

THE FACTS ABOUT MOULD

#TheBigWet

Townsville
Hospital
and Health
Service



Mould: mostly just a nuisance

- Every building in Townsville has some mould in it.
- It's a wet season issue, even without the floods
- The big wet has made the mould grow - easier to see and smell.



Low-risk from household mould

- People with a normal immune system can easily keep mould out of their body
- Only a few people could be affected by mould and dusty spores in the air:
 - True allergy to mould, with asthma or lung disease
 - Elderly people, or chronic diseases like diabetes or kidney trouble
 - Low immunity, like people with cancer chemotherapy
- If concerned, see your doctor.



Prevent mould growth

- Fresh air and sunshine
- Dry out with fans OR aircon on dry mode.



Cleaning up

- People with known medical risks (above) should not do the clean-up
- Use rubber gloves with water and detergent
- Use a fine particle (P2) mask if there's lots of dusty spores indoors
- White vinegar or commercial products can help prevent regrowth
- Some things like water-logged furniture will have to be thrown out
- Carpets waterlogged for more than 2 days may have to be removed – beware that some old carpet underlay may contain asbestos. Asbestos containing carpet or fibro sheets must be disposed of separately to other hard waste. Seek advice.

For further information see your doctor, hospital or health clinic

For health information call your local Public Health Unit on (07) 4433 6900

Call 13 HEALTH (13 43 25 84) for qualified health advice anytime

www.qld.gov.au/community/disasters-emergencies/recovery-after-disaster/cleaning-up