUCATION COMMITTEE - ASBESTOS AWARENESS MONTH (NOVEMBER)

The Asbestos Awareness Month campaign is overseen by SafeWork NSW, the ACTU, the Asbestos Safety and Eradication Agency and James Hardie Industries SE and supported by the Asbestos Diseases Research Institute. Funding for this campaign was provided by James Hardie Industries SE, the Asbestos Safety and Eradication Agency, the Environment Protection Authority and the Heads of Asbestos Coordination Authorities.

In 2011, the Asbestos Education Committee (AEC) in partnership with the Asbestos Diseases Research Institute (ADRI) conducted a NSW based campaign to educate homeowners about the dangers of asbestos when renovating or maintaining homes. Following the success of the NSW Asbestos Awareness Campaign, the AEC and ADRI launched a national campaign, Asbestos Awareness Week 2012. In 2013, the AEC and ADRI launched a national Asbestos Awareness Month. In 2017 the aim is to grow the campaign to reach as many Australians as possible including homeowners, renovators, tradesmen and handymen.

ASBESTOS DISEASES RESEARCH INSTITUTE

As a response to the increasing incidence of malignant mesothelioma in Australia, the Asbestos Diseases Research Institute (ADRI), located in the Bernie Banton Centre, Concord NSW was opened by the then Prime Minister, the Hon. Kevin Rudd in January 2009. ADRI was established by the Asbestos Diseases Research Foundation (a charitable not-for-profit organisation) dedicated to preventing asbestos related diseases.

The ADRI's primary objectives are to: Improve the diagnosis and treatment of asbestos-related disease and at the same time to contribute to more effective measures to prevent exposure to asbestos. With the establishment of the ADRI, as the first stand-alone research institute in the world dedicated to tackling this silent and still increasing epidemic, Australia has taken a vital step forward in the international fight against asbestos-related diseases.



ASBESTOS-RELATED DISEASES

Asbestos-Related Disease Statistics

The number of new malignant mesothelioma cases provides a measure of asbestos exposure among the Australian population. This is because there is a strong causal association between asbestos exposure and malignant mesothelioma. A total of 15,884 people were newly diagnosed with malignant mesothelioma in Australia between 1982 and 2015, with men making up 83.6% of all cases. Since 2006, more than 600 cases of newly diagnosed malignant mesothelioma cases have been reported each year.

Mesothelioma

Mesothelioma is a cancer arising from the lining (mesothelium) of the thoracic and abdominal cavities. The disease is usually advanced before symptoms appear, making an early diagnosis and effective treatment very difficult. The average survival time after diagnosis is only 10-12 months. A small exposure to asbestos can be enough to trigger the cancer, however a relatively small percentage of people exposed to asbestos fibres will eventually develop mesothelioma. There usually is a lag of 20-50 years after the first asbestos exposure before the disease is diagnosed.

Pleural Disease

Inflammation of the outer lining of the lung, the pleura (where asbestos fibres are deposited). The pleura stiffens and thickens widely (diffuse thickening) or in patches (plaques), and can fill with fluid.

Asbestosis

This is scarring of the lungs by inhalation of large quantities of asbestos fibres: the lung becomes inflamed and scarred (stiff) making breathing progressively difficult. Symptoms include tightness in the chest, dry cough, and in the later stages, a bluish tinge to the skin caused by lack of oxygen. Asbestosis is usually seen in former asbestos miners, asbestos manufacturing workers and insulation workers, and usually takes a decade or more to develop.

Lung Cancer

Exposure to asbestos fibres greatly increases the risk of developing lung cancer in people who smoke.

Malignant Mesothelioma

Malignant mesothelioma (MM) almost uniquely caused by asbestos exposure was seldom diagnosed until the 1960's. Since 2006 more than 600 Australians were diagnosed with malignant mesothelioma each year and experts have estimated that there were at least another 1,350 Australians with lung cancer caused by asbestos. A tragic consequence of highly intensive use of asbestos and its products in Australia in the previous century, it is estimated that these figures will continue to rise in the coming decades.

MM is a disease that develops several years after the first exposure to asbestos fibres. However, the disease is currently also diagnosed in young adults incidentally exposed to asbestos fibres as children. The fact that approximately 1/3 of older Australian homes built or renovated before the mid 1980's contain asbestos, reinforces the significance of Australians undertaking adequate preventive measures. The prognosis of MM patients is poor and almost all will experience severely debilitating symptoms. MM is only partially responding to the current forms of oncologic therapy and currently there is no curative treatment for the disease. It is therefore critical that we make a substantial investment in medical research to find better means of understanding the specific biology of MM in order to try to achieve better clinical outcomes for people affected by the disease.

Why invest in research in Malignant Mesothelioma (MM)

When compared to other frequently diagnosed cancers such as breast cancer and melanoma, MM has been under-studied. However, outcomes of research conducted into MM provide excellent opportunities for insights into cancer that can be widely applied. For example:

- The carcinogen is known: For most solid human malignancies, the actual carcinogen is not known (even for cigarette smoke where multiple carcinogens have been implicated). The single dominant carcinogen for the development of MM is asbestos. Therefore, its role can be followed in studies ranging from the laboratory to epidemiological studies.
- At-risk cohorts can be identified and followed: One of the keys to studying populations at risk of cancer is to be able to identify those at highest risk. Because individuals who have been exposed to high levels of asbestos are at (high) risk of developing MM (e.g., occupational exposure), these individuals can be followed prospectively over decades in screening/biomarker studies.
- High quality animal models exist: Animal models of MM pathogenesis and treatment can be studied and translated into novel therapies for MM patients.



- d) Novel treatments are desperately needed: The options for current standard treatment are limited and new agents can be investigated relatively easily.
- e) ADRI researchers have identified a novel treatment approach for malignant mesothelioma and significant investments are needed to fast track further development in the clinic.
- f) Common responsibility: MM as a man-made disease that not only asks for responsibility from employers and legislators, but also from Australian society that as a whole, has permitted intensive asbestos use in the past.

THE AUSTRALIAN MESOTHELIOMA REGISTRY'S 2015 REPORT

Occupational and Non-Occupational Asbestos Exposure

The Australian Mesothelioma Registry has collected asbestos exposure information for a total of 582 people. This information is grouped into the type of exposure – either occupational or non-occupational asbestos exposure. About a third of people were grouped as having non-occupational asbestos exposure (197 out of 582 people) with an equal amount of men and women having non-occupational asbestos exposure. Almost all cases of occupational asbestos exposure (65 out of 582 people) occurred in men.

Non-Occupational Asbestos Exposures

Information about a person's non-occupational asbestos exposure was categorised as being 'probable', 'possible' or 'unlikely'. 'Probable' non-occupational asbestos exposures were most common among people who worked on car brakes or clutches (179 out of 582 people), who had lived in fibro homes (74 out of 582 people) or who had done home renovations (54 out of 582 people). 'Possible' non-occupational asbestos exposure was most common among people who had ever done major home renovations which involved asbestos products (258 out of 582 people) or who had ever lived in a house during major renovations (258 out of 582 people).

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