

GUIDANCE DOCUMENT FOR ASBESTOS EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

Asbestos is a highly regulated substance. Asbestos can be found in a variety of items that can include:

Pipe insulation	Floor tiles	Sprayed on fireproofing
Some ceiling tiles	Mastics	Roofing materials
Some dry wall spackle	Some laboratory bench tops	Transite panels in fume hoods
Incubators	Lighting equipment	Old laboratory drying ovens
Fire doors		

All asbestos removal or handling **MUST** be performed by certified and licensed individuals following all OSHA, NYS DOL, and EPA regulations.

PROCEDURE:

In the event asbestos (or presumed asbestos) containing materials (ACM) are disturbed, the following procedure shall be followed:

1. If you became contaminated with asbestos, take first aid measures (leave the immediate area and take off contaminated clothing (do not brush off clothing). After first aid measures are taken, fill out an employee incident report.
2. Vacate and secure the area to a perimeter of 25 feet from the disturbance (edge of visible asbestos). Have the occupants leave the space. Depending upon the situation, Security should be called to help secure the area.
3. Contact the Facilities Asbestos Control Group through Facilities' Work Dispatch (273-4567). Provide the location of the release and state what actions have been taken so far.
4. The Asbestos Control Group will:
 - a. Upon arrival, assess the likelihood that the disturbed material contains asbestos.
 - b. Samples may be taken for analysis to confirm the contents of the material.
 - c. Should no one be available from Asbestos Control, a certified and licensed contractor shall be called in to perform a cleanup of the space using appropriate PPE and equipment.
 - d. Air samples may be taken depending upon the scope, location, and condition of the material(s) disturbed and requirements for cleanup.
 - e. If the release occurs in Strong Memorial Hospital, follow the SMH procedures and contact the Administrator on Call.
 - f. Once the area is cleaned and the air sampling results are reviewed and show the area to be 'clean', the occupants can return to the area.