



Lead Poisoning

Lead poisoning can cause learning disabilities, slowed growth, hearing loss, and developmental delays.

To help prevent lead poisoning, Ohio Medicaid covers blood lead testing for children enrolled on the program.

Questions about Lead Poisoning & Prevention? Contact:

The Ohio Department of Health
Healthy Homes & Lead Poisoning Prevention Program
Call (877) 532-3723 or go online: <https://www.odh.ohio.gov/>

Lead Poisoning

Ohio Medicaid partners with the Ohio Department of Health and others to increase blood lead testing rates and to keep children at their healthiest.



What is lead poisoning?

Lead poisoning happens when lead is absorbed by the body through breathing or swallowing a contaminated substance.

The most common source of lead exposure to children:

Deteriorated lead-based paint. This is most often found in homes built before 1978. Older homes are also more likely to have pipes that can contaminate drinking water.

Other sources of lead include: polluted air, water, and soil, some jewelry, and children's toys.



What are the symptoms of lead poisoning?

Symptoms of lead poisoning are not always apparent. A blood lead test is the only way to determine if a child is poisoned.

Symptoms include: digestive problems (like diarrhea, stomach aches, or vomiting), fatigue, headaches, tooth decay, and loss of appetite.



What are the effects of lead poisoning?

Lead poisoning can cause learning disabilities, slowed growth, hearing loss, and developmental delays.

Pregnant women with lead poisoning can pass lead to their unborn child, which can cause miscarriage, still birth, premature delivery, and low birth weight.