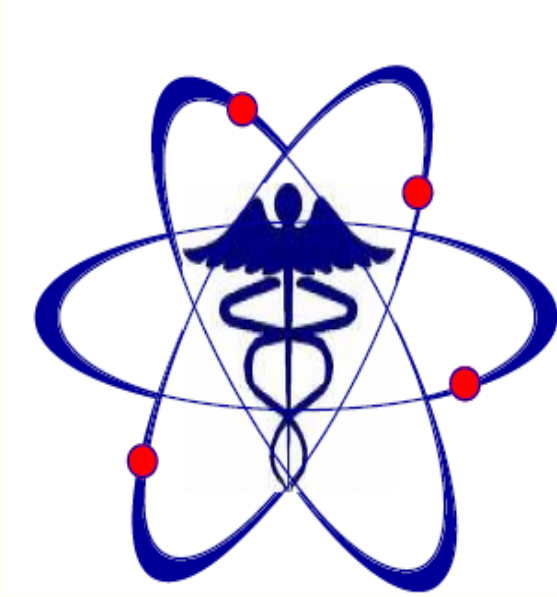


Medical Screening Program for Former Workers



**of Lawrence Berkeley,
Lawrence Livermore, and
Sandia National Laboratories**

A project of

**Boston University
School of Public Health
&
University of California
San Francisco Medical Center**

Was your health affected by your work at the Labs?



Boston University School of Public Health (BUSPH) and University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) offer you a free medical screening program to help you find out more about your health status.

Photos courtesy of Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (top left and bottom), and Sandia National Laboratory (top right).

Occupational Health experts from BU School of Public Health and UC San Francisco have designed a free and confidential medical screening program specifically for former workers of Lawrence Livermore (LLNL), Sandia (SNL-CA), and Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratories (LBNL).

Our group has provided medical screening to approximately 4,000 former Nevada Test Site workers and has been screening former Lab employees in Northern California since 2007. We network with community, labor, and governmental groups to conduct outreach and recruitment for the program.

The purpose of the screening program is to offer free medical evaluations to former workers who may have been exposed to harmful substances during the course of their employment at Department of Energy (DOE) facilities such as the Labs. If you are a former worker, you may be at risk for work-related health problems.

Medical Screening is an Important Service

Since the establishment of LBNL in 1931, LLNL in 1952, and Sandia-CA in 1956, thousands of employees, contractors and subcontractors have provided support for the U.S. thermonuclear weapons development program in a variety of different ways during and after the Cold War.

Whether you worked as a scientist, engineer, laborer, technician or administrator at one or more of the Labs, the job tasks you performed or buildings you worked in may have resulted in exposure to radiation, asbestos, beryllium, silica, lead, lasers, solvents, and other chemical and physical hazards.

These potential exposures can increase your risk for developing chronic conditions such as:

- asbestosis
- chronic beryllium disease
- hearing loss
- lung disease
- cancer

Screening may help you uncover health problems that need to be addressed. Or it may simply provide you with peace of mind.

It is Easy to Participate

▲ **You are eligible to participate if** you worked at the Lab(s) for one year or more of cumulative time prior to 2006, or if you ever worked for any period of time in construction or maintenance at the Lab(s). You may also be eligible if you do not meet these criteria but have concerns about your health that you believe are related to exposures you had while working at the Lab(s).

▲ **A private pre-screening interview** will be scheduled for you in our Dublin office to discuss your work history and determine appropriate medical tests for the screening. The pre-screening interview can be done by phone if travel to our office is difficult.

▲ **Screenings are conveniently held** at several Kaiser Occupational Health clinics in the Tri-Valley area. You do not have to be a Kaiser member.

▲ **All results will be sent directly to** you and will not be shared with anyone or any organization without your written permission.

▲ **It is free.** There is no cost to participate in the screening. However, the program does not cover follow-up medical testing or travel expenses.

Frequently Asked Questions

Why should I be screened? How will it benefit me?

This screening provides a unique opportunity to meet with an occupational health physician who will review the harmful exposures you reported having worked with or around at the Lab(s).

You will be able to talk with experienced project staff about your results and receive recommendations for follow-up.

Screening can inform you about health conditions you may not be aware of or provide you with further information about an existing condition that you and your health care provider (s) need to know about.

I have not worked at the Lab(s) for many years. Why should I be concerned about health effects now?

Even if you worked at the Lab(s) long ago, it is not too late to find out about health effects and what you can do about them. For some exposures, it takes many years for health effects to develop and there are still opportunities for evaluation and treatment.

What if I never worked in a dangerous area?

In some cases, people who felt that they only worked in “safe” areas have found that they actually had work-related health conditions they were not aware of.

It is worth finding out.

I already get regular check-ups with my own doctor. How is this different?

