

TEST ANSWERS: ASBESTOS

The *BSO Plus Safety Topic* is a review designed from the BSO Plus agenda. This safety topic is your way to stay current on the safety information over the 3 years between BSO Plus and BSR.

1. Friable asbestos poses a greater risk to human health than non-friable asbestos because friable fibres can be easily disturbed and released into the air we breathe.

- a. True
b. False

RATIONALE: Friable asbestos can be crumbled, crushed, or pulverized by hand pressure and easily released into the environment. Friable asbestos poses a greater risk to human health than non-friable asbestos because friable fibres can be easily disturbed and released into the air we breathe.

2. Non-friable asbestos could be found in undamaged: (Circle all that apply)

- a. Vinyl flooring
b. Drywall compound
c. Sprayed fireproofing
d. Ceiling tiles

RATIONALE: Non-friable asbestos fibres are locked or bound into the material itself but may be released through cutting or sanding activities.

3. Asbestos containing material (ACM) will always be clearly marked in the workplace.

- a. True
b. False

RATIONALE: The Asbestos Regulation 278/05 describes the activities and preparation required to work with this hazardous material. You must be specifically trained to work with asbestos. In the field, all known asbestos containing material (ACM) will be clearly identified, however, unknown ACM may still be present. If you are not sure whether or not something contains asbestos, assume it does and contact your supervisor. All plants that have ACM must maintain an Asbestos Management plan that documents the known ACM locations. These plans are available for your review.

4. If you are exposed to asbestos, you will definitely develop some form of lung cancer.
- a. True
 - b. False

RATIONALE: The risk of developing any illness or disease from exposure to asbestos depends on a variety of factors such as the level and duration of the exposure; the age of the person at the time of exposure; whether or not the person smokes or has smoked tobacco products; and the type and size of the asbestos fibers. Asbestos has a latency period of 5 to 30 years or more.

5. What are potential sources of Asbestos Containing Material (ACM) in the industrial workplace?
- a. Pipe and boiler insulation
 - b. Sprayed on fireproofing
 - c. Gaskets and packing
 - d. All of the above

RATIONALE: ACM may be found in asbestos-insulated towers, sprayed on fireproofing for structural beams, multiple types of insulations (including insulating cement used on pipe elbows), transite used for siding, gaskets and packing, plaster and fire doors.