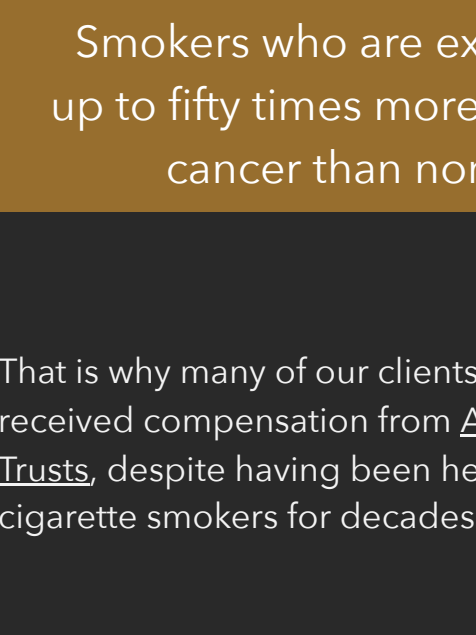


6 THINGS

for smokers who worked around asbestos

EVEN LIFELONG SMOKERS CAN QUALIFY FOR COMPENSATION FOR ASBESTOS-RELATED BREATHING DISEASES LIKE LUNG CANCER



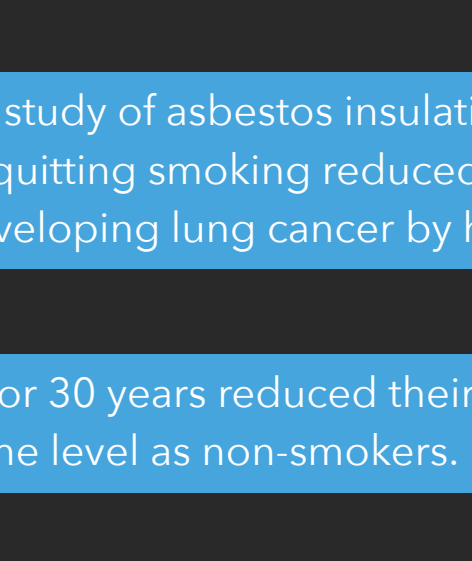
Some people believe that being a smoker prevents you from collecting money for asbestos-related illnesses. **This is untrue.**

Asbestos vastly increases the chance of a smoker developing lung cancer.

Smokers who are exposed to asbestos are up to fifty times more likely to develop lung cancer than nonsmokers not exposed.

50X

That is why many of our clients have received compensation from Asbestos Trusts, despite having been heavy cigarette smokers for decades.



31 MILLION

Despite the health risks, 31 million American adults still routinely smoke cigarettes.

QUITTING SMOKING CAN REDUCE LUNG CANCER RISKS FROM ASBESTOS EXPOSURE

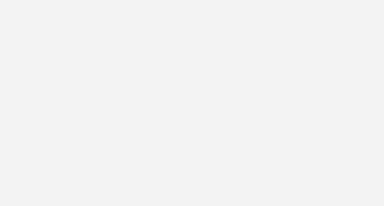
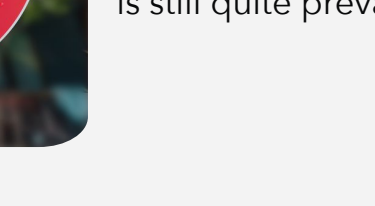
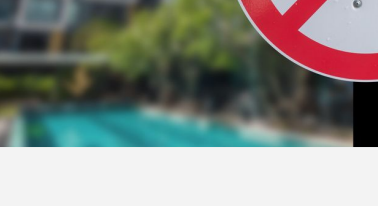
10 YEARS

In a large study of asbestos insulation workers, quitting smoking reduced their risk of developing lung cancer by half.

30 YEARS

Quitting for 30 years reduced their risk to the same level as non-smokers.

SMOKING + ASBESTOS = HEALTH RISKS



There is no escaping the fact that smoking is dangerous to our health.

In fact, it is the number one cause of preventable deaths in America.

