

Attention: Patients with Mesothelioma

Were you exposed to asbestos at work?

In Canada there are about 430 cases of mesothelioma caused by asbestos every year. Exposure to asbestos in your workplace is the most common cause of mesothelioma. If you have been told you have mesothelioma, you need to figure out if you were exposed to asbestos in your workplace. You can be diagnosed with mesothelioma between 15 and 50 years after your first contact with asbestos. If you were exposed to asbestos in your workplace then you may be able to get help from the Workplace Safety and Insurance Board (WSIB). This is called worker's compensation.

How do I know if I can get workers' compensation?

You may be able to get compensation if:

- You have a good reason to believe that your mesothelioma was caused by asbestos in your workplace
- Your workplace was covered by WSIB during the time you were exposed

The WSIB will usually accept claims for mesothelioma if you worked in any of these jobs when asbestos fibres were in the air:

- Mining
- Milling
- Manufacturing and/or assembling
- Construction including repair, alteration, maintenance or demolition

How can filing a claim with the WSIB help me and my family?

If your claim is accepted, the following benefits are available to you and your spouse (husband/wife/partner) and your children:

- Money to make up for your loss of income
- Healthcare costs including homecare and medication costs
- Survivor payments (lump sum and monthly benefits) to your spouse and dependents
- Funeral and transportation costs
- Counselling for you and your family about end of life
- Support for your spouse to go back to work if they choose

For more information visit the WSIB website: www.wsib.on.ca, and check the details under *Workers—Claims—Benefits*. The *Survivor Benefits Guide* found on the WSIB website has more information for you and your family.

How do I file for compensation with the WSIB?

You and your health care team fill out and submit 2 forms.

Here are the steps:

1. Fill out the WSIB Worker's Report of Injury/Disease form (Form 6). You can get a copy of Form 6 from the WSIB (www.wsib.on.ca or 1-800-387-0750) or from your patient navigator.
2. Get your health care team to fill out the WSIB Health Professional's Report (Form 8). Your family doctor, surgeon or some registered nurses from the Diagnostic Assessment Program can fill out Form 8. It includes information about your diagnosis and your exposure to asbestos.
3. Send Form 6 and Form 8 to the WSIB. These forms can be sent in separately by you or the health care team. This is the address:

Workplace Safety and Insurance Board (WSIB)
200 Front St. West, Toronto M5V 3J1
OR Fax to:
1-888-313-7373 or 416-344-4684

What can you expect after filing a claim with the WSIB?

The WSIB:

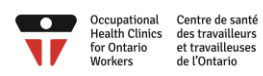
- Will make a decision about your claim by talking to you, your employer, and your health care provider.
- May contact you or your family for additional information.

More information on workers' compensation you can contact:

Ontario Ministry of Labour | 1-877-202-0008 | www.labour.gov.on.ca

Workplace Safety and Insurance Board Ontario | 1-800-387-0750 | www.wsib.on.ca

Ontario Office of the Worker Advisor | 1-800-435-8980 | www.owa.gov.on.ca



This resource is part of the Making the Link research project that is a partnership of the Centre of Research Expertise for Occupational Disease, the Occupational Cancer Research Centre, Cancer Care Ontario, and the Occupational Health Clinics for Ontario Workers. For more information on the project and contact information, visit: www.occupationalcancer.ca/making-the-link