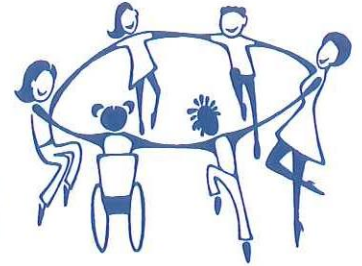


CHILDREN AND LEAD POISONING (THE SILENT DISEASE)

HEALTH TIPS THAT MAKE HEALTH HAPPEN

AMERITIPS



WHAT IS LEAD POISONING?

- It is too much lead in the body that makes you sick.
- There is no cure for it.
- Too much lead in the body can hurt a child's brain, heart and kidneys. It can cause learning disabilities and behavior problems. It is very dangerous for children and pregnant mothers and their babies.

WHERE IS LEAD FOUND?

- Lead can be found in paint and paint chip from walls.
- It is found in dust from lead-based blinds and painted windows.
- It can be found in dirt around the outside of your home and in drinking water.
- Buildings built and walls painted before 1978 are at the highest risk of having lead-based dust and paint.

HOW DOES THE LEAD GET IN YOU?

- You can eat it. Chips of paint can flake off walls and children will eat it.
- Dust can have lead in it. You and your child can breathe it in. If dust is on a child's toy, they may also eat it if they put the toy in their mouth.

- You can drink it if you get your water from old lead pipes in your home or city.

HOW DO I KNOW IF MY HOME HAS LEAD-BASED PAINT OR WATER?

- Ask your landlord if your home is lead free.
- Call your local health department and ask someone to check your house for lead-based paint.
- Call the National Lead Information Center at 1-800-532-3394 for more information.

HOW WILL I KNOW IF MY CHILD HAS LEAD POISONING?

- You might not be able to tell until it is too late. Your AMERIGROUP Community Care doctor will check your children for lead until they are 6 years old.



- There are some signs to look for like headaches, throwing up, stomachaches and talking slower than normal.
- See your doctor for a blood lead test right away.
- Your doctor will do a blood lead test when your children turn 1 and again at age 2. Your doctor will let you know if more blood tests are needed.

WHAT CAN I DO TO PREVENT LEAD POISONING?

- Wash all floors, toys and tables every day.
- Wash your children's hands and face before they eat.
- Keep children away from peeling or chipping paint.
- Have your child tested for lead by your family doctor.

AMERIGROUP is a culturally diverse company. We welcome all eligible individuals into our health care programs, regardless of health status. If you have questions or concerns, please call 1-800-600-4441 (TTY 1-800-855-2880) and ask for extension 34925. Or visit www.myamerigroup.com.

*When you need help, call Member Services or the
24-hour Nurse HelpLine at 1-800-600-4441.*

AMERIGROUP
Community Care