



NEW YORK MEDICAL COLLEGE

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH & SAFETY
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Date: April 24, 2012
To: New York Medical College Community
From: Sarah Cottet, Director of Environmental Health & Safety
Subject: NYMC Asbestos Program & Notification

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Sarah Cottet", written over the "From:" line of the header.

This notice provides information about the presence and location of asbestos-containing materials (ACM) and presumed asbestos-containing materials (PACM) in the New York Medical College's (NYMC) buildings, both owned and leased.

"Asbestos" is the generic term for a group of naturally occurring fibrous minerals with high tensile strength, flexibility and resistance to thermal, chemical and electrical conditions. These properties led to the extensive use of asbestos in products such as shingles, floor tiles, cement pipe, roofing felts, insulation, ceiling tiles, fire-resistant drywall and acoustical products installed in the United States before 1981.

Asbestos-containing materials do not present a health hazard unless: 1. they are physically disturbed, 2. there is airborne exposure to the resulting asbestos fibers, and 3. the airborne concentration of these asbestos fibers exceeds the exposure limits set by the Occupational Health & Safety Administration (OSHA). Most workplace exposures to asbestos occur during improper asbestos removal or alteration of ACM, and during the improper and uncontrolled maintenance of buildings/structures containing asbestos.

In 1999, NYMC conducted a survey of all of its buildings to determine the presence, location and condition of asbestos. The survey identified a few areas with ACMs with limited accessibility which, if improperly handled, altered or removed, may result in a potential hazard. Most of these areas are not common areas and are generally accessible for specific maintenance and repair services and only to personnel associated with such functions. NYMC's Department of Environmental Health & Safety conducts inspections of these areas on an annual basis; repairs are made as necessary. Attached is a list of where on campus these areas are located.

In order to ensure safety in areas that are positive for ACM, NYMC maintains the appropriate signage and requires strict adherence to the following procedures:

- 1) All community members comply with all posted signs and not enter a posted regulated asbestos area (where a warning sign is posted) without authorization from Environmental Health & Safety;

- 2) Individuals must comply with all warning labels, and
- 3) No alterations, repairs, construction, renovation, removal or other physical changes (*e.g.* drilling holes, applying fasteners, pulling carpet etc.) may be made to areas that are (or that may be) positive for ACM, (*e.g.* ceilings, floors, piping, countertops) are to be made without prior review and approval by Environmental Health & Safety.

Further information on NYMC's policy, safe work practices and the procedures to be followed are contained in our ***Asbestos Operations and Maintenance Program***.

As always, if you have any questions or require assistance, please feel free to call Environmental Health & Safety at 594-4078.

NYMC Building	Location of ACM
Sunshine Cottage	Ceiling in Dean's Office
	Ceiling pipe jacketing (in corridor for rooms 102 through 108)
	Pipe Insulation (Exterior wall)
Alumni House	Black tar paper (in the attic)
Steam Plant	Floor tiles (in the office)
School of Health Sciences & Practice	G11 & G13 (mechanical spaces)
	Pipe insulation in "satellite room"
	Pipe elbows (basement)
	Pipe elbow insulation in rooms 205, 206, 211
	Roof flashing
Basic Science Building	Floor tiles
	Chemical Fume Hoods (transite panels)
	Lab countertops
	Roof (duct tar insulation)
	Areas above suspended ceiling - roofing materials debris
Vosburgh Pavilion	Floor tiles
	Pipe insulation
	Lab countertops
	Chemical fume hoods (transite panels)
	Perimeter radiators (insulation board)
	Ceiling tiles (glue dollops associated with 12"x12" tiles)
	Ceiling plenum (horse hair batting)
	Suspended ceiling (soft plaster)
	Elevator mechanical room (transite panels)
	Electrical wire jacketing
Munger Pavilion	"Popcorn" Ceilings
	Floor tiles
	Pipe insulation
	Duct insulation
	Electrical panels & circuit breaker boxes (ebonite & transite materials)
	Electric cages (cloth cable lining)
	Electrical wire jacketing
	Metal sinks (anti-sweat insulation)
	Cork ceiling (tar coating)
	"Linen warmer closet" insulation
	Brick wall (bituminous vapor barrier coating)
	Roofing materials
	Radiators (insulation board)