



## Thermal Metal Spray/Chromium & Nickel Exposure

Medical evidence from the 1800s established a link between exposure to heavy metals (e.g. chromium, nickel) and cancer. It was first reported that exposure to certain types of chromium can cause cancer in 1890, and the association between nickel exposure and cancer has been established since the 1930s.

Despite these cancer risks, a number of corporations have manufactured and sold products containing chromium and nickel without adequate warnings about the need for respiratory protection and proper ventilation. As a result of these inadequate warnings, workers and other people using these products have been exposed to dangerous levels

of nickel and chromium. Those working in the vicinity of the industrial processes which result in the release of carcinogens are also at risk. As a result of exposure, many have developed cancer of the nose, nasal passages, sinuses, lungs and mouth.

Occupational exposure to carcinogenic forms of nickel or chromium can arise from the following trades:

- metal spray
- thermal spray
- plasma spray
- electroplating
- aircraft engine and part refurbishing
- machine part refinishing
- HVOF spray

Several serious diseases can result from exposure to certain forms of nickel (nickel carbonyl) and chromium (hexavalent chromium or chromium VI):

- nasal cancer
- oral cancer
- lung cancer
- nasopharyngeal cancer
- oropharyngeal cancer
- cancer of the upper airway

## Thermal Spray Work

Powders containing chromium and nickel are commonly used during thermal spray work to refurbish aircraft and aircraft engine parts. During the thermal spray process and application of intense heat to powders containing chromium and nickel, carcinogenic forms of nickel and chromium are emitted. The fumes and dust emitted during thermal spray work with powders containing chromium and nickel has been associated with cancers of the lungs and airway, including cancers of nasopharyngeal and oropharyngeal.

## Cancer Caused by Exposure

If you or a loved one has been exposed to nickel or chromium and developed cancer, you may be entitled to compensation. Our firm has successfully represented workers who have developed cancer as a result of nickel or chromium exposure in the workplace. If you or a loved one has been exposed to nickel or chromium and has developed cancer, please give us a call so that we can discuss your legal rights.

## Litigation Against Large Industrial Manufacturers

Litigating against large companies that manufacture and distribute products that cause cancer, such as manufacturers of thermal spray powders containing nickel and chromium, can be time-consuming, complex, and expensive. Martin & Jones has a long, successful record in such cases and has the expertise and resources needed to appropriately evaluate and successfully pursue these cases. We have office locations in [Raleigh](#), [Durham](#), and Wilmington North Carolina.