

Client Services Policy Manual

Policy Number: **EN-16**
Subject: **Scleroderma**
Chapter: **Entitlement**

Policy Statement

WorkplaceNL accepts scleroderma caused by industrial exposure to silica dust as an industrial disease.

Scleroderma, or progressive systemic sclerosis, is a rare, complex disease - a type of connective tissue disorder - characterized by inflammatory, vascular and fibrotic changes of the skin and internal organs.

1. A diagnosis of scleroderma as a result of harmful industrial exposure to silica dust should be made by the Medical Advisory Committee on Industrial Diseases before a claim is accepted.
2. Final decisions of WorkplaceNL shall be made considering the real merits and justice of the case.
3. *Benefits are payable in accepted cases from the date of disablement, notwithstanding that disablement may occur prior to the effective date of this policy.

Reference: *Workers' Compensation Act, R.S.N. 1990, c. W-11, Section 2(o)(iv), 19(3)&(4), 60(1), 64(b), and 90.*

Amendment History

Original Effective Date 1994 03 28