

Medical Exam Program for Former Workers from Los Alamos and Sandia National Laboratories

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JOHNS HOPKINS
BLOOMBERG
SCHOOL *of* PUBLIC HEALTH

Two Sites, One Cooperative Agreement

- JHU has two sites – LANL & Sandia – are funded with a single cooperative agreement
- We have agreed to do 300 exams per year, combined, at the two sites
- We split them between the two sites as dictated by former worker demand

Two Sites, One Cooperative Agreement

- At SNL, we recruit using mailings and newspaper ads
- At LANL, we recruit using mailings to former workers who are eligible for re-exams, newspaper ads, and as recommended by our site collaborator, Dr. Laurie Wiggs, we communicate with them in real time by putting a flyer in their retirement package

Progress and Activities – LANL

Activity	Number
Contacted	P2 = 34,851 P3 = 600* Total = 35,451
Interviews	Total interviewed = 3163 2966 (EQ2) + 197 (EQ3)
Examinations by phase	P2 = 2336 P3 = 332 Total = 2664 Pending = 29 NSSP = 4
Examinations by type	Individuals = 2482 (new exams = 146) Re-exams = 182

Only re-exams; new exams by word of mouth

Results to Date

- Chest X-rays (N = 2487)
 - Parenchymal – 111
 - Pleural – 206
 - Both – 49
 - Profusion Scores
 - 1/0 = 58
 - 1/1 = 18
 - 1/2 = 14
 - 2/1 = 2
 - 2/2 = 3
 - 2/3 = 1

Results to Date

- Spirometry (N = 1509)
 - Restrictive – 276
 - Obstructive – 44
 - Mixed - 51
- BeLPTs (N = 2711)
 - Individuals Screened – 2508
 - Single Positive - 65
- Audiometry (N = 2129)
 - NIOSH* - 1225

*Both ears > 25 dB at 1000, 2000, 3000, and 4000 Hz
AMA both ears > 25 dB at 500, 1000, 2000, 3000 Hz

Progress and Activities – SNL

Activity	Number
Contacted	P2 = 2,500 Total = 2,500
Interviews	Total interviewed = 279 (EQ2)
Examinations by phase	P2 = 212 Pending = 16 NSSP = 33
Examinations by type	Individuals = 212

Results to Date

- Chest X-rays (N = 181)
 - Parenchymal – 8
 - Pleural – 7
 - Both – 0
 - Profusion Scores
 - 1/0 = 3
 - 1/1 = 1
 - 2/1 = 1
 - 2/1 = 2

Results to Date

- Spirometry (N = 165)
 - Restrictive – 42
 - Obstructive – 8
 - Mixed - 3
- BeLPTs (N = 199)
 - Individuals Screened – 174
 - Single positive BeLPT - 7
- Audiometry (N = 158)
 - NIOSH - 86

Both ears > 25 dB at 1000, 2000, 3000, and 4000 Hz
AMA both ears > 25 dB at 500, 1000, 2000, 3000 Hz

- We think that you need additional evaluation to address your specific concern:

Your concern is a complex one that is beyond the scope of this program. If you would like your concern addressed, please call the Former Worker Program Office at 1-877-500-8615 and we will recommend a physician in New Mexico for the evaluation. Your Primary Care Provider may also refer you to a physician for this evaluation. **The Former Worker Program cannot pay for this. You will need a referral from your primary care provider to have this evaluation. Please let us know if you have difficulty with this process.**

- We have the following comments about your specific concern(s):

- You should consider filing a workers' compensation claim with the state of New Mexico for:

_____ (see enclosed information).

- If you have not filed a workers' compensation claim with the state of New Mexico, we recommend that you do so now for:

_____ (see enclosed information).

If you have applied, we hope that this new information is of use to you.

- You should consider filing a claim with the Department of Labor and the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Act for:

_____ (see enclosed information).

- If you have not filed a claim with the Department of Labor and the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act (EEOICPA), we recommend that you do so now for: _____ (see enclosed information). If you have applied, we hope that this new information is of use to you.

Results
Letter
Page 5

Other Personalized Services

- We meet with former workers who have questions after receiving their results letters
- We do disability hearing letters for former workers in the state workers' compensation system
- We do complicated work-relatedness determinations for Part B (e.g., cancer) and Part E (e.g., all other chemical-related occupational diseases)

Complex Work-relatedness Determinations

- Remote, short-term silica exposure and systemic necrotizing vasculitis
- Development of eosinophilic pneumonia three days after using heat gun to remove silicone sealant/adhesive from metal surface
- Prostate cancer at age 59 years and exposure to ionizing radiation and chemicals
- COPD with prominent emphysematous changes and mixed dust and chemical exposures

Complex Work-relatedness Determinations

- Interstitial fibrosis and ionizing radiation exposure
- Renal cell carcinoma and chemical exposures
- Olivopontocerebellar atrophy (OPCA) and hydrocarbon solvent exposure
- Monoclonal gammopathy and radiation and chemical exposures
- NHL and hydrocarbon solvents

Outreach Activities

- This is a Phase III program
- We contact re-examinations for asbestos and Be directly from our database
- New exams
 - Worker request (word of mouth)
 - Referrals from Resource Center
 - One-page information sheet in retirees packets
 - We continue to do new examinations on long duration former workers who had not been previously contacted

Interpretation of Pulmonary Findings

- We use Knudson prediction equations
- Restriction = $FVC < 80\%$ predicted
 - Mild 65-80%
 - Moderate 50-65%
 - Severe $< 50\%$
- Obstruction = $FEV1/FVC < 70\%$ predicted
 - Mild is $FEV1 > 2$ liters
 - Moderate 1-2 liters
 - Severe < 1 liter
- All chest X-rays receive a B-reading