BTMED news

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Rescreen helps find cancer in former SRS worker

"Hunt, fish, race," as Jack Quinley puts it, are what he enjoys doing outside of working as a sheet metal worker in Charleston, South Carolina. You can find him enjoying the great outdoors, at a race track, going out in a boat, or surf fishing. Jack began working at the Savannah River Site in 1991 as an apprentice with the Sheet Metal Workers Local 399. Over the next six years, he worked all over the site - Buildings 105-K, 773-A, 221-F, F and H tank farms. He recalls that he "pretty much got to see it all." Jack knew he had been exposed to hazardous materials and conditions while working at Savannah River and that those exposures may have affected his health. "Well SRS is a different world than what we call the real world," he says, having spent his time at the site performing tasks that ranged from operating contaminated equipment, building and dismantling steel structures, and cutting and installing nickel sheet and cadmium-coated metal.

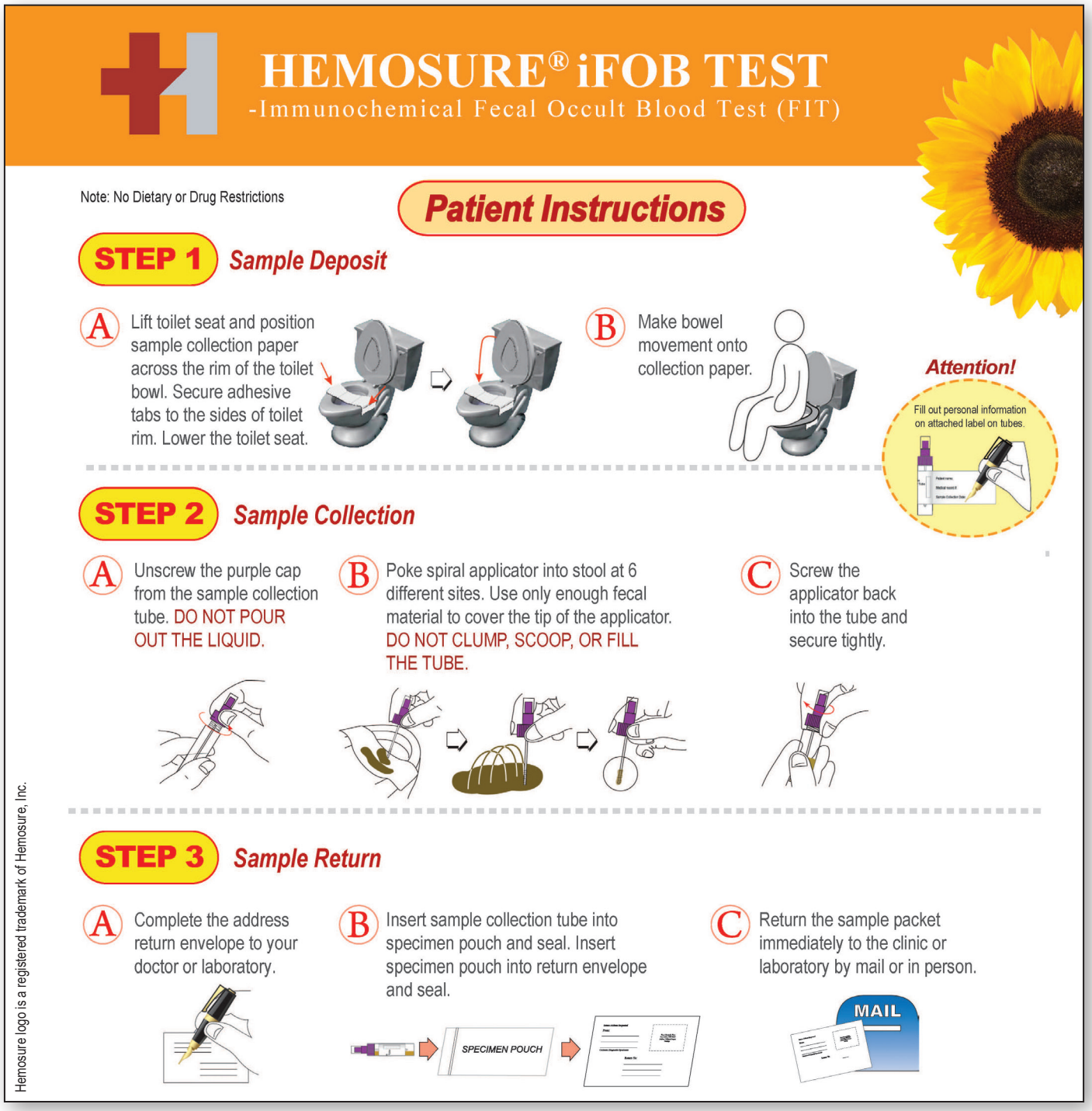
In 2002, Jack received information about BTMed and decided to participate because he had some concerns about his health from exposures on the site. Since the screening was free, it was an easy decision to participate. Even though rescreens are available every three years, Jack waited until 2018 to get a rescreen and he's glad he came back. BTMed notified him that there was a suspicious finding on his chest x-ray and Jack immediately went to see a specialist. In November 2018, Jack was diagnosed with lung cancer. If it wasn't for participating in BTMed, the cancer may not have been found as early. "I knew I'd been exposed to radiation but didn't think it was a lot," Jack remembers, "but I've heard all the stories of guys getting exposed to a lot of radiation." Jack's advice to other workers is "get the exam; it sure wouldn't hurt them to get checked."

