

# Lead Update 2015

## Important Information on Childhood Lead Poisoning for Health Care Providers

### Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Educational Interventions for Children Affected Report Findings, April 2015:

- No safe blood lead level (BLL) in children has been identified
- 5 ug/dL is the current CDC reference value to identify elevated BLLs
- Early childhood lead poisoning can adversely affect academic performance and IQ
- Children with a blood lead level of 5 ug/dL were 30% more likely to fail 3rd grade reading and math tests
- The only sure way to avoid lead-associated neuro-developmental morbidity is to prevent lead exposure through primary prevention

Source: Educational Services for Children Affected by Lead Expert Panel. Educational interventions for children affected by lead. Atlanta: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; 2015.

### Prevent Childhood Lead Poisoning

Exposure to lead can seriously harm a child's health.



Damage to the brain and nervous system



Slowed growth and development



Learning and behavior problems



Hearing and speech problems

This can cause:

- Lower IQ
- Decreased ability to pay attention
- Underperformance at school



Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. <http://www.cdc.gov/nceh/lead/infographic.htm>

### Potential Sources of Lead Poisoning:

#### Paint

(pre-1978)



#### Imported Candy (candies and wrappers)



#### Traditional Glazed Ceramics (glaze and paint)



#### Folk Remedies and Cosmetics

(e.g., azarcon, greta, kohl, surma)



#### Toys

(paint, metal, and plastic)



### Health Care Provider Mandates California Code of Regulations Title 17

#### 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

#### Screen (blood lead test) all children in publicly supported programs (e.g., Medi-Cal, Child Health and Disability Prevention, WIC, and Targeted Low Income Children's Program):

- At 12 and 24 months
- Children age 24 months to 72 months who were not tested at 24 months or later

#### Assess all children who are not in publicly supported programs:

- Ask: "Does your child live in, or spend a lot of time in, a place built before 1978 that has peeling or chipped paint or that has been recently remodeled?"
- If the answer is "Yes" or "Don't Know," test the child

### Risk Factors for Lead Poisoning in Children Ages 0 to 6 Years:

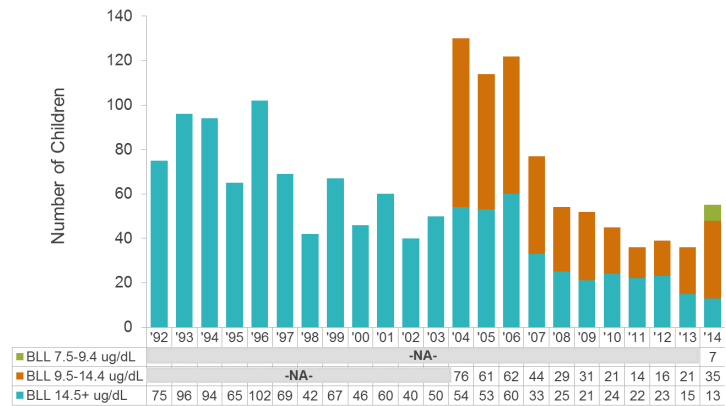
- Living in or spending time in homes, childcare centers, or buildings built before 1978, especially renovated/remodeled homes
- Playing in bare soil and dust that may contain lead
- Eating non-food items such as dirt or paint chips (i.e. pica)
- Recent travel to a country outside of the U.S. with a high incidence of lead poisoning
- Recent immigrants, refugees, or international adoptees coming to the U.S.
- Living with a lead poisoned sibling
- Living with a household member that has exposure to lead (e.g., parent with occupational exposure from car repair, firing range, or home remodeling)
- Consuming food or beverages prepared or served in imported clay pots or ceramic dishware containing lead-based paint

# Lead Update 2015

## Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program Services:

