

**Protect yourself
against black lung . . .**



**A confidential medical test for underground
coal miners supervised by the National
Institute for Occupational Safety and Health**

Get a regular checkup of your health . . .

All underground coal miners now can get a free, confidential medical examination, including a chest X-ray.

A federal law sets up the opportunity. A federal agency, the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) supervises the medical exams.

Here's how the program works and how you can get a free, confidential medical checkup between now and July, 1974:

- NIOSH arranges with your mine operator to give the medical exams at or near the mine at which you work. The mine operator pays the cost of the checkups.
- He also posts an official NIOSH notice on the mine bulletin board. The notice tells you when and where you may go to get your checkup. (See the sample notice on Pages 3 and 4).
- From there, it's up to you. Working miners are examined only if they want to be. New miners, by law, must be given chest X-rays within six months of the day they start to work.
- When you go for your medical exam, you are asked a few questions about your job in the mine and about jobs you have worked in the past. Your answers help to give a quick idea of what your health problems may be.
- If you have a personal doctor, you will be asked to give his name and address so that he may receive the confidential results of your checkup. If you do not wish to give his name and address, you are not required to do so.

Look for this form on your bulletin board . . .

OMB No. 68-R 1322

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION AND WELFARE NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH				FOR ALFORD USE ONLY	
COAL MINE OPERATORS PLAN					
RETURN TO	RECEIVING CENTER Appalachian Laboratory For Occupational Respiratory Diseases Box 4258 MORGANTOWN, WEST VIRGINIA 26505			NAME OF COMPANY OFFICER IN CHARGE OF PROGRAM Thomas M. Jimerson	
				TITLE Asst. Superintendent	
NAME OF MINE OPERATOR Marlar Coal Corporation				TELEPHONE NUMBER 000-0000 (Area Code 304)	
STREET ADDRESS P.O. Box 000			CITY Marlar	STATE W. Va.	ZIP CODE 00000
MINE NAME Marlar Number 0			BUREAU OF MINES IDENTIFICATION NUMBER 00-00000-0		Number Miners 000
Mine Mailing Address (Box Number, Street) P.O. Box 000		City Marlar	State W.Va.	Zip Code 00000	County Berney
Name(s) of X-Ray Facility(ies) Berney County General Hospital			Certification Number 000000		Number Miles from Mine 0
Name(s) of Physician(s) Anthony P. Nathan, M.D.			Social Security Number 000-00-0000		
TIME SCHEDULE From approval date to Feb. 00, 1974					
REMARKS Examinations will be conducted on a walk-in basis. From 8 A.M. to 4 P.M. any day except Sunday. Wm. Harry Hamilton is Hospital Administrator.					
I am participating in this program in the manner specified by Part 37 of Title 42 of the Code of Federal Regulations (42 CFR Part 37) and understand that all information used in connection with this program will be held STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL and divulged only as specified by the above regulation. I hereby assure that: (1) the X-Ray findings or findings of any medical test of any miner examined under this plan will not be solicited from the Physician or Facility providing the examination; (2) I have advised the Physician and Facility providing examinations under this plan that duplicate X-Rays or test results are not to be taken or made and no information that would identify the miner shall be recorded on the film or test results except as provided in the above Regulation; and (3) all examinations made under this plan will be at no cost to the miner.					
DATE Nov. 0, 1973		SIGNATURE OF MINE OPERATOR OR LEGAL REPRESENTATIVE <i>Thomas M. Jimerson</i>			

Now, a free, confidential medical exam . . .

In all cases, all information about your checkup, your chest X-ray, your answers to job questions goes first to NIOSH. Mine operators are not allowed to see your X-ray or the results of your checkup.

In other words, your medical records are kept confidential; they are released by NIOSH only when NIOSH gets a written order from you to release them.

Your X-ray is read, however, by NIOSH experts to find out whether you have black lung (coal workers' pneumoconiosis). You then get a letter telling you the results of your X-ray.

If you don't get a letter within 45 days after you have your checkup, you can push by sending a letter with your social security number to:

ALFORD
Receiving Center
P. O. Box 4258
Morgantown, W. Va.

Keep in mind, you get a letter even if your checkup shows no signs of black lung. But if it does, your letter tells you what your rights are under the Coal Mine Health and Safety Act of 1969.

And what if your X-ray shows signs of black lung? You may have the right to transfer to a job in a less dusty area of the mine. Or you may be eligible to apply for black lung benefits under the 1969 Act.

P.S. ALFORD stands for Appalachian Laboratory for Occupational Respiratory Diseases. It's a part of NIOSH. Right now, ALFORD is running tests of miners at 40 mines for a major study of black lung. At these 40 mines, the medical exams include lung tests and questions on cigarette smoking.



**For more information
about chest X-rays, write
ALFORD
Medical Tests for Black Lung
P. O. Box 4258
Morgantown, W. Va. 26505**

**U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare
Public Health Service
Center for Disease Control
National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health
1973**