



Newly Diagnosed with Mesothelioma: Your First 30 Days

A week-by-week action plan for patients and families

Disclaimer: This guide is for informational purposes only. It does not constitute legal or medical advice and does not create an attorney-client relationship with Danziger & De Llano, LLP. Consult a licensed attorney for legal advice. Consult a qualified physician for medical advice. Every case is unique — past results do not guarantee future outcomes.

Week 1: Immediate Steps

- ? Get copies of all pathology reports and scan results
- ? Request a second opinion from a mesothelioma specialist
- ? Begin documenting your asbestos exposure history
- ? Notify your insurance company
- ? Tell your family — choose a medical advocate
- ? Start a medical binder (diagnosis, test results, medications, appointments)

Week 2: Medical Planning

- ? Research NCI-designated cancer centers with mesothelioma programs
- ? Schedule a consultation with a thoracic or surgical oncologist
- ? Ask about clinical trials (especially immunotherapy)
- ? Discuss staging and treatment options with your care team
- ? Begin gathering medical records from all providers

Week 3: Legal & Financial

- ? Contact a mesothelioma attorney for a free case evaluation
- ? Check your state's statute of limitations
- ? Identify potential asbestos trust fund claims
- ? Review your health insurance coverage and out-of-pocket maximums
- ? If a veteran: file VA disability claim
- ? Apply for SSDI (mesothelioma qualifies for Compassionate Allowances)

Week 4: Support & Planning

- ? Connect with a mesothelioma support group
- ? Organize important documents (advance directive, power of attorney, will)
- ? Explore financial assistance programs
- ? Set up a caregiving plan with family
- ? Prepare questions for your next medical appointment

10 Questions to Ask Your Doctor

1. What type and stage of mesothelioma do I have?
2. What are my treatment options?
3. Am I a candidate for surgery?
4. Are there clinical trials I should consider?
5. What is the expected timeline for treatment?
6. What side effects should I expect?
7. Should I get a second opinion?
8. How will treatment affect my daily life?
9. What support services are available through this center?
10. How often will I need follow-up appointments?

8 Questions to Ask Your Attorney

1. What is the statute of limitations in my state?
2. Which trust funds might I be eligible for?
3. Can I file a lawsuit AND trust fund claims?
4. What is your fee structure?
5. How long does the legal process typically take?
6. What information do you need from me?
7. Do you handle VA benefits claims?
8. What is the typical compensation range for cases like mine?

Ready to Take the Next Step?

Our attorneys are available 24/7 for a free, confidential case review.

Call 1-800-400-1805

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