



“Exposure to wood dust is associated with a variety of adverse affects on the lungs including asthma and chronic bronchitis.”

- Discuss** how materials can be inhaled if respirators aren't used or are used incorrectly.
- Mention** what can be done in the workplace to minimize the risk of exposure to airborne materials (e.g. vacuum, fume hood, or ventilation).
- Make it real.** Give them two examples from your experience where woodworkers were affected by inhaling airborne materials, or use the following examples:
 - A retired woodworker recently died following a long battle with lung disease, which was caused in part by long-term exposure to sawdust.
 - A young worker was overcome by vapours from a powerful solvent they were using to clean up some spilled adhesives. They were not wearing a respirator.
- Discuss** the attitude that “it won't happen to me” is incorrect. Remind them that an injury or incident will eventually happen if they take shortcuts or are careless.
- Remind** them of the importance of staying alert and reporting any safety concerns about airborne hazards.
- Encourage them to **ASK** questions.
- Answer** any questions or concerns they might have.
- Set a good example** by working safely at all times.

Resources

- Breathe Safer**
www.worksafebc.com/publications/health_and_safety/by_topic/assets/pdf/breathe_safer.pdf

EXPOSURE TO AIRBORNE CONTAMINANTS ■ EXPOSITION AUX CONTAMINANTS ATMOSPHÉRIQUES ■ HATQIUMANI HILAINNAQMITTUNUT HALUMAILGUT ■ ᑭᓕᓂᓐᓂᑦᑎᓐ ᓂᑭᓂᑦᑎᓐ ᓂᑭᓂᑦᑎᓐ