You will be offered free individualized lab studies looking specifically for work-related illness. Some of these tests are not typically available. Most doctors do not know what to look for in former Lab workers. However, at your request, your results will be shared with your own health providers (free of charge) so that he/she can continue to follow-up with you.

What does the screening include?

The screening includes three phases:

- 1) A pre-screening interview to determine what your exposures may have been and which tests are most appropriate for you.

- 2) A medical consultation, physical exam, and core tests including a blood test, breathing test (spirometry), and a chest x-ray. We may also recommend supplemental tests depending on your work history. These may include tests for beryllium sensitivity; liver, kidney or thyroid function; hearing and vision impairment, and a second read of your chest x-ray by a specialist who is trained to look for evidence of occupational exposures to asbestos, beryllium, and silica. The entire screening typically takes less than 90 minutes.

- 3) Follow-up assistance to identify resources if you require additional diagnostic screening or care.

Will I be screened more than once?

Typically, a screening will only occur one time. However, in some cases, you may be asked to return for additional tests.

What happens with the results?

You will be notified by your examining physician or by our program staff early on if there are any test abnormalities that need your immediate attention.

A results package will be sent directly to you with all of your exam and test results, as well as a summary letter with recommendations for any non-urgent follow-up, if any. You will get your results within 8 weeks following your appointment. At your request we will also provide copies to your healthcare provider.

Your results are confidential. No individual results are ever shared with the DOE or anyone else, unless you request it.

What if the results show that I do have a work-related illness?

In addition to receiving information to share with your own treating physician, referrals regarding compensation will be provided to you if you test positive for certain work-related health conditions or have a pre-existing condition that may make you eligible for federal compensation through the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Program Act (EEOICPA).



Our physicians will be available upon request to discuss your situation with your own healthcare provider.

Is there a cost to me? How is this program funded?

There is no cost for the medical screening. This program is funded by the U.S. DOE in compliance with the 1993 Defense Authorization Act.

Is this a research study? Will my results benefit others?

This program is designed to provide a service, not to conduct research. However, what we learn from your experiences will help contribute to the body of knowledge about workplace exposures and the development of chronic disease. This may help prevent occupational illness for future employees.

**How do I get more information or enroll in
the screening program?**

Medical Screening Program Offices

California Office

11875 Dublin Blvd., Suite D262

925-551-7844

Toll Free:

1-866-460-0628

Boston Office

715 Albany Street, Talbot 4 West

617-638-7748

Toll Free:

1-877-653-1962

Email:

buscreen@bu.edu

Website:

www.bu.edu/formerworker



“Our Medical Screening Program provides much needed health information and medical support to workers who have contributed to the general good of this country. It helps diminish the chances of developing occupational illnesses caused by workplace exposures to toxic chemicals, beryllium, and radiation.”

Lewis Pepper, MD, MPH
Principal Investigator, Boston University School of
Public Health

“The patriotic men and women who worked to build our nation’s nuclear weapons complex deserve the best in care and benefits. If they are sick as a result of their work in service to our nation, they need to know, and to be referred to proper care.”

Congresswoman Ellen Tauscher (D-CA)

“As a former worker of LLNL, I spent my early years handling highly radioactive and toxic materials. This was during a time of evolving health and safety standards. I am happy to be able to participate in this medical screening program. I also think it's important to add to the larger picture about occupational exposures and their relationship to developing diseases. I encourage all Lab retirees to contact one of the representatives to see about participating. ”

Bill Silver
Former Worker,
Lawrence Livermore National Lab



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A joint public health project by



Boston University
School of Public Health

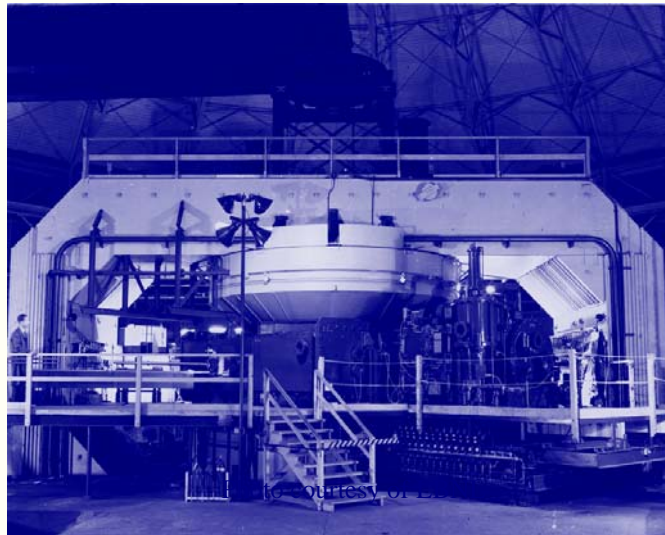
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