

Interstitial Lung Diseases

URL of this page: <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/interstitiallungdiseases.html>

Interstitial lung disease is the name for a large group of diseases that inflame or scar the lungs. The inflammation and scarring make it hard to get enough oxygen. The scarring is called pulmonary fibrosis.

Breathing in dust or other particles in the air is responsible for some types of interstitial lung diseases. Specific types include

- Black lung disease among coal miners, from inhaling coal dust
- Farmer's lung, from inhaling farm dust
- Asbestosis, from inhaling asbestos fibers
- Siderosis, from inhaling iron from mines or welding fumes
- Silicosis, from inhaling silica dust

Other causes include autoimmune diseases or occupational exposures to molds, gases, or fumes. Some types of interstitial lung disease have no known cause.

Treatment depends on the type of exposure and the stage of the disease. It may involve medicines, oxygen therapy, or a lung transplant in severe cases.

Start Here

- Interstitial Lung Disease [<http://www.nationaljewish.org/healthinfo/conditions/ild/>] (National Jewish Health)

Overviews

- Interstitial Lung Disease [<http://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/interstitial-lung-disease/basics/definition/CON-20024481?p=1>] (Mayo Foundation for Medical Education and Research)
- Occupational Respiratory Disease [<http://familydoctor.org/familydoctor/en/prevention-wellness/staying-healthy/occupational-health/occupational-respiratory-disease.printerview.all.html>] (American Academy of Family Physicians)
Also available in Spanish [<http://familydoctor.org/familydoctor/es/prevention-wellness/staying-healthy/occupational-health/occupational-respiratory-disease.printerview.all.html>]

Diagnosis/Symptoms

- Bronchoscopy [<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/tutorials/bronchoscopy/htm/index.htm>] *Interactive Tutorial* (Patient Education Institute)
Also available in Spanish [<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/spanish/tutorials/bronchoscopyspanish/htm/index.htm>]
- Chest CT Scan [<http://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/health/health-topics/topics/cct/>] *NIH* (National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute)
- Chest MRI [<http://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/health/health-topics/topics/cmri/>] *NIH* (National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute)
- Chest X Ray [<http://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/health/health-topics/topics/cxray/>] *NIH* (National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute)
- Pulmonary Function Tests [<http://patients.thoracic.org/information-series/en/resources/pulmonary-function-tests.pdf>] (American Thoracic Society) - PDF
- Shortness of Breath [<http://familydoctor.org/familydoctor/en/health-tools/search-by-symptom/shortness-of-breath.printerview.all.html>] (American Academy of Family Physicians)
Also available in Spanish [<http://familydoctor.org/familydoctor/es/health-tools/search-by-symptom/shortness-of-breath.printerview.html>]
- What Are Lung Function Tests? [<http://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/health/health-topics/topics/fft/>] *NIH* (National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute)

Treatment

- How Is Childhood Interstitial Lung Disease Treated? [<http://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/health/health-topics/topics/chld/treatment.html>] (National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute)
- How Is Hypersensitivity Pneumonitis Treated? [<http://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/health/health-topics/topics/hp/treatment.html>] (National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute)
- Interstitial Lung Disease (ILD): Treatment [<http://www.nationaljewish.org/healthinfo/conditions/ild/treatment/>] (National Jewish Health)

Prevention/Screening

- Healthy Air at Work: Signs of Potential Problems [<http://www.lung.org/healthy-air/work/healthy-air-at-work/signs-of-potential-problems.html>] (American Lung Association)
- Preventing Pneumoconiosis [<http://www.lung.org/lung-disease/pneumoconiosis/preventing-pneumoconiosis.html>] (American Lung Association)
- Preventing Silicosis [<http://www.lung.org/lung-disease/silicosis/preventing-silicosis.html>] (American Lung Association)
- Protect Yourself: Respirators [http://www.osha.gov/OshDoc/data_Hurricane_Facts/respirators.pdf] (Occupational Safety and Health Administration) - PDF
- Respirators for Agricultural Work [<http://www3.marshfieldclinic.org/proxy/MCRF-Centers-NFMC-Resources-HH-Respirators9-09.1.pdf>] (National Farm Medicine Center) - PDF

Rehabilitation/Recovery

- MedlinePlus: Pulmonary Rehabilitation [<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/pulmonaryrehabilitation.html>] *NIH* (National Library of Medicine)
Also available in Spanish [<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/spanish/pulmonaryrehabilitation.html>]

Disease Management

- MedlinePlus: Oxygen Therapy [<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/oxygentherapy.html>] *NIH* (National Library of Medicine)
Also available in Spanish [<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/spanish/oxygentherapy.html>]

Specific Conditions

- Chronic Beryllium Disease [<http://www.nationaljewish.org/healthinfo/conditions/beryllium-disease/>] (National Jewish Health)
- Coal Mining-Related Respiratory Diseases [<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/surveillance/ords/CoalMiningRelatedRespiratoryDiseases.html>] (National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health)
- Farmer's Lung: Causes and Symptoms of Mold and Dust Induced Respiratory Illness [<http://www.pubs.ext.vt.edu/442/442-602/442-602.html>] (Virginia Cooperative Extension)