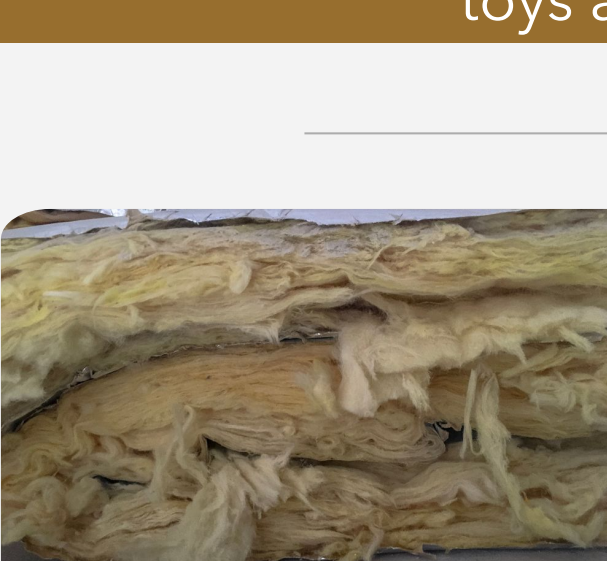
It has now long been understood that asbestos exposure can cause deadly cancers and respiratory diseases. But for decades, the industry hid what it knew about asbestos injuries from employees and consumers, and millions of people were injured.

With lungs that are already more prone to developing a respiratory disease, adding asbestos exposure to the mix is a recipe for disaster.¹

SMOKING IN AMERICA HAS DECREASED, BUT ASBESTOS FIBERS NEVER GO ANYWHERE.



The rate of smoking in the U.S. has decreased significantly in recent years, although the habit is still quite prevalent.

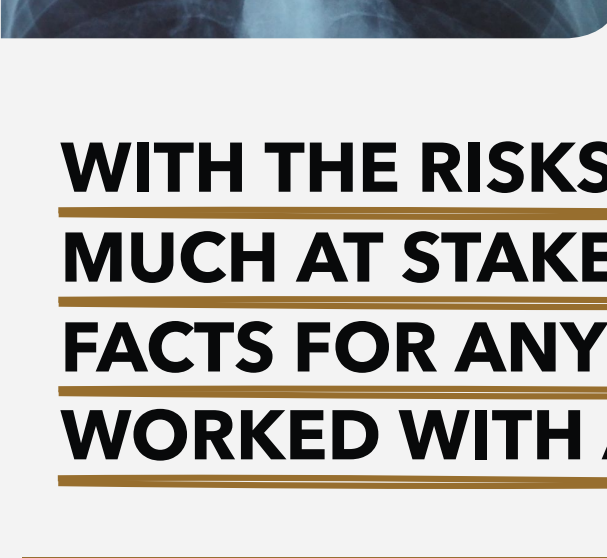


Asbestos is still in use today, too, and while many more safety measures are now in place, the risks of exposure are still real.



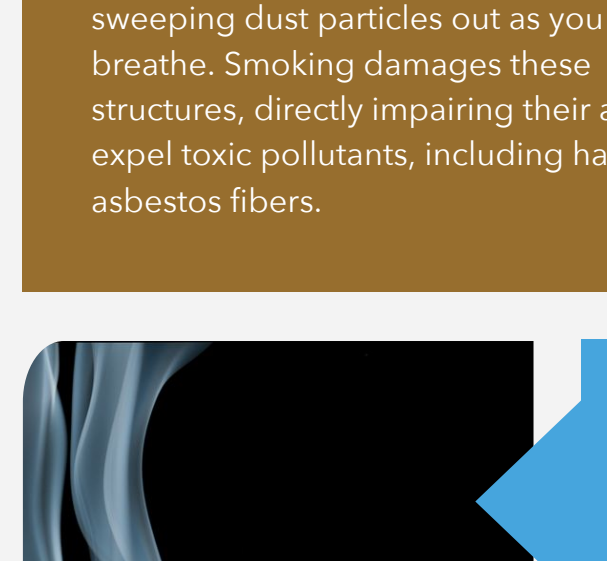
Asbestos fibers are extremely durable (that's why they were used in so many buildings, vehicles and products).

