VOL 1 ISSUE 2 OCTOBER 2020

NVCLPPP

Nevada Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program

WHAT'S INSIDE?

WHO WE ARE

The Nevada Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program (NvCLPPP), partnered with the Nevada Public Health Foundation, is dedicated to protecting the health and well-being of children by educating families and medical and service providers, on the effects of lead poisoning from older homes or items we bring into our homes. NvCLPPP aims to:

- **Increase blood lead testing in Nevada**
- **Link children exposed to lead to services**
- **Improve methods of surveillance**
- **Provide education about lead to families, medical providers, and community partners**

We are committed to working with health districts across the state and our community partners to increase the health and safety of Nevada's children. But we need your help! By learning about the pathways of lead exposure, the importance of testing, how to maintain a safe and healthy home, and how we can work together to keep kids safe, we can ensure a better Nevada for everyone. For a list of available educational classes and continuing education credits visit our website, nvclppp.org for more info.

CONTACT US

NOTHERN NV 702-453-0434
SOUTHERN NV 702-895-1040
OR EMAIL NVCLPPP@UNLV.EDU

CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION RECALL NOTIFICATIONS

BSA Cub Scout Activity Pin

On July 1, 2020, CPSC recalled 78,000 units of the Cub Scout activity pin. Lead was found in the pin's face and shaft.

Avalon Cottage Town Collection

On July 2, 2020, CPSC recalled 9,500 units of the Avalon Cottage Town Collection. The base coat paint used on the dresser, king and queen headboard, and other pieces contain excessive levels of lead.

Aflac Promotional Duck

On August 26, 2020, CPSC recalled 635,500 units of the Plush Aflac Doctor Duck due to excessive lead content found on the lab coat's buttons. The item had been distributed to employees and consumers.

LEAD IN NEVADA

A Look At Henderson, NV

In U.S. housing, lead is commonly found in the paint of homes built before 1978 and can cause neurocognitive effects in young children if inhaled or ingested.

Though the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission outlawed residential lead-based paint in 1978, the use of it may have continued until the supply was depleted in the early 1980s.

According to U.S. Census estimates, there are nearly 300,000 homes in Nevada built before 1980.

In 2015, the Henderson Project, funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, examined lead risk in homes in Henderson, NV. The analysis revealed that 78% of the 136 homes tested contained a lead hazard.[1]

To find out more about lead in housing and recommendations to keep yourself and family safe check out our housing fact sheet.

Hunting Season Reminder

Hunting season is here! Many Nevadans look forward to this time of year, but did you know that hunting may expose you to lead? Upon impact, lead bullets can contaminate wild game by producing small, hard to remove lead fragments.

Those who consume lead-contaminated meat are at risk for lead poisoning. Pregnant women and children are especially susceptible to the harmful effects of lead poisoning. To help keep hunters and their families and friends safe from lead exposure, switch to non-leaded ammunition. Non-lead ammo: give it a shot![2]

To find out more about lead in hunting and fishing and recommendations to keep yourself and your loved one's safe, check out our hunting and fishing fact sheet.

IN THE MEDIA

Each year public health programs lead the charge during National Lead Poisoning Prevention Week (NLPPW) to bring together individuals, organizations, and state and local governments to raise awareness of lead poisoning prevention and efforts to reduce childhood exposure to lead.

This year, NLPPW will take place from October 25-31.

NvCLPPP is teaming up with the Nevada Institute for Children's Research and Policy (NICRP) and the Nevada Public Health Foundation (NPHF) to promote the following themes on social media:

- Get the facts about lead
- Get your home tested
- Get your child tested

October 25-31, 2020

National Lead Poisoning Prevention Week 2020

WE ENCOURAGE OUR PARTNERS TO:

- Download our lead week social media package from our website and post the messages on your organization's social media throughout lead week (Oct. 25-31).
- Follow NICRP and NPHF's Facebook pages for regular updates on lead poisoning and other public health topics

LEAD EXPOSURE AND HEALTH

Globally, one in three children lead poisoned - the role of used lead acid batteries

According to new research conducted by UNICEF and Pure Earth, one in three children globally have elevated blood lead levels (≥ 5 µg/dL).[3]

Lead is responsible for nearly 1.5 percent of annual global deaths (i.e., 900,000) and many others experience lifelong health consequences.[3]

Since leaded gasoline bans across the globe took effect, blood lead levels in many high-income countries have decreased.[3] However, low and middle-income countries continue to face high blood lead levels in children. The majority of children who are still affected by lead live in Africa, Asia, South and Central America, and Eastern Europe.[3]

Today, nearly 85 percent of the lead used worldwide goes into the production of lead-acid batteries which are commonly used in motor vehicles.[3]

The average battery contains 22 pounds of lead.[4] Vehicle ownership in lower and middle-income countries more than tripled between 2000 and 2018,[3] leading to an abundance of used lead-acid batteries (ULABs) in need of recycling.

