

Lead Update 2017

Important Information for Health Care Providers to Prevent Childhood Lead Poisoning

California Health Care Provider Mandates

GUIDELINES UPDATED 2017!

Anticipatory Guidance for Healthcare Providers:

- Provide oral or written guidance to a parent or guardian of the child at **every periodic assessment**, including, at a minimum, information that children can be harmed by exposure to lead, especially deteriorating or disturbed lead-based paint and dust, and are particularly at risk of lead poisoning from the time the child begins to crawl, until 72 months of age.

Order blood lead test at 12 AND 24 months or anytime up to 72 months if not done at the specified ages, if:

- The child receives services from a publicly funded program for low-income children (e.g., Medi-Cal, Child Health and Disability Prevention, WIC, or Targeted Low Income Children's Program) as the child is deemed at-risk of lead poisoning.
- If the parent or guardian answers "yes" or "don't know" to the question, *"Does your child spend a lot of time in a place built before 1978 that has peeling or chipped paint, or has recently been renovated?"*
- Any time a change in circumstance has put the child at risk or if requested by the parent or guardian.

Reminder

All cases of "finger stick" blood lead results equal to or greater than 4.5 mcg/dL must be confirmed through a venous blood draw, analyzed using a complex testing device.



Potential for Falsely Low Blood Lead Test Results Using LeadCare Analyzers

- U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) issued a safety communication warning about the use of the Magellan Diagnostics' LeadCare analyzers (LeadCare, LeadCare II, LeadCare Ultra, and LeadCare Plus) with venous blood samples because they may result in falsely low test results.
- The FDA stated that Magellan Diagnostics LeadCare analyzers should no longer be used for venous blood samples. The safety alert doesn't apply to capillary blood lead test results collected by fingerstick or heelstick.
- CDC recommends re-testing patients who were younger than 6 years of age at the time of the alert (May 17, 2017) and had a venous blood lead test result of less than 10 micrograms per deciliter (mcg/dL) analyzed using a Magellan Diagnostics LeadCare analyzer.

CHECK FOR LEAD IN AND AROUND YOUR HOME

Contact the County of San Diego Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program to order copies of this handout for your office! (Available in 18 Languages)



- **Paint:** Move your child's things away from and safely repair chipping paint.
- **House Dust:** Wet wipe or mop surfaces to remove dust and dirt. Do not let your child chew on windowsills or other surfaces.
- **Bare Dirt:** Cover bare dirt outside where your child plays.
- **Vinyl Mini-Blinds:** Replace old vinyl mini-blinds and do not let your child chew on them.



- **Plumbing Materials:** Tap water is more likely to have lead if plumbing materials, including solder or service lines, contain lead. Reduce potential exposure to lead in tap water by running water until it feels cold and only drawing from the cold tap for cooking, drinking, or baby formula (if used).
- **Water From Wells:** The only way to know if your water has lead is to have it tested.

Learn more about water testing: www.epa.gov/lead/protect-your-family-exposures-lead#testdw



- **Dishes, Pots, & Water Crocks:** Avoid using dishes, pots, and water crocks that are worn or antique, from a discount or flea market, made of crystal, handmade, or made outside the USA unless they have been tested and don't have lead.



- **Food & Spices:** Avoid imported foods and brightly colored spices that might have lead in them, like chapulines and turmeric.
- **Candies:** Avoid recalled candies: www.cdph.ca.gov/data/Documents/fdbLCLIC07.pdf



- **Traditional Make-Up & Traditional Remedies:** These products often have lead in them: surma, azarcon, greta, pay-loo-ah. Talk to your doctor before using these or other traditional make-up or remedies (e.g., brightly colored powders, traditional Chinese or Ayurvedic remedies).



- **Toys:** Check toys for peeling paint and wash them often. Old or vinyl toys are more likely to have lead.

- **Jewelry:** Do not let your child suck on or play with jewelry. Learn more: www.dtsc.ca.gov/Toxic-Jewelry-Samples.cfm



- **Lead Fishing Sinkers & Lead Bullets:** Do not let your child touch lead fishing sinkers or lead bullets or casings.
- **Lead Solder:** Keep your child away from activities that use lead solder, like welding, or stained glass or jewelry making.



- **Take-Home Lead:** Avoid taking lead home from work or hobbies. If you work with lead, change out of work clothes and shoes and wash up before getting in your car or going home.
- **Home Repair/Improvement Projects:** Do not scrape or sand paint on your home unless you know your paint does not have lead in it.

Key Messages about Childhood Lead Poisoning

- No safe blood lead level (BLL) in children has been identified.
- Early childhood lead poisoning can adversely affect academic performance and IQ.
- 5 mcg/dL is the current Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reference value for elevated BLLs.
- The only sure way to avoid lead-associated neuro-developmental morbidity is to prevent lead exposure through primary prevention.
- Children 0 to 6 years of age are at higher risk for lead poisoning.
- A healthy diet with foods rich in calcium, iron, and vitamin C can help prevent lead absorption and help remove lead from the body.

Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program Services

- Public Health Nursing Case Management for children with elevated blood lead levels (BLLs)
- Home visits for children with venous BLLs ≥ 9.5 mcg/dL to identify and eliminate the source of lead exposure and provide education to the family
- Reminders to patients and healthcare providers about follow-up BLL testing
- Environmental investigations to test for lead in paint, dirt, dust, and water in the home
- Oversight of remediation of any identified environmental lead hazards
- Education and outreach to health care and child care providers, parents, families, and community organizations
- Collaboration with community partners and health care stakeholders
- Development and distribution of materials for health care providers and the community

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Free Water Testing for Lead for California Schools K-12

In an effort to ensure California's water quality, the California State Water Resources Control Board announced a new initiative on January 17, 2017 stating that schools K-12 in California can receive free water testing for lead.

Although the infrastructure in California is newer, the water is less corrosive, and lead in tap water is uncommon, national events have brought attention to the importance of ongoing water quality monitoring.

This testing opportunity is voluntary for schools, with specific protocols in place for schools requesting water quality testing. Water sampling locations can include drinking fountains, cafeteria and food preparation areas, and reusable water bottle filling stations. This one-time program extends until **November 1, 2019**. Contact the State Water Resource Control Board for more information: (916) 324-4775 or andrew.diluccia@waterboards.ca.gov



2017 Lead Contaminated Product Recalls and Alerts



Balguti Kesaria
Ayurvedic Medicine
Recalled 8/4/17



Joia Trading Inc.
343 Jewelry Items
Recalled 7/17/17



Pier 1 Imports
Temani Wicker Furniture
Recalled 5/23/17



Aroma Imports Inc.
Nabelsi Thyme
Recalled 3/19/17



Yamaha
Grand Piano Bench
Recalled 2/21/17



Restoration Hardware
Metal Top Dining Tables
Recalled 2/10/17



Active Kyds
Toy Shovel & Garden Tools
Recalled 1/10/17

Products recalled for lead can be found on the Consumer Product Safety Commission website at www.cpsc.gov, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration website at www.fda.gov, or the California Department of Toxic Substances Control website at www.dtsc.ca.gov.

Please contact the Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program for more information, to schedule a presentation, or to request materials (619) 692-8487 | www.sdlead.org