



Testing your child for lead poisoning

How do I know if my child is lead poisoned?

Any person can become lead poisoned, but children younger than 6 years old are at higher risk. Most children who have lead poisoning do not look or act obviously sick. The only way to know if your child has lead poisoning is to have your doctor give your child a blood test for lead.

Can lead hurt my child?

Yes, it can. Lead is a poison that can harm the brain, kidneys, and other organs, especially in children. Children with even a small amount of lead in their body can have an impact on their development making it hard for them to learn, pay attention, and behave.

When should my child get tested for lead poisoning?

Children should be tested at 1 and 2 years old for lead poisoning. Also, children should be tested if they are between the ages of 1 and 6 years and have not been tested for lead before.

Can my child get a free blood test for lead poisoning?

If your child has Medi-Cal or if your child is in the Child Health and Disability Prevention Program (CHDP), the blood test for lead is free when your child gets a check-up. Many health insurance plans also will pay for this test.

For more information, contact the Solano County Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program at (707) 784-8070.