- Hypersensitivity Pneumonitis [<http://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/health/health-topics/topics/hp/>] **NIH** (National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute)
- Idiopathic Interstitial Pneumonias [http://www.merckmanuals.com/home/lung_and_airway_disorders/interstitial_lung_diseases/idiopathic_interstitial_pneumonias.html] (Merck & Co., Inc.)
- Pneumonitis [<http://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/pneumonitis/basics/definition/CON-20031011?p=1>] (Mayo Foundation for Medical Education and Research)
- Silicosis: Learn the Facts! [<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/docs/2004-108/pdfs/2004-108.pdf>] (National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health) - PDF
Also available in Spanish [http://www.cdc.gov/spanish/niosh/docs/2004-108_sp/pdfs/2004-108sp.pdf]
- Understanding Byssinosis (Brown Lung Disease) [<http://www.lung.org/lung-disease/byssinosis/understanding-byssinosis.html>] (American Lung Association)
- Understanding Pneumoconiosis (Black Lung Disease) [<http://www.lung.org/lung-disease/pneumoconiosis/understanding-pneumoconiosis.html>] (American Lung Association)
- Understanding Silicosis [<http://www.lung.org/lung-disease/silicosis/understanding-silicosis.html>] (American Lung Association)

Related Issues

- Beryllium Toxicity [<http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/csem/csem.asp?csem=5&po=15>] (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention)
- Dusts and Molds [<http://www3.marshfieldclinic.org/proxy///mcrf-centers-nfmc-resources-hh-dustandmolds.1.pdf>] (National Farm Medicine Center) - PDF
- How to Properly Put On, Take Off a Disposable Respirator [<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/docs/2010-133/pdfs/2010-133.pdf>] (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) - PDF
Also available in Spanish [http://www.cdc.gov/spanish/niosh/docs/2010-133_sp/pdfs/2010-133_sp.pdf]
- Particulate Matter [<http://www.epa.gov/oar/particlepollution/>] (Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards)
- What Is Crystalline Silica? [http://www.osha.gov/OshDoc/data_General_Facts/crystalline-factsheet.pdf] (Occupational Safety and Health Administration) - PDF

Tutorials

- Bronchoscopy [<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/tutorials/bronchoscopy/hm/index.htm>] (Patient Education Institute)
Also available in Spanish [<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/spanish/tutorials/bronchoscopyspanish/hm/index.htm>]

Anatomy/Physiology

- What Are the Lungs? [<http://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/health/health-topics/topics/hlw/>] **NIH** (National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute)

Clinical Trials

- ClinicalTrials.gov. Lung Diseases, Interstitial [<http://clinicaltrials.gov/search/open/condition=%22Lung+Diseases,+Interstitial%22>] **NIH** (National Institutes of Health)
- ClinicalTrials.gov. Pneumoconiosis [<http://clinicaltrials.gov/search/open/condition=%22Pneumoconiosis%22>] **NIH** (National Institutes of Health)

Genetics

- Genetics Home Reference: Surfactant dysfunction [<http://ghr.nlm.nih.gov/condition/surfactant-dysfunction>] **NIH** (National Library of Medicine)

Journal Articles

References and abstracts from MEDLINE/PubMed (National Library of Medicine)

- Article: Genetic variants associated with idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis susceptibility and mortality... [<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/24429156?tool=MedlinePlus>]
- Article: Introduction: 'dying for gold': the effects of mineral mining on H1N1... [<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/24397231?tool=MedlinePlus>]
- Article: Pulmonary hypertension in chronic lung diseases. [<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/24355635?tool=MedlinePlus>]
- Interstitial Lung Diseases – see more articles [[http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed?term=lung+diseases,+interstitial\[majr\]+AND+\(subsetk\[ti\]&OR+review\[pt\]+OR+guideline\[pt\]+OR+clinical+trial\[pt\]+OR+patient+education+handout\[pt\]+OR+systematic\[sb\]\)&AND+humans\[mh\]+AND+english\[la\]+NOT+\(letter\[pt\]+OR+editorial\[pt\]\)&AND+%22last+1+Year%22\[edat\]&tool=MedlinePlus](http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed?term=lung+diseases,+interstitial[majr]+AND+(subsetk[ti]&OR+review[pt]+OR+guideline[pt]+OR+clinical+trial[pt]+OR+patient+education+handout[pt]+OR+systematic[sb])&AND+humans[mh]+AND+english[la]+NOT+(letter[pt]+OR+editorial[pt])&AND+%22last+1+Year%22[edat]&tool=MedlinePlus)]

