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**From:** IEQ [NIOSH-Indoor-Environmental-Quality- -Alert-Comments]  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 02, 2011 10:02 AM  
**To:** NIOSH Docket Office (CDC)  
**Subject:** 238 - NIOSH Indoor Environmental Quality (IEQ) Alert Comments

Name

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**Comments**

I have had the experience of working in a building, a school, later found to be so contaminated with mould that it was ordered demolished by our local Public Health Officer. It was torn down to the steel girders and completely rebuilt, but not before 25% of the staff contracted asthma. I am one of them. during my three year stay at this school I had repeated respiratory infections that always disappeared when I was away from the building during the summer holidays. Prior to working there I had no history of respiratory disease at all; now I am left with not only the asthma, but a predisposition to mould allergies. The specific type of mould that had been growing in the interior walls of this building was one that, when ingested by farm animals, caused them to die bleeding from the lungs. This was confirmed by my doctor.

**Suggestions for preventing these things:**

1. adequate ventilation
2. annual cleaning of all air conditioners, heating units etc, as these are prime breeding grounds for mould.
3. Listen to any residents or staff who tell you of their concerns or suspicions re the health of the building; I tried in vain to get anyone to listen to me and it took three years. By the time someone did respond and found out the the venting units in the classrooms were black with mould, I was already quite ill, in fact, I had to retire early.
4. rectify immediately any obvious dampness or mould in basements in particular, but also anywhere it appears.
5. Have the air in sealed buildings checked by professional air quality assessors at least once a year.

Thanks very much for inviting these comments.