Asbestos is still used by U.S. industry, present in 30 million homes, and is a contaminant in consumer products, including even children's toys and makeup!



Asbestos was also mixed with a lot of building materials like cement, vinyl, wallboard and roof shingles, and sprayed on surfaces to make them more fire resistant. Much of that asbestos is still present in buildings and can be exposed to the air if disturbed by renovation or demolition.

Asbestos is still present in **30 million** homes!



They are microscopic, and have no taste or smell and are easily breathed or swallowed.



The American Lung Association says that some asbestos fibers never leave the body, and even one fiber can lead to serious illnesses.²

Many decades of health research show there is no safe level of asbestos exposure.³

WITH THE RISKS HIGH, AND SO MUCH AT STAKE - HERE ARE SIX VITAL FACTS FOR ANY SMOKER WHO HAS WORKED WITH ASBESTOS

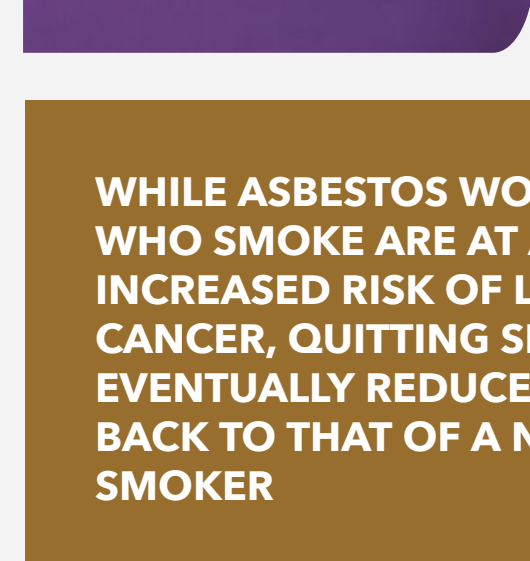
1. SMOKING IMPAIRS YOUR LUNG'S ABILITY TO SELF-CLEAN.

Human lungs are lined with tiny, brush-like structures called 'cilia,' which essentially help to keep your lungs clean and clear by sweeping dust particles out as you breathe. Smoking damages these structures, directly impairing their ability to expel toxic pollutants, including harmful asbestos fibers.



2. SMOKING IMPAIRS YOUR LUNG'S ABILITY TO EFFICIENTLY ABSORB OXYGEN.

Our lungs are also lined with alveoli - tiny air sacs that take the oxygen from our breath and move it into our bloodstream. Inhaling tobacco smoke slowly destroys many of these alveoli, making it harder to breathe. This further adds to the difficulty in breathing when combined with any cancer or scar tissue that has already formed around asbestos fibers lodged in the lung lining.



3. SMOKING INCREASES SCARRING AND INFLAMMATION IN YOUR LUNGS.

Both asbestos fibers and tobacco smoke can create a buildup of scar tissue in your lungs. The compounding issue of combining the two is that smoking also alters how our immune system reacts to asbestos, resulting in even more scar tissue forming. This deadly combination can accelerate the development of asbestosis (a chronic lung condition caused by asbestos exposure).



4. SMOKERS WHO ARE ALSO EXPOSED TO ASBESTOS ARE UP TO 50 TIMES MORE LIKELY TO DEVELOP LUNG CANCER THAN NON-SMOKERS.

The risk of asbestos-related lung disease and cancer is significantly compounded by smoking tobacco products.

