BTMED news

SUPPORTED BY THE BUILDING & CONSTRUCTION TRADES DEPARTMENT, AFL-CIO • COORDINATED BY CPWR - THE CENTER FOR CONSTRUCTION RESEARCH & TRAINING

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Free Medical Screenings Continued...

More than 25,000 screening exams have been done. Have YOU had Yours?

The Building Trades National Medical Screening Program (BTMed) provides former Department of Energy/AEC construction workers with free medical screening exams. If you decide to participate, here's what you can expect:

- Physical Exam - Head to toe assessment with emphasis on the skin, lungs, musculoskeletal, and neurological system.
- Chest X-Ray - Tests for asbestosis, silica, and other lung problems.
- Hearing Test - Tests for hearing loss.
- Fecal Occult - Tests for colon cancer.
- Spirometry - Tests lung function.
- Blood Tests, such as:
  - BeLPT - Tests for beryllium sensitivity.
  - CBC - Tests for blood abnormalities.
  - General Health Panel - Tests functions of the liver, kidney, and thyroid; tests for diabetes and high cholesterol.
- Heavy metals such as lead and cadmium.

"I appreciate your commitment to our health due to the work environment we were exposed to. Thank you for continuing this program."

- Chiquita Wilson,
Kansas City Plant,
IBEW Local 314

It's easy to sign up!
Call 1-800-866-9663 or visit www.btmed.org

CT Scan Detects Cancers In Workers

BTMed provides a low-dose CT scan of the chest for the early detection of lung cancer for eligible Oak Ridge former workers. Lung cancer is a high risk for DOE workers due to past occupational exposures to lung carcinogens, such as asbestos, silica, radiation, nickel compounds, and beryllium. This year, 100 high-risk former workers from Oak Ridge were offered a CT scan.

***TWO* workers were found to have lung cancer**

***ONE* was found to have kidney cancer**

Other significant findings included emphysema, asbestosis, and nodules requiring follow-up care. In the upcoming year, BTMed will continue to offer scans to eligible former Oak Ridge workers and plans to include former Hanford workers as well.

You May Have Heard From Us...

BTMed Participates In COPD Study

BTMed is participating in one of the largest studies ever of occupational risks for chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD). People who develop COPD find it harder to breath because of chronic bronchitis and emphysema. COPD is the 4th leading cause of death in the United States.

Some BTMed participants may receive a letter asking them to participate in a telephone interview. If you receive the letter, please consider participating in the 20-minute phone survey. You don't need to have been diagnosed with COPD to participate. Participation is completely voluntary. Those who decide to participate will get a thank you gift card. If you receive a letter and have questions about the COPD study, please call 1-800-866-9663. Your participation could help save lives!

BTMed participants have a much higher risk of COPD compared to the general population.

We need to know more about what causes COPD in construction workers so we can prevent it in the future. This study is the best hope for that. If you are invited, we encourage you to participate. There is no risk to you, and a lot to gain for all construction trades workers.

Changes to BTMed Beryllium Testing

Starting October 1, 2012, BTMed procedures for beryllium testing changed:

- Every eligible worker will continue to receive a beryllium test at the first exam appointment.
- If the beryllium results from the test are normal and there is no known work-related exposure to beryllium since the first exam, no additional beryllium testing will occur. However, if any BTMed participant still wants this test, we will provide it. Just ask!

WHY THE CHANGE?

Among workers screened on a second exam, fewer than 1 out of 1,000 participants have an abnormal finding. This change in procedure will allow us to offer more exams to workers in the future.

BTMed Covered Sites

Amchitka Test Site	GE Evendale	Mound Plant	Rocky Flats
Battelle Labs - King Ave.	Hanford Reservation	Oak Ridge Reservation	Savannah River Site
Battelle Labs - West Jeff	Idaho National Lab	Paducah GDP	Weldon Spring
Brookhaven National Lab	Kansas City Plant	Pinellas Plant	Yucca Mountain
Fernald Plant	Mallinckrodt	Portsmouth GDP	Waste Isolation Pilot Plant

And other Department of Energy sites.

1-800-866-9663

www.btmed.org

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