Lead Poisoning

Lead is a metal that can be found in many places. For example, lead can be found in older paint, soil, air, and some types of pottery. When lead gets in the body, it can be harmful. This is called “Lead Poisoning.”

Lead is especially harmful to small children, pregnant women and people with high blood pressure.

Lead Can Be Found in:

- Paint on the outside of older homes.
- Paint covering walls and floors of mostly older houses and apartments; some old toys, furniture or cribs. Lead has also been found in some cosmetics.
- Solders joining lead or copper water pipes, imported food cans and on some jewelry.
- Clothing worn by people who work with lead in jobs such as:
  - furnace and radiator workers
  - painters
  - pottery and ceramic makers
  - recyclers
- Homes and soil by roads and freeways because of car fumes.
- Homes and soils near industries that use lead.
- Some ceramic dishes and pottery, such as traditional, low-fire Mexican ceramics.
- Some home remedies, like azarcon and greta that are used for stomach problems.
- Tap water in homes with lead water pipes or copper pipes joined with lead solder.

If you have any questions, contact the local health department, your doctor, or medical clinic.