A large-scale survey of health research found that:

- People exposed to asbestos are five times more likely to get lung cancer.
- Smokers are ten times more likely.
- But smokers exposed to asbestos are up to **fifty times** more likely to develop lung cancer.⁴



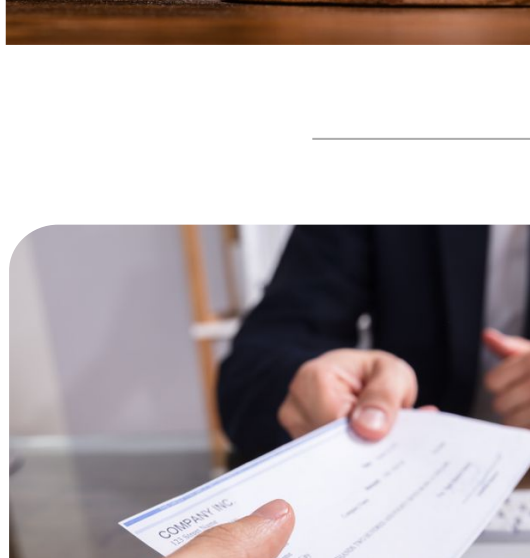
5. WHILE ASBESTOS WORKERS WHO SMOKE ARE AT AN INCREASED RISK OF LUNG CANCER, QUITTING SMOKING EVENTUALLY REDUCES THE RISK BACK TO THAT OF A NON-SMOKER

The good news is that studies show quitting smoking significantly reduces your overall risks. A **2013 study** found that within ten years of stopping smoking, the rate of lung cancer mortality returned to the same levels as those who had never smoked.⁵

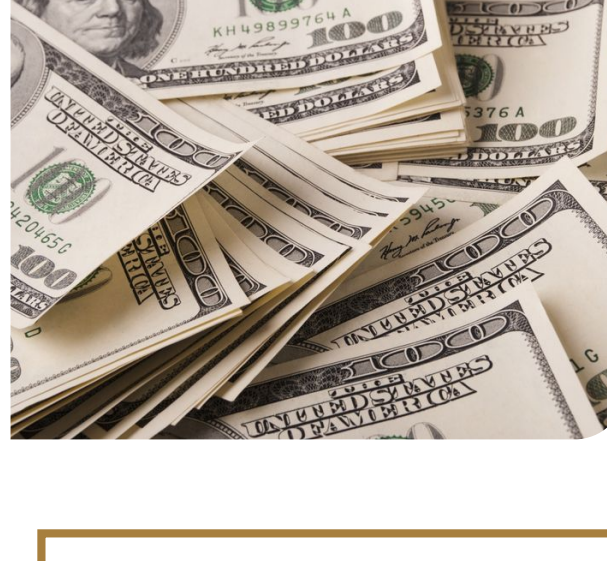


6. EVEN LIFELONG SMOKERS CAN RECOVER COMPENSATION FOR HEALTH PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH ASBESTOS EXPOSURE.

Extensive medical research shows that asbestos exposure vastly increases the health damage that smoking does and the likelihood of developing lung cancer from smoking. Because of this even lifelong smokers are fully qualified to obtain compensation from asbestos trusts for health problems related to asbestos exposure.

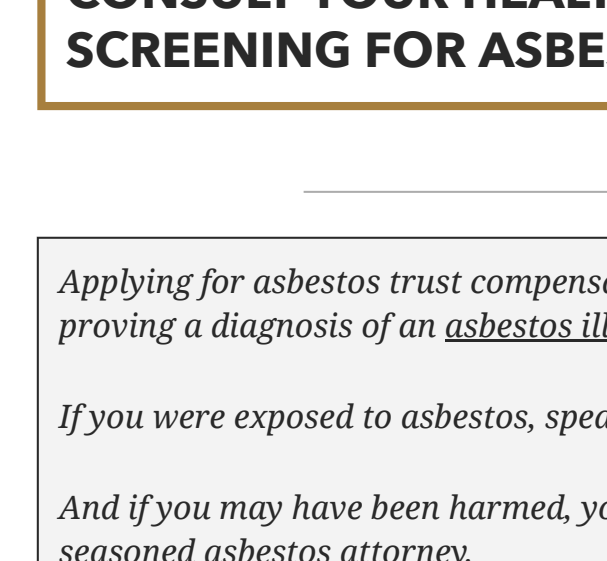


ASBESTOS TRUSTS PROVIDE MONETARY COMPENSATION TO PEOPLE HARMED BY ASBESTOS EXPOSURE (INCLUDING SMOKERS)



