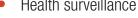


STONE DUST CAN CAUSE FATAL LUNG DISEASES KNOW THE FACTS

Are your workers' lungs protected?

Think:

- Substitution
- Control measures
- Information, instruction and training













SUBSTITUTE THE MATERIAL

Is it possible to swap stone containing lots of silica for a less hazardous alternative?

SIMPLE THINGS YOU CAN DO TO CONTROL RISKS TO WORKERS

When stone is cut, ground, drilled and polished, follow these controls:

- restrict access to dusty areas to only workers who need to be there
- prevent the spread of mist or dust by enclosing equipment such as bridge saws
- provide a water supply and water suppression to control dust, make sure workers are careful when using water around power supplies and electrical equipment
- remind workers that respiratory protective equipment (RPE) should be used in addition to other controls wearing a mask alone will not protect workers
- provide RPE with an assigned protection factor (APF) of at least 20

- make sure workers take off dusty or contaminated workwear before they leave the restricted dusty area
- make sure workers keep RPE on while they take off contaminated workwear safely
- get rid of disposable clothing and RPE once it has been used
- make sure workers clean surfaces regularly using wet methods – provide a low-pressure water hose or a vacuum (which is at least dust Class M)

PROVIDE YOUR WORKERS WITH INFORMATION SO THEY CAN WORK SAFELY

You must make sure that anyone you have working with stone is trained to do so. You must provide training and information so that workers understand:

- the risks from silica dust
- how they can be exposed to harmful dust
- what measures should be in place to control the risks

HEALTH CHECKS

To detect early signs of illness, arrange regular health checks (health surveillance) for every worker processing stone. You'll need to take advice from a competent occupational health professional (doctor or nurse) to set up a health surveillance programme.

