Mold Related Health Complaints - An Integrated Clinical and Environmental Approach

Patient reports to clinic with health complaints related to indoor air issue

1) Recommend abatement to commander
2) If symptoms warrant, recommend a different work or residential environment pending abatement

History
- Symptom history
  - Allergic?
  - CNS?
  - Respiratory tract?
  - Dermatologic?
- Timing of symptoms in relation to work
- Use of medications (include OTCs) (Esp. antihistamines, bronchodilators)
- Exposure history

Relevant past medical history
- Asthma, allergies, hay fever
- Frequent sinus infections
- Allergy testing?
- Known allergy to mold

Exam esp. skin, HEENT, lungs, neuro
Diagnostic tests if clinically indicated (per local policy): spirometry, allergy testing

If asthma symptoms are worse at work, provide peak flow meter and diary, follow up.

Does history/exam suggest work contribution c/w mold allergy or other mold-related health effects?

Yes

Notify IH (or facilities management) and request evaluation of work or residential area including air handling system. Is there visible mold?

Yes

Careful assessment of damaged area (include under carpets, behind wallpaper, etc.) Is mold seen?

Yes

1) Correct water incursion problem.
2) Recommend abatement of mold to commander.
3) If symptoms warrant, recommend a different residential or work environment pending abatement.

No

Look for other causes of symptoms

No

1) Correct water incursion problem.
2) Consider environmental sampling.
3) Consider allergy testing.

No

No

Recommend evaluation by Personal MD

Yes

Is there visible mold?

No

Is there evidence of water damage or recent water incursion?

No

Is mold seen?

No

Yes

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