

Advice- Asbestos identified in imported coloured sand products

General Advice

- **Testing in Australian accredited laboratories has identified trace amounts of asbestos in some imported coloured sand products used in children's play and craft activities.**
- **Testing to date indicates that there is very low risk to human health from these products.**
- **Regulatory authorities maintain a precautionary approach and are advising people to stop using the products and dispose of appropriately.**
- **enHealth supports accessible disposal methods including, where permitted, through the ordinary waste stream.**
- **Workplace settings, including schools, are advised to follow the advice from their state or territory work, health and safety agency.**

Asbestos and your health

- Health effects from asbestos generally occur many years after long-term inhalation of very small fibres.
- Testing to date indicates that there is very low risk to human health from these products.
- enHealth is aware that tests undertaken independently by private individuals or organisations may show presence of asbestos in trace amounts - they present a very low risk to human health.
- Based on the currently available information we do not recommend any clinical assessment for those who may have been in contact with this product.

Clean up and disposal

- Stop using any of the identified sand products.
- Keep children and other people away from areas where the sand has been used until the area has been cleaned.
- Clean up sites where the product was used using wet cloths to avoid generating dust. Wear gloves and a mask (preferably P2 or N95). Double bag the sand, gloves, mask and cloths. Store in a secure location.
- Refer to state/territory authorities for advice on disposal.