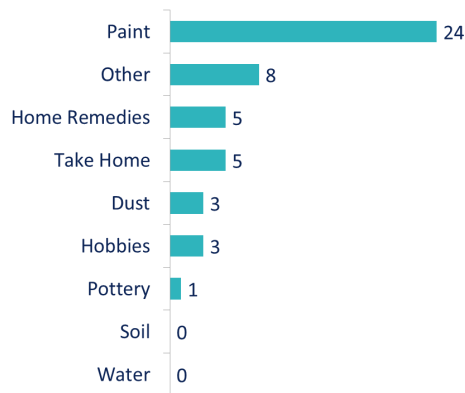
- Public Health Nurse Case Management for children with elevated blood lead levels (BLLs)
- Home visits to identify and eliminate the source of lead exposure and provide education to the family
- Reminders to clients to obtain follow-up BLLs, as necessary
- Environmental investigations to test for lead in paint, dirt, dust, and water
- Oversight of remediation of identified environmental lead hazards
- Education and outreach to health care and child care providers, parents and families, and community organizations
- Collaboration with community partners and health care stakeholders
- Development and distribution of educational materials for health care providers and community

## Number of Children Receiving Services from the County of San Diego Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program (CLPPP), by Year

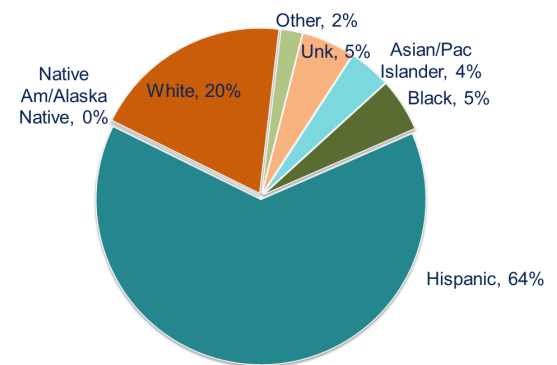


BLL 14.5+ = children with a newly identified confirmed venous BLL 14.5 ug/dL or greater (total cases since 1992 = 1, 149). BLL 9.5-11.4 = children with a newly identified confirmed venous BLL 9.5-11.4 ug/dL (services to this group of children began in 2004 with total cases of 410). BLL 7.5-9.4 = children with a newly identified confirmed venous BLL 7.5-9.4 ug/dL (services to this group of children began in 2014 with a total of 7 cases). Children under 21 years of age. Counts are subject to change as additional information becomes available. San Diego County case counts reflect venous confirmation blood lead levels. Prepared by San Diego County CLPPP, 10/22/2015.

## San Diego County CLPPP Cases by Probable Sources of Lead Exposure (2010—2014)



## Percent of Total San Diego County CLPPP Cases (2010—2014), by Race/Ethnicity



N = 97 cases, children under 21 years of age with a newly identified confirmed venous BLL 14.5 ug/dL or greater; a case may have more than 1 exposure or there may be no source of exposure identified. No sources identified = 58 cases. Other sources include: ceramic bean pot, ceramic water dispenser purchased in Mexico, clay pot and clay salsa maker, spices from India, and toys. Prepared by San Diego County CLPPP 10/15/2015.

N = 97 cases, children under 21 years of age with a newly identified confirmed venous BLL 14.5 ug/dL or greater. Prepared by San Diego County CLPPP, 10/15/2015.

## Lead Contaminated Product Recalls (2014-2015)



The Conran Shop  
Pondicherry Dining Tables  
Recalled 3/13/15



Minga Fair Trade Imports  
Wooden Flipping Acrobat Toy  
Recalled 3/20/14



Discount School Supply  
Magnetic Color Sorting Board  
Recalled 5/7/14



Cost Plus World Market  
Aman Trunk  
Recalled 5/8/15



FGX International  
Children's Sunglasses  
Recalled 9/4/14



Cycle Gear  
Semi-Truck and Motorcycle  
Recalled 4/15/15



Baby's Dream  
Legendary Crib and Furniture  
Recalled 5/8/15



Intradim Import & Export Co.  
Little Digger Toy  
Recalled 6/25/15

**\*Note:** Although the number of children with BLLs over 10 ug/dL has decreased, there are still many children who fall in the 5-9 ug/dL range. The current CDC reference value to identify children who have elevated blood lead levels is 5 ug/dL.