High-income countries export large quantities of vehicle batteries to lower and middle-income countries.[3] In fact the U.S. exports close to 12 percent of its ULABs to Mexico, a country operating with lower safety and occupational standards for lead recycling.[5] Consequently, ULABs end up being recycled without the proper procedures, which further perpetuates lead exposure in workers and surrounding communities.[3] For instance, in many lower-income countries ULAB recycling occurs in the open air, in densely populated urban areas, and with few pollution controls, leading to the contamination of air, soil, water bodies, and other surfaces.[4]

It is estimated that there are up to 28,000 informal ULAB processing sites in at least 90 countries, which may expose up to 17 million people to dangerous amounts of lead.[6]

WHAT CAN BE DONE TO REDUCE GLOBAL LEAD POISONING?

Countries with robust lead poisoning prevention efforts can help developing countries by providing technical and capacity building assistance for lead monitoring systems, the development of a national strategy, and legislative and regulation assistance.[4]

Additionally, countries with robust lead regulations can use international agreements to encourage lower and middle-income countries to adopt and enforce human health, environmental, and occupational standards for lead exposure.[5] For instance, the U.S. can use the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) to encourage Mexico to adopt and enforce occupational and environmental lead exposure policies.[5]

Another key way to address global lead poisoning is to promote public awareness and behavior change by educating workers and the public about lead exposure risks from ULAB recycling facilities in countries with underdeveloped lead poisoning prevention efforts.[3]

Together these practices could help prevent the spread of lead exposures and lead poisoning in low and middle-income countries.

COMMUNITY PARTNER HIGHLIGHT
Nevada Health Centers Medical Clinic

We are excited to announce a new partnership!

The Nevada Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program and the UNLV School of Public Health provided Nevada Health Centers Medical Clinic with a point of care lead screening device to test children for lead exposure.

This is an important collaboration as the zip code where this medical office is located (89104) has a high risk for lead exposure based on the age of properties and percentage of the population under 5 years old living in poverty. Both age of housing and percentage living in poverty are known risk factors for lead exposure.

Dr. Betsy Huang, MD, an experienced and skilled pediatrician leads the charge for this pilot program at the Nevada Health Center Medical Clinic on Eastern Avenue. Dr. Huang indicated that she has seen a high compliance rate—so far 92 patients have been tested with no parents denying the service.

The Lead Care II testing device that Dr. Huang uses reduces barriers to patient compliance with blood lead tests:

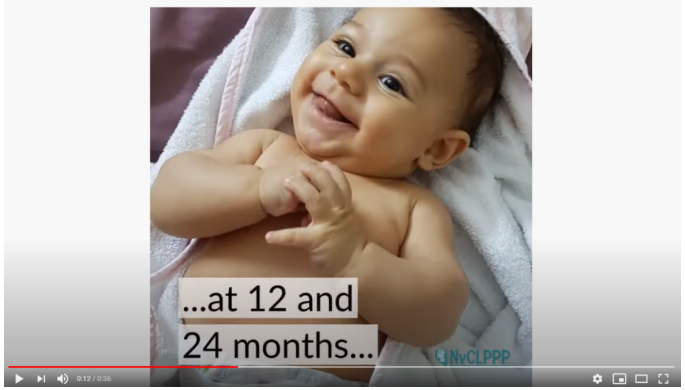
- By virtue of the test device being onsite, it saves parents' time by not having to schedule a separate trip to a laboratory for the test. This can be especially important for families with limited transportation options.
- The Lead Care II only requires two drops of blood for analysis. This means that the less painful, kid-friendly finger prick test can be used instead of the more invasive venous blood draw.

Nevada still has one of the lowest childhood lead testing rates in the nation—less than 4%.

As such, we hope to see other pediatric offices adopt point of care lead testing devices to promote greater childhood lead testing in our state.

WATCH
OUR NEW VIDEO

Find out when you should test your child for lead exposure



References

1. Marquez, E., López, E., Osterholt, A., Virgen, E., Campos-Garcia, B. (2020). Lead in Our Homes Factsheet: A Look at Lead Based Paint Hazards in Nevada. Nevada Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program: Las Vegas, NV.
2. Raack, L., López, E., Marquez, E. (2020). Hobbies with Lead Factsheet: Hunting and Fishing. Nevada Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program: Las Vegas, NV.
3. Rees, N., & Fuller, R. (2020, July). The Toxic Truth: Children's Exposure to Lead Pollution Undermines a Generation of Future Potential. Retrieved September 2020, from https://www.unicef.org/media/73246/file/The-toxic-truth-children's-exposure-to-lead-pollution-2020.pdf
4. Environment, U. (n.d.). Lead Acid Batteries. Retrieved October, 2020, from https://www.unenvironment.org/explore-topics/chemicals-waste/what-we-do/emerging-issues/lead-acid-batteries
5. Exporting Hazards: U.S. shipments of used lead batteries to Mexico take advantage of lax environmental and worker health regulations. (2011, June). Retrieved September, 2020, from http://www.okinternational.org/docs/Exporting Hazards_Study_100611v5.pdf
6. Ericson, B., Landrigan, P., Taylor, M. P., Frostad, J., Caravanos, J., Keith, J., & Fuller, R. (2016). The global burden of lead toxicity attributable to informal used lead-acid battery sites. Annals of Global Health, 82(5), 686-699.

This publication was supported by the Grant or Cooperative Agreement Number, 1 NUE2E H001366-01-00, funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Its contents are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention or the Department of Health and Human Services.

LEAD FREE NV NvCLPPP Nevada Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program