Sources of Lead Poisoning

- Paint in Homes Built Before 1978
- Dirt
- Lead Dust
- Some Pottery
- Take Home Lead (Jobs or Hobbies)
- Traditional Remedies, Make-up and Powders
- Some Candy
- Some Jewelry
- Some Toys

Los Angeles County Department of Public Health
Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program (CLPPP)
www.publichealth.lacounty.gov/lead

800.524.5323
Paint in older homes
Homes or apartments built before 1978 may have lead paint. Chipping or peeling paint is a hazard. All painting and remodeling should follow lead safe work practices. For more information, call 1-800-LA-4-LEAD.

Lead Dust
Lead dust is created in homes built before 1978 when paint chips, peels, or is sanded. Lead dust may also be tracked into a home on shoes. Using brooms, dusters, and regular vacuums may spread lead dust. Use a HEPA vacuum, wet mop, and wet paper towels for cleaning.

Take Home Lead
You might take lead dust home if you work in certain jobs. Examples of these jobs are battery manufacturing, melting lead, painting, plumbing, radiator repair, and remodeling homes. Before going home, change out of your work clothes and shoes and wash up or shower.

Some Toys
Toys may be made with lead or lead-based paint. Keep children from putting toys in their mouth. Check toys for peeling paint and wash them often. For toy recalls, go to the US Consumer Product Safety Commission website at www.cpsc.gov.

Traditional Remedies, Make-up & Powders
Some traditional remedies, make-up, or powders can have high levels of lead. Some examples are Greta, Azarcon, pay-fooah, Ayurvedic remedies, Traditional Chinese remedies, Surma, and Kohl. Talk to your doctor before using traditional remedies, make-up, or powders.

Some Pottery
Lead is in some dishes, pots, and glasses. More lead can get into your body if these items are worn, chipped, or cracked. Dishes, pots and glasses are more likely to have lead if they are old (pre-1970's), from a discount market or flea market, handmade or made outside of the USA. Only use these glasses, dishes, and pots if they have been tested and do not have lead. Dishes and glasses labeled “leaded crystal” do have lead.

Dirt
Lead from paint chips, paint dust, or gasoline may be in the bare dirt around your home. Don’t let children play with or eat dirt. Cover bare dirt outside where your child plays.

Some Jewelry
Jewelry may be made with lead or decorated with lead paint. Keep young children from sucking on or playing with jewelry.

Some Candy
Some candies may have lead. Eating these candies can increase your child’s risk for lead poisoning. Limit the amount of candy your child eats. Call 1-800-LA-4-LEAD for a list of candies found to have lead.

For the latest toy and jewelry recalls, please visit the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission website at www.cpsc.gov
To learn more about how to prevent lead poisoning, call Los Angeles County Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program

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