

LEAD OUTREACH PROGRAM

Program Descriptions:

- Home Visits
- Blood Test
- Interim Control
- Resources for Homeowners
- Lead Education
- Renovation Education

The only way to know if your child has lead poisoning is to have a simple blood test.

Children under the age of six should be tested at least once a year for lead poisoning. To conduct the lead test, the health provider will need to prick the child's finger. Health insurance will usually pay for this test. If you do not have health insurance, the Sixteenth Street Community Health Center's Lead Outreach Program can provide a free lead test.

To receive a free lead test, call 414-897-5592 or 414-897-5594.

To Find Out About Lead Poisoning:

Sixteenth Street Community Health Centers
Department of Environmental Health
Community Lead Outreach Program
Phone: 414-897-5592 or 414-897-5594

City of Milwaukee Health Department
Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program
Phone: 414-225-LEAD (414-225-5323)

State of Wisconsin
Department of Health Services
Phone: 608-266-1865

National Lead Information Center
English and Spanish: 1-800-424-5323



This publication is made possible by the Sixteenth Street Community Health Center's Community Lead Outreach Program with funding from the Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services.



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Any child can get lead poisoning!



ANY CHILD CAN GET LEAD POISONING!

The risk of lead poisoning is greatest for children younger than age six.

Lead can poison your child – causing these symptoms:

- Tiredness, crankiness, loss of appetite
- Learning and behavioral problems
- Seizures
- Brain damage

 All children should be tested for lead poisoning!

2 Feed your child a healthy diet.

Foods rich in calcium, Vitamin C and iron help prevent lead absorption. Children should eat more green vegetables, fruit, raisins, milk, yogurt and cheese, beans/peas, chicken and fish. **Children should eat less foods that are high in fat. A poor diet makes it easier for lead to remain in the body.**



3 Don't use hot water from the faucet for cooking or drinking.

Water pipes in your house may have lead. Let the water run for 30 seconds before using it. **Never cook with hot water from the faucet or use hot water from the faucet to make baby formula. Consider installing a faucet-mounted water filter to use for tap water.**



What can you do?

1 Keep children away from window sills and walls with peeling paint or paint dust.



Areas with cracked and chipped paint or plaster should be repaired. Placing furniture in front of these areas will also help to protect children. **Lead naturally tastes sweet so don't let children eat paint chips or chew on painted surfaces.**

5 Wash the children's hands and their toys.



Lead paint dust from the window wells, floors and dirt from outside can get on a child's hands and toys. If children then put their hands and toys in their mouth, they can become lead poisoned. **Don't let children play in the dirt. Wash your child's hands and toys frequently.**

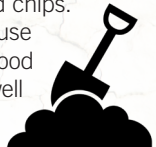
6 Don't bring lead home from work.



Change clothes prior to coming home if you may be exposed to lead by working at foundry, painting, or remodeling jobs.

7 Reduce your contact with bare dirt. Don't let children play in bare soil.

They should play in areas covered with grass or wood chips. When gardening, use gloves and wash food from the garden well before eating.



8 Be careful when fixing up your house.



When removing old paint from windows or walls, lead dust can spread through the house. Children and pregnant women should not be present during these types of repairs because they can breathe the dust. To decrease lead risks in the home while remodeling, wear protective clothing and cover furniture and floors with heavy plastic. Afterwards, use a damp cloth and soap to properly clean up the lead dust. Rinse well. Throw away all rags or towels. Vacuum the exposed areas with a special vacuum cleaner called a HEPA-Vac, as a regular vacuum cleaner will only spread dust further. **To borrow a HEPA-Vac and learn more about lead safe home repairs and clean up call 414-225-LEAD (5323).**

4 Don't cook with hand made pottery.

Hand made pottery, especially pottery made in Mexico, can have lead in it that affects the food you give the children.

