

Pleural Plaques

A guide to asbestos related illness, pleural plaques

Expert advice

Pleural plaques are the least serious form of asbestos related disease. They're not dangerous in themselves, don't become cancerous and generally don't cause any symptoms. Therefore, in England and Wales, compensation is not available for the condition, pleural plaques.

Slater and Gordon has a team of experts who specialise in asbestos related illnesses and are able to provide all the information you need to set your mind at ease.

What is asbestos?

Asbestos is a mineral that has been mined for hundreds of years and was used due to its fireproof qualities. There are three common types of asbestos which are Chrysotile (white), Amosite (brown) and Crocidolite (blue).

Where might exposure to asbestos take place?

Asbestos was once used everywhere. It was used at home, in schools and other public places. Most people who develop an asbestos related illness were exposed to asbestos many years ago whilst working in professions such as:

- engineers
- plumbers
- joiners
- ladders
- dockyard workers

and could be found in places such as:

- lagging on pipework and boilers
- artex and ceiling tiles
- fire proof insulation
- linoleum floor tiles
- panels, boards and partitions

What will happen if you're diagnosed with pleural plaques?

Pleural plaques are usually diagnosed following an x-ray. Although pleural plaques are visible on an x-ray, they rarely produce symptoms. There's no treatment available for pleural plaques. However, it's likely that someone who has been diagnosed will be monitored.



Is compensation available for pleural plaques?

Pleural plaques are a marker that someone has been exposed to asbestos dust and they rarely produce any symptoms. Therefore, in England and Wales, you can't claim compensation for pleural plaques.

What other asbestos related conditions are there?

There are other more serious asbestos related conditions, such as:

- mesothelioma
- asbestos related lung cancer
- asbestosis
- pleural thickening

If you develop one of these conditions you may be entitled to compensation.

We have a database of people who've been diagnosed with pleural plaques so that if they do go on to develop one of these conditions, we have the necessary information to enable us to begin working on their case without delay.

If you've been diagnosed with pleural plaques and would like to join our database, please contact us.