

# FINALLY. The Truth About Remediation

No, you're not crazy.

## A POA exclusive:

Let's say you had a water damage claim that resulted in necessary mold remediation. Let's say that the insurer authorized payment for the removal of mold and provided clearance testing that showed there was no significant airborne mold spores in the home, post remediation.

But, you and/or family members continue to experience flu-like symptoms, asthma, labored breathing, excessive headaches, hair loss, or worse.

Is it all "in your head"? Are you just a complete nutcase with psychological problems that cause you to imagine these symptoms? Absolutely not.

Thanks to researchers at Texas Tech University, we now know why so many people continue to have symptoms even after remediation.

In a peer reviewed, published scientific research paper entitled, "Detection of Airborne *Stachybotrys chartarum* Marcocyclic Trichothecene Mycotoxins on Particulates Smaller than Conidia" (Can someone please tell these scientists to consult with a layman before titling these things?) the mystery has been solved.

According to the authors, killing the mold colony itself does not solve the problem. Why? Because *Stachybotrys* (a mold whose nickname is: Stachy) produces a mycotoxin or poison that separates from the spore itself and lives independently from the spore. It is this mycotoxin, called Trichothecene, which is responsible for health effects.

So, what does all of this mean? Killing the spore or colony of spores will not rid the structure or contents of the structure of the tiny poisons emitted by the spore. Hence these poisons will continue to be present. Therefore, any remediation that simply removes colonies from the structure or contents of a structure is inadequate and should not be accepted.

The paper also has serious implications for the insurance industry, remediators, and others because claims they thought were closed may need to be reopened because of additional work that is required. (NOTE TO POLICYHOLDERS: Never sign off on a claim involving mold unless mycotoxin testing has been conducted.)

David Straus, PhD, one of the authors of this paper, explained that two other papers will be published this year:

One deals with the fact that these mycotoxins float around in the air and can be inhaled by individuals (and/or pets). The second paper, which may have the greatest significance

shows that these mycotoxins, emitted by *Stachy*, can actually be identified and quantified in the blood sera of individuals that have been exposed to *Stachy*. This has far greater significance than having the "markers" of exposure like antibodies to various mycotoxins.

The aforementioned paper can be accessed on our website or by emailing [info@policyholdersofamerica.org](mailto:info@policyholdersofamerica.org) and requesting a copy.



Removing the mold colony will not rid the home of mycotoxins.