

Interim Advice- Asbestos contamination identified in imported coloured sand products

Summary

- Testing in an Australian accredited laboratory has identified asbestos contamination in some imported coloured and decorative sand products used in children's play and craft activities.
- National regulators and agencies are collaborating with multiple health authorities to ensure precaution, consistency and public safety across the country as the situation unfolds.
- While further analysis is underway, regulatory authorities are taking a precautionary approach to minimise any potential risk.
- Education providers, retailers and families are advised to stop using any identified products, follow recall and disposal instructions, and follow any additional advice from agencies in their State or Territory.
- Preliminary assessment indicates that there is a low risk to human health from these products.
- Based on the currently available information, we do not recommend any clinical assessment for those who may have been in contact with these products.

Recalled products

- Refer to ACCC website for further updates [ACCC Product Recall](#)

Immediate actions

- Stop using any identified sand products immediately.
- If the sand is still in its packaging, place in a heavy-duty plastic bag, double tape it securely and store in a secure location while waiting for further disposal advice.
- Clean up sites where the product was used using wet cloths to avoid generating dust. Wear gloves, mask, disposable coveralls. Double bag the sand, gloves, mask, coveralls and cloths. Store in a secure location and wait for further disposal advice.
- If possible, keep children and other people away from areas where the sand has been used until the area has been cleaned.

Health information

- Health effects from asbestos generally occur after long-term inhalation of very small fibres.
- Based on the currently available information from scientific testing, there is a low risk to human health from these products.
- The recall is a precautionary action based on preliminary results and more comprehensive scientific testing is underway.
- Testing results will inform and potentially update the assessment of risk, and health advice will be updated to reflect developing knowledge.
- Based on the currently available information we do not recommend any clinical assessment for those who may have been in contact with this product.