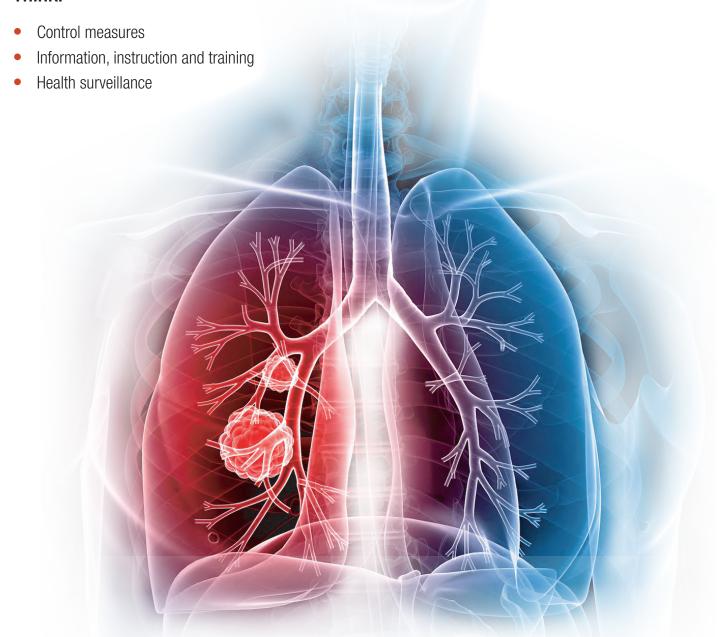


STONE DUST CAN CAUSE FATAL LUNG DISEASES KNOW THE FACTS

Are your lungs protected?

Think:









SIMPLE THINGS YOU CAN DO TO CONTROL THE RISKS

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

- you should only be in a dusty area if you need to be there
- close doors on equipment enclosures to prevent the spread of mist or dust
- provide a water supply and water suppression to control dust, be 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)

ARE YOU AWARE OF THE RISKS SO THAT YOU CAN WORK SAFELY?

Your employer must provide training and information so that you 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 occupational illness, you should have regular health checks (health surveillance) arranged by your employer.

Take reasonable care of your own health and safety, and of anyone who might be affected by the work you are doing. The Health and Safety Executive provides free, guidance on what you and your employer should do to prevent lung disease caused by exposure to silica at work.



