

Lead Toxicity in Children: What Parents Need to Know

There is no safe level of lead in a child's body. Even very low levels can cause lasting harm to a child's brain, behavior, and overall health. Prevention is the only cure.



Health Impacts of Lead Exposure

- Lower IQ and learning problems
- Speech and language delays
- Attention deficit and behavioral issues
- Hearing loss and vision problems
- Stunted growth and delayed puberty
- Anemia and kidney problems
- Prenatal exposure can harm fetal brain development

Blood Lead Level (BLL) Guides

->= 3.5 ug/dL	Above population norm; find and remove source
-5-14 ug/dL	Surveillance, environmental investigation, nutrition support.
-15-44 ug/dL	Urgent action; remediation; chelation if symptoms present.
-45-69 ug/dL	Chelation therapy recommended
->= 70 ug/dL	Medical emergency - immediate hospital care.

**I believe ANY level of lead
should be investigated!**
There is NO safe level of lead.



Common Sources of Lead

- Old house paint (built before 1978) and paint dust
- Soil near busy roads or old buildings
- Lead pipes or plumbing fixtures
- Imported toys, jewelry, or pottery
- Certain traditional remedies or cosmetics

Prevention Tips

- **Wash children's hands and toys often.**
- **Wet-mop floors and wipe surfaces regularly.**
- **Avoid sanding or dry-scraping old paint.**
- **Use cold tap water for drinking/cooking.**
- **Encourage a diet rich in iron and calcium.**



Testing for Lead

Ask your pediatrician about blood lead testing, especially if your child lives in or regularly visits a home built before 1978, or if you suspect possible exposure from any source. It can be done by a fingerstick (capillary blood test) in the office:



Analyzer unit for in-office testing

LeadCare II Analyzer

\$3263.99



Consumable kit for 48 capillary tests

LeadCare II Test Kit (48 tests)

\$597.99

Lead exposure is permanent and irreversible. There is no safe level in children, which is why prevention is paramount.