LEAD

Risk Assessment Questions

In addition to the state mandated required testing at ages one and two, assessment of risk for high-dose lead exposure should be done at least annually for each child six months to six years of age. Use the tool below to assess your child/children. These questions are based on currently accepted public health guidelines. If your answer to any of the questions is YES, take this form to your child's physician for review and discussion. Children found to be at risk for lead exposure should receive a blood lead test whenever such risk is identified.

Risk Assessment Questionnaire	Yes	No
1. Does your child live in or regularly visit a house/building built before 1978 with peeling or chipping paint, or with recent, ongoing or planned renovation or remodeling?		
Note: This could include a day care center, preschool, and the home of a babysitter or a relative.		
2. Has your family/child ever lived outside the United States or recently arrived from a foreign country?		
3. Does your child have a brother, sister, housemate or playmate being followed or treated for lead poisoning?		
4. Does your child frequently put things in his/her mouth such as toys, jewelry, or keys? Does your child eat non-food items?		
Note: Should emphasize the possibility of mouthing behaviors on toys due to the recent recalls.		
5. Does your child frequently come in contact with an adult whose job or hobby involves exposure to lead?		
Note: Jobs such as house painting, renovations, construction, welding or pottery making. Hobby examples are making stained glass or pottery, fishing, making firearms and collecting lead figurines.		
6. Does your child live near an active lead smelter, battery recycling plant, or another industry likely to release lead or does your child live near a heavily traveled major highway where soil and dust may be contaminated with lead?		
7. Does your family use products from other countries such as health remedies, spices, or food, or store or serve food in leaded crystal, pottery or pewter?		
Note: Lead has been found in traditional medicines such as Ayurvedic medicine, Liga, greta, azarcon, litargirio, and in cosmetics such as kohl, surma, and sindoor. Lead exposure risk is higher with old, imported, painted, cracked or chipped china, and in low-fired and terra cotta pottery, often made in Latin America and the Middle East.		

Reference: New York State Department of Health – 7/2009