

# Lung Cancer & Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit

## FACT SHEET



## Lung Cancer & Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit

Lung Cancer resulting from asbestos exposure is diagnosed and treated in the same way as lung cancer caused by smoking

### Asbestos and Smoking

Asbestos causes the same types of lung cancer as are caused by smoking. The two hazards of smoking and asbestos act together to greatly increase the risk of lung cancer.

If you suffer from primary lung cancer and believe this could be due to being exposed to asbestos at work, you may be entitled to Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit (IIDB). This is because lung cancer is a Prescribed Disease (PD) for the purpose of claiming IIDB.

Heavy asbestos exposure is necessary to cause lung cancer. The presence of asbestosis and/or detailed consideration of the history of exposure in the individual case are necessary to decide whether it is likely that asbestos played a part in causing lung cancer

It is prescribed when the claimant is suffering from primary lung cancer and asbestosis (PD-D8) or primary lung cancer in the absence of asbestosis (PD-D8A), provided you have worked in a prescribed occupation for a prescribed number of years.

If you are awarded Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit (IIDB) you may also qualify for a lump-sum payment under a UK government scheme called the **Pneumoconiosis etc. (Workers' Compensation) Act 1979**

### Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit Criteria:

To qualify for Injuries Disablement Benefit you must show that you have been exposed to asbestos while working for an employer in a prescribed occupation. You must also be suffering from a prescribed disease. (PD)

To meet the criteria for PD-D8 – you must be suffering from lung cancer & asbestosis

To meet the criteria for PD - D8A exposure to asbestos must have been in the course of:

- a) The manufacture of asbestos textiles; or
- b) Spraying asbestos; or
- c) Asbestos insulation work; or
- d) Applying or removing materials containing asbestos in the course of ship building.

The minimum specified periods of exposure for these occupations is either:

- a) 5 years pre 1975 (in aggregate); or
- b) 10 years post 1975 (in aggregate).