

POLICYHOLDER ADVOCATE

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Defense Argument About Mold Related Illness Goes own in Flames A POA exclusive

Study Proves Mycotoxins from Stachy Found in Blood Sera

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We love it when we can say “We told you so”.

Three distinct groups of participants surfaced from the study:

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The long awaited Texas Tech University research study has just been published (even though the study was submitted for publication in June, 2004, it just came out last week) and can now be used to prove up what we knew all along but lacked the peer reviewed scientific literature to support our position.

Group A: Patients with documented evidence that Stachy was found in the building;

Group B: Patients who knew they were exposed to mold but the species of mold was not known and could have been benign, nontoxic mold; and

Group C: Control group (not exposed to indoor mold).

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A few years ago, Texas Tech's David Straus, PhD, embarked on a research project. With the help of a few medical doctors and a pathology lab, blood sera samples from patients were collected and sent to Texas Tech under tight scientific protocols. Such rigorous protocols were established so that no one could shoot holes through the study.

The study found that Patients with documented evidence of Stachy contamination (**Group A**) had *trichothecene mycotoxins in blood sera*.

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Approximately 60 blind samples from three distinct groups of patients were collected and analyzed by Texas Tech University's Health Sciences Center. The code (that made it a “*blind study*” was broken only after analysis was complete so that conclusions could be made without compromising the integrity of the study.

The patients who did not have documented Stachy in their buildings (**Group B**) and control group members (**Group C**) did not have *trichothecene mycotoxins in blood sera*.

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The mechanism of exposure was *inhalation*, not consumption nor absorption. This is important since the defense's position tends to be that *eating* Stachy is the only exposure mechanism that can make you sick. (Since when did a bowl of moldy sheetrock become the breakfast of champions?)

The paper entitled: *Detection of Trichothecene Mycotoxins in Sera in Individuals Exposed to Stachybotrys Charitarum in Indoor Environments* is available from POA at no charge. Email us at info@policyholdersofamerica.org and type into the subject line: **SEND ME THAT SERA STUDY PAPER** and we will get it to you immediately. It will come to you as a safe attachment in a PDF (Acrobat Reader) format.

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The next important Texas Tech paper will be out in a few weeks and proves that trichothecene mycotoxins separate and live independently from the spore and stay in the air for indefinite period of time.

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