



A MINUTE OF HEALTH WITH CDC

Miracle Mineral

Asbestos-Related Year of Potential Life Lost Before Age 65 Years — United States, 1968–2005

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This program is presented by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. CDC — safer, healthier people.

Referred to as the “miracle mineral” by the ancient Greeks, asbestos became a key component in products used in buildings and automobiles. In modern times, asbestos was found to be a deadly mineral. A recent CDC report found that during the last half of the 20th century, more than 9,000 deaths in the U.S. were directly related to asbestos exposure. Today, the use of asbestos is rare and highly regulated in the U.S.; the majority of deaths occur among older adults who were exposed years ago. If you think your home or work place might contain asbestos, seek professional advice on how to manage this deadly mineral.

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