

<b>GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS</b> Standard Operating Procedures		
<b>Functional Area:</b> Facilities Operations	<b>Reference Number:</b> IIA19-0001 (208.05)	<b>Revises Previous Effective Date:</b>  3/15/2006
<b>Subject:</b> Asbestos Investigations		
<b>Authority:</b> Bryson/Jacobs	<b>Effective Date:</b> 04/22/15	Page 1 of  3

**I. POLICY:**

This procedure establishes some facility investigative guidelines when an inmate alleges exposure to asbestos.

**II. APPLICABILITY:**

This procedure is applicable to all State, Private and County Prisons, Boot Camps, Diversion Centers, Probation Detention and Transitional Centers.

**III. RELATED DIRECTIVES:**

None

**IV. DEFINITIONS:**

None

**V. ATTACHMENTS:**

None

**VI. PROCEDURE:**

A. Exposure to Asbestos Determination - When an inmate claims that he/she as been exposed to asbestos the following investigation shall be completed and documented.

1. Facility Responsibility

a. Has the trained facility maintenance staff member determined if the inmate was actually

Functional Area: Facilities Operations	Prev. Eff. Date: 3/15/2006	Page 2 of 3
	Effective Date: 04/22/15	Reference Number: IIA19-0001 (208.05)

exposed? Has the area tested positive for asbestos contamination? Has it been determined that the asbestos in question is of the type generally recognized to be capable of causing pulmonary disease?

- b. What was the time length of the alleged exposure?
- c. How the inmate was was allegedly exposed? Was the alleged exposure the result of abatement or was it just general contact?
- d. Exactly where (building location) was the inmate allegedly exposed?
- e. What was the extent of the alleged exposure?
- f. Has the alleged exposure area been abated?
- g. If the area was abated, did a licensed professional perform abatement?
- h. What corrective action has been taken to ensure that exposure to inmates and staff does not continue?
- i. Has the inmate been seen by medical since he/she was allegedly exposed?
- j. What was the time frame between alleged exposure and medical visit?
- k. If inmate requested medical services, what was the nature of his/her complaints?
- l. What were the resolutions to his/her complaints?
- m. Any side effects related to his/her alleged exposure?
- n. Has the inmate ever worked in the Construction, Demolition, or Automotive Industry?

Functional Area: Facilities Operations	Prev. Eff. Date: 3/15/2006	Page 3 of 3
	Effective Date: 04/22/15	Reference Number: IIA19-0001 (208.05)

## 2. Medical Section Responsibility

- a. After learning of the alleged asbestos exposure, as a minimum, an MD, PA, or NP shall take a complete pulmonary and alleged exposure history, including all alleged prior exposures, history of asthma, smoking, etc.
- b. The clinician shall perform a complete physical with emphasis in the pulmonary system. Any visible or demonstrable medical findings felt to be a consequence of the alleged asbestos exposure shall be thoroughly documented in the health record.
- c. A baseline chest X-ray shall be taken. If any pulmonary involvement/strong history is found, the inmate shall be given a full pulmonary function test, followed by a Pulmonary Consultation with a Specialist.
- d. If chronic pulmonary disease is found, the inmate/patient should be enrolled in the Pulmonary Chronic Illness Clinic for routine follow-up.