



OESH Mould Checklist for WRHA Community Health Services

Internal Use Only

Mould

The location where mould is observed:

- Community
- Client's house
- Building where the client lives
- Community center or other common building/ area
- Office (outside of hospital facilities/ site)
- Hospital

Provide a specific description of the location of mould concern: (e.g. bedroom wall of client's house- close to the heater, the wall behind the water cooler).

Do you work in the room/ area where there is mould?

If yes, please describe the task and how often/ how long you stay in the area.

Based on your observation, does the mould look like it has been disturbed?

If Yes, please describe:

Approximate size of the area affected with mould:

- Small (1 - 3 patches less than 1 m²)
- Moderate (3 or more patches between 1 m² and 3 m²)
- Extensive (larger than 3 m²)

Are there any activities/ observations that may have led you to believe mould is airborne:

If yes, please describe the specific activity:

Are there any preventative measures implemented to avoid your exposure to mould?

Please indicate:

Has this concern been reported to your immediate supervisor? Yes No

Have you or your supervisor talked to the building owner/ client? Yes No



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Are you aware of any previous concerns or investigations that have been done? Yes No

If yes, please describe:

Does there appear to be excessive humidity, condensation, or water damage in the area of concern?

If yes, please describe:

Are there concerns relating to the ventilation systems, such as a humidifier, air conditioner, and the amount of air moving throughout the potentially affected area, have these items been serviced?

If yes please describe:

Are you experiencing symptoms you feel are related to mould? Yes No

Do those symptoms improve when you leave your work area? Yes No

Do you often see condensation (fog) on the inside of windows and/or on cold inside surfaces?

Yes No

Is there carpet at your general work area? Yes No

If yes, has it been frequently wetted by spills and/or leaks?

Are there any leaks in the work area such as the ceiling (roof in the client's home), or in the plumbing such as a kitchen or bathroom? Yes No

If yes, has there been any attempt at repairs?



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RECOMMENDED CLEAN-UP PROCEDURE (Conversation to have with Client)

Cleaning Up Small and Medium Mould Problems

You can clean up small areas of mould if you follow the proper procedures and use the right protective equipment. Unless the mould growth is on smooth surfaces such as bathroom tiles, surface cleaning will not eliminate the problem.

In most cases, you can clean up medium areas of mould if you follow the proper procedures and use the right protective equipment. Materials damaged by mould must be physically removed and disposed of under safe conditions. However, it is important to seek professional assistance if there is a large mould problem or if mould comes back after cleaning.

Susceptible individuals such as pregnant women, infants, children, the elderly, (or pets), and occupants with asthma, allergies, or other health problems should not be in or near the area where the mould is being cleaned up.

Minimum protective gear needed:

- **Safety glasses or goggles**
- **Disposable N95 respirator/mask**
- **Household disposable gloves**

You can purchase an N95 mask from a hardware store. Make sure that the label says "N95". Other masks are designed to provide limited protection against dust and are not suitable for protecting against mould exposure. Make sure that the mask is properly fitted, and that you can breathe through the mask.

Washable surfaces

Examples of washable surfaces are windowsills, wood, hard surfaces, and tiles. Scrub the surface using a cloth with an unscented soap solution. Sponge with a clean wet cloth and dry quickly.

Walls

Clean the surface of the wall with a damp cloth using baking soda or a small amount of unscented soap solution. Do not allow the drywall to get too wet. Cleaning with too much water adds moisture to the paper and can damage the surface.

If the mould is underneath the paint, the drywall will need to be removed and replaced with new drywall. Painting over a mouldy surface does not kill mould and does not stop it from growing back. Painting only temporarily hides the problem.