



Keep your Kids Safe and Get them Tested for Lead!

Who is at Risk for Lead Exposure?

Anyone can be exposed to lead, but children are at greatest risk. Lead can also be passed from a pregnant mother to her unborn child.

Did you know?

Illinois has approximately 2 million houses with lead hazards and our childhood lead poisoning rates remain one of the highest in the nation.

Effects of Lead in the Body

- Damage to brain and nervous system
- Slowed growth and development
- Learning and behavioral problems
- Coma and death can occur at higher levels

Ask if testing is needed

- Children 2 years old and younger are highest priority due to brain development and frequent hand to mouth contact.
- All children 6 years of age and younger should be evaluated annually by their medical provider for lead exposure.
- Lead exposure may have no immediate symptoms, making annual evaluation important.
- Pregnant women should also have a lead evaluation to protect their baby.

Where is lead found?

- Homes built before 1978: paint, dust, and contaminated soil
- Drinking water from plumbing and fixtures that contain lead
- Items made outside the U.S.: foods or medicines, glazed pottery, make up, toys, jewelry
- Family members who have hobbies or occupations that expose them to lead

Early Detection Means Early Intervention!