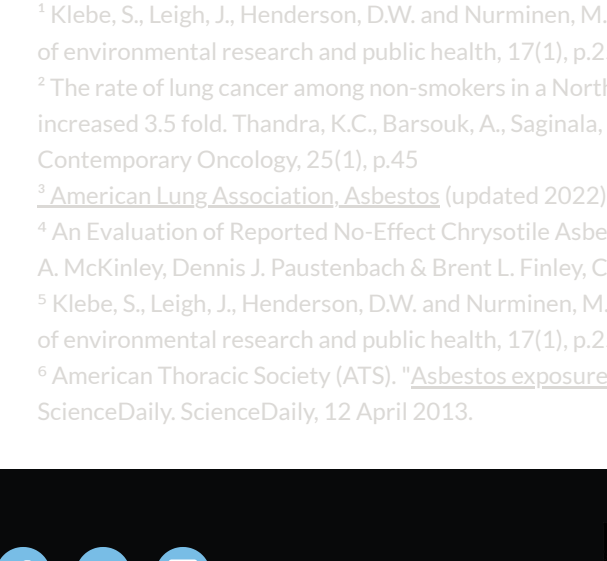
Many companies in the asbestos industry had scientific proof that asbestos harmed your breathing and led to health diseases, including cancer.

But instead of warning consumers with a label, or ensuring employees had proper protective gear, companies hid what they knew, and denied that asbestos posed a danger.



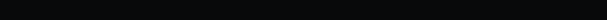
When people started filing lawsuits for their breathing problems and cancer, the evidence against the asbestos companies was so bad, everyone could see they were going to owe a lot of money.

So bankruptcy courts ordered the companies to put all their insurance money and assets from the asbestos businesses into trusts and preserve it.



The money in asbestos trusts can only be used to compensate people harmed by asbestos exposure.

Claimants do not need to file a lawsuit or prove fault to obtain compensation.



Billions of dollars have been paid to those injured by asbestos, but there is still thirty billion dollars sitting in the trusts.

IF YOU HAVE BEEN EXPOSED TO ASBESTOS, CONSULT YOUR HEALTHCARE PROVIDER ABOUT SCREENING FOR ASBESTOS ILLNESSES.

Applying for asbestos trust compensation does not require a lawsuit, but it does require proving a diagnosis of an asbestos illness and exposure to asbestos.

If you were exposed to asbestos, speak to an asbestos trusts attorney about your case.

And if you may have been harmed, you can discuss your rights under the law with a seasoned asbestos attorney.

¹ Klebe, S., Leigh, J., Henderson, D.W. and Nurminen, M., 2020. Asbestos, smoking and lung cancer: an update. International journal of environmental research and public health, 17(1), p.258.

² The rate of lung cancer among non-smokers in a North American cohort of insulators (who regularly worked with asbestos) was increased 3.5 fold. Thandra, K.C., Barsouk, A., Saginola, K., Aluru, J.S. and Barsouk, A., 2021. Epidemiology of lung cancer. Contemporary Oncology, 25(1), p.45

³ American Lung Association. Asbestos (updated 2022).

⁴ An Evaluation of Reported No-Effect Chrysotile Asbestos Exposures for Lung Cancer and Mesothelioma, Jennifer S. Pierce, Meg A. McKinley, Dennis J. Paustenbach & Brent L. Finley, Critical Views In Toxicology (2008).

⁵ Klebe, S., Leigh, J., Henderson, D.W. and Nurminen, M., 2020. Asbestos, smoking and lung cancer: an update. International journal of environmental research and public health, 17(1), p.258.

⁶ American Thoracic Society (ATS). Asbestos exposure, asbestosis, and smoking combined greatly increase lung cancer risk. ScienceDaily, ScienceDaily, 12 April 2013.

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