Directories

- Association of Occupational and Environmental Clinics Directory [<http://www.aoc.org/directory.htm>] (Association of Occupational and Environmental Clinics)
- Coal Workers' Health Surveillance Program Resource List [<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/surveillance/ords/pdfs/cwhsp-resource-list.pdf>] (National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health) - PDF
- Lung Helpline [<http://www.lung.org/about-us/lung-helpline.html>] (American Lung Association)

Organizations

- American Lung Association [<http://www.lung.org/>]
- National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute [<http://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/>] **NIH**

Law and Policy

- Coal Mine Workers' Compensation [<http://www.dol.gov/owcp/dcmwc/regs/compliance/bltable.htm>] (Department of Labor)
- Pneumoconioses [<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/pneumoconioses/>] (National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health)

Statistics

- Occupational Lung Disease in Diverse Communities 2010 [<http://www.lung.org/assets/documents/publications/solddc-chapters/occupational.pdf>] (American Lung Association) - PDF
- Work-Related Lung Disease: All Pneumoconioses and Related Exposures [<http://www2a.cdc.gov/drds/WorldReportData/SectionDetails.asp?ArchivalID=1&SectionTitleID=6>] (National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health)

Children

- Childhood Interstitial Lung Disease [<http://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/health/health-topics/topics/chld/>] **NIH** (National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute)
- Living with Childhood Interstitial Lung Disease [<http://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/health/health-topics/topics/chld/livingwith.html>] **NIH** (National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute)
- Types of Childhood Interstitial Lung Disease [<http://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/health/health-topics/topics/chld/types.html>] **NIH** (National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute)

Patient Handouts

- Bronchoscopy [<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/ency/article/003857.htm>]
Also available in Spanish [<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/spanish/ency/article/003857.htm>]
- Byssinosis [<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/ency/article/001089.htm>]
Also available in Spanish [<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/spanish/ency/article/001089.htm>]
- Caplan syndrome [<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/ency/article/000137.htm>]
Also available in Spanish [<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/spanish/ency/article/000137.htm>]

- Chest x-ray [<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/ency/article/003804.htm>]
Also available in Spanish [<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/spanish/ency/article/003804.htm>]
- Coal worker's pneumoconiosis [<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/ency/article/000130.htm>]
Also available in Spanish [<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/spanish/ency/article/000130.htm>]
- Diffuse interstitial lung disease [<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/ency/article/000128.htm>]
Also available in Spanish [<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/spanish/ency/article/000128.htm>]
- Histiocytosis [<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/ency/article/000068.htm>]
Also available in Spanish [<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/spanish/ency/article/000068.htm>]
- Hypersensitivity pneumonitis [<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/ency/article/000109.htm>]
Also available in Spanish [<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/spanish/ency/article/000109.htm>]
- Industrial bronchitis [<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/ency/article/000072.htm>]
Also available in Spanish [<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/spanish/ency/article/000072.htm>]
- Interstitial lung disease - adults - discharge [<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/ency/patientinstructions/000016.htm>]
Also available in Spanish [<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/spanish/ency/patientinstructions/000016.htm>]
- Pulmonary function tests [<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/ency/article/003853.htm>]
Also available in Spanish [<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/spanish/ency/article/003853.htm>]
- Silicosis [<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/ency/article/000134.htm>]
Also available in Spanish [<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/spanish/ency/article/000134.htm>]

You may also be interested in these related encyclopedia pages:

- ACE levels [<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/ency/article/003567.htm>]
- Asbestosis [<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/ency/article/000118.htm>]
- Bronchoscopy [<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/ency/article/003857.htm>]
- Byssinosis [<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/ency/article/001089.htm>]
- Caplan syndrome [<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/ency/article/000137.htm>]
- Chest x-ray [<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/ency/article/003804.htm>]
- Coal worker's pneumoconiosis [<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/ency/article/000130.htm>]
- Diffuse interstitial lung disease [<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/ency/article/000128.htm>]
- Histiocytosis [<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/ency/article/000068.htm>]
- Hypersensitivity pneumonitis [<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/ency/article/000109.htm>]
- Industrial bronchitis [<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/ency/article/000072.htm>]
- Interstitial lung disease - adults - discharge [<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/ency/patientinstructions/000016.htm>]
- Pulmonary function tests [<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/ency/article/003853.htm>]
- Silicosis [<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/ency/article/000134.htm>]

You may also be interested in these related MedlinePlus topics:

- Asbestos [<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/asbestos.html>]
- Lung Diseases [<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/lungdiseases.html>]
- Occupational Health [<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/occupationalhealth.html>]
- Pulmonary Fibrosis [<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/pulmonaryfibrosis.html>]
- Pulmonary Rehabilitation [<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/pulmonaryrehabilitation.html>]
- Lungs and Breathing [<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/lungsandbreathing.html>]

The primary NIH organization for research on *Interstitial Lung Diseases* is the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute [<http://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/>]

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cited in *Peabody Coal Co. v. UICP*, No. 12-70535 archived on April 23, 2014