More than 26,000 workers have been screened through BTMed, helping them stay on top of their health and allowing them to appreciate and take joy in life. Participating in BTMed has given Jack a better understanding of his health. He looks forward to spending more time with his wife, Pamela, and family, keep on doing what he enjoys, and continuing to surf fish, "kick back, and put the poles in wherever and watch the waves roll in."

Take the FIT Test – it could save your life

Early detection may find colon cancer at a more treatable stage.

BTMed participants are offered a fecal immunochemical test (FIT) with every exam. The FIT test is a lab test used to check stool samples for hidden (occult) blood. It's an easy and convenient one-step test that's done at home and brought with you to your appointment. A negative FIT means no blood was detected in the stool at the time of the test. A positive result indicates abnormal bleeding in the lower digestive tract. While this bleeding could be caused by colon cancer, other possible causes include ulcers, polyps, or hemorrhoids. The test kit and instructions are included in the materials sent to you prior to your exam. Video instructions are available on the BTMed website.



Oak Ridge office welcomes new team members and moves to a new space

BTMed Oak Ridge office welcomes Lindzi Caylor, Rebecca Mash, and Cristy Nelson to the BTMed team. Lindzi and Rebecca are program assistants and help with incoming and outgoing mail, answering phones, entering data, and making appointment reminder calls, to just name a few! Cristy is a nurse and joins the medical team working on reviewing medical results and responding to worker requests for more information.

Rebecca Mash, Lindzi Caylor, and Cristy Nelson

The Oak Ridge office has moved! The new office is located in the same Pine Ridge Office Complex but we are now in Suite B-202.

702 S. Illinois Ave, Suite B-202
Oak Ridge, TN 37830

If you have any questions, you can reach them at 865-481-0009 or 888-464-0009.

Ricky Smith joins BTMed as Savannah River Site Coordinator

BTMed welcomes Ricky Smith as the new interviewer and outreach coordinator for the Savannah River Site. While he may be new to BTMed, he is no stranger to the site. Ricky worked at SRS for more than 30 years as an electrician out of IBEW Local 1579. He worked on all sorts of projects such as electric wiring, installing fire alarms and security systems and was involved in shut downs on reactors and the Tritium Facilities. Ricky is glad to be part of a team who "genuinely and sincerely wants to help" workers. He emphasizes the importance of BTMed and how the program can provide "peace of mind and knowing that you are okay." Ricky can be reached at 706-722-7272 or rcsmith@zenith-american.com.

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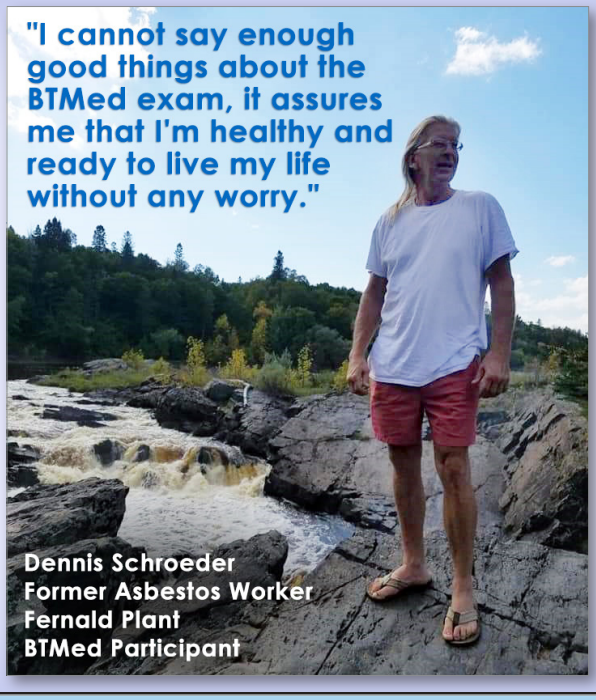
HAS IT BEEN THREE YEARS SINCE YOUR LAST BTMED SCREENING?

If your last BTMed screening exam was in September 2016 or before, you may be eligible for a *FREE* re-screen exam.

To schedule a re-screen or to check when your last screening was, call **1-800-866-9663** or email **btmed@zenith-american.com**.



BTMed staff, Joe Hudson and Cambra Lee-Shapiro, were at a recent DOL outreach event in Paducah, KY, handing out information and answering questions about our program.

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Send an email to **btmed@zenith-american.com** to have BTMed newsletters and monthly program updates sent directly to your inbox.

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