

# Oklahoma Standard of Care Guidelines on Childhood Lead Poisoning for Health Care Providers



## Guidelines for Oklahoma Providers Caring for Children 6 Months to 6 Years of Age

Oklahoma Board of Health Rules impose specific responsibilities on health care providers with regards to lead poisoning screening during periodic health care assessments on children between the ages of 6 months and 6 years. This is a brief summary of health care provider's responsibilities. **These regulations apply to any health professional or facility authorized to conduct blood lead screening**, not just Medicaid providers.

<b>PROVIDE ANTICIPATORY GUIDANCE</b>	On childhood lead poisoning prevention at each periodic health supervision visit from 6 months to 6 years
<b>REQUIRED TESTING</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All children at both 12 months and 24 months</li> <li>• Children age 24 months to 6 years who were not tested at 24 months or later</li> </ul>
<b>ASSESS NEED FOR BLOOD LEAD TEST DUE TO POTENTIAL EXPOSURE</b>	<p>At all other periodic health visits, if the child is not at the required screening age:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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?</li> <li>• Has there been a change in circumstances that has put child at risk of lead exposure?</li> <li>• Has there been a suspected lead exposure?</li> <li>• Does the child have a history of living in or visiting a country with high levels of environmental lead?</li> <li>• Parental request?</li> </ul> <p><b>If the answer to any question is "yes" or "don't know", collect a blood lead test.</b></p>

- Universal blood lead testing of all children is the best method of early detection of lead exposure
- Toddlers and children in publicly funded programs, such as WIC, SoonerCare, and Head Start, and those in older neighborhoods and housing are at higher risk
- Lead exposure from all sources is cumulative
- Low levels of lead can cause developmental delay and organ damage
- All healthcare providers shall screen, assess, and provide anticipatory guidance at the appropriate periodic health visits
- All healthcare providers shall monitor and provide follow-up for children with blood lead levels at or above the current CDC reference value



[http://www.cdc.gov/nceh/lead/ACCLPP/CDC\\_Response\\_Lead\\_Exposure\\_Recs.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/nceh/lead/ACCLPP/CDC_Response_Lead_Exposure_Recs.pdf)

# Potential Sources of Lead: Educating Families to Prevent Childhood Lead Exposure



## Potential Sources of Lead

## Guidance for Families

### Cracked, peeling paint inside or outside the home

*(Most lead paint is in homes built before 1978)*

- Move cribs, high chairs, and playpens away from cracked or peeling paint.
- Do not allow child to chew on windowsills or other painted surfaces.
- Call the Oklahoma Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program (OCLPPP) for general questions regarding lead exposure sources at (800) 766-2223.

### Dust on windowsills, floors, and toys

*(Pre-1978 homes and pre-1998 mini-blinds)*

- Wet mop floors and wet wipe windowsills and other surfaces.
- Wash toys often.
- Wash children's hands before eating and sleeping.

### Dirt outside the home

- Cover bare dirt with stones, grass, plants, or gravel.
- Wipe shoes or take them off BEFORE going in the house.

### Take home exposure from clothing/hair if family member works around lead

- Shower and change clothes BEFORE coming home from work and BEFORE holding child.

### Pottery and dishes made outside of the U.S., in places such as Mexico or China

- Call the OCLPPP for more information about potential sources of lead in pottery and dishes.

### Traditional remedies

- Azarcón - orange or yellow powder
- Greta - orange or yellow powder
- Paylooh - red powder
- Some Ayurvedic remedies
- Some Chinese patent medicines

- Do not let anyone give "natural" or traditional remedies to child.
- Speak to your health care provider about remedies.

### Some cosmetics

- Surma, Kohl
- Khali, Sindoor

- Do not use these products on children.
- Call the OCLPPP for more information about potential sources of lead in cosmetics.

### Costume jewelry, amulets

- Do not allow young children to play with or touch these items.

### Some foods and spices

- Some candies (especially imported)
- Chapulines (grasshopper snacks)
- Some imported turmeric and chili powder

- Choose healthy snacks for child, such as fresh fruits, vegetables, lean meats, and dairy products.

### Other items, such as:

- Fishing sinkers
- Bullets
- Stained glass-making kits

- Keep these items away from child.
- Wash hands well after touching these items.

Download patient brochures and other childhood lead poisoning resources at:

<http://lpp.health.ok.gov>

For additional information about lead poisoning contact:

Oklahoma Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program Tel. (800) 766-2223

