

LEAD IS A NATURALLY OCCURRING METAL THAT CAN CAUSE NEGATIVE HEALTH EFFECTS.



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Lawrence Township Health Department

Some ways children, adults and pets are exposed to lead is by eating lead paint chips, by breathing in dust from lead paint or by ingesting contaminated food or water.

Children younger than 6 years are more likely to be exposed to lead dust due to their hand to mouth behavior and are more susceptible to life-long injury since their brain and bodies are still developing.

SOURCES OF LEAD EXPOSURE CAN INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

- * Chipping or peeling paint in homes or buildings built before 1978
- * Soil near airports, highways, or factories
- * Water from lead pipes
- * Some imported toys and jewelry
- * Certain jobs and hobbies

LEAD EXPOSURE CAN CAUSE LIFELONG HEALTH PROBLEMS.

Lead exposure harms several body systems including the brain, nervous, and reproductive systems and results in:

- * Developmental and growth delays
- * Hearing and speech problems
- * Difficulty learning and paying attention
- * Serious illness and death

CDC RECOMMENDS TESTING BLOOD FOR LEAD EXPOSURE. TWO TYPES OF BLOOD COLLECTION TESTS MAY BE USED:



CAPILLARY SAMPLE:

A finger-prick or heel-prick is used to take a small amount of blood to test for lead.



VENOUS SAMPLE:

A small amount of blood is taken after a needle is inserted into the patient's vein to test for lead.

WHEN IT COMES TO LEAD AND YOUR CHILD, DO WHAT IS BEST AND GET THE TEST!