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Menopause, Andropause And Other Hormone Imbalances
Impair Healthy Healing In People Over The Age Of 30!

Lead Can Be Dangerous

By MalaMaal.com

Lead Can Be Dangerous

Lead has long been recognized as a harmful environmental pollutant. There are many ways in which humans are exposed to lead and most of the time we may not even be aware of it. Airborne lead enters the body when an individual breathes in lead particles or swallows some lead dust. Until recently, the most important airborne source of lead was automobile exhaust. Since 1975, there has been a 95 percent reduction in the use of lead in gasoline due to the Environmental Protection Agency's Phasedown Program and the replacement of older cars with newer cars that require the use of unleaded gasoline.

Seeking out sources of lead in the household and surrounding areas can be crucial in safeguarding your family members, especially children and pets. It has now been determined that the effects from lead paint, household dust, lead crystal and some imported pottery.

Children are considered to be at the greatest risk of exposure because they have such intimate contact with the environment. Their faster metabolism causes them to eat more for their body weight and to breathe faster.

Children also tend to play and breathe closer to the ground where lead dust concentrates. They are also likely to put their hands in their mouths, which can bring lead just directly into their bodies.

Parents can take several steps to help protect their children from the effects of lead within the home environment. Cover peeling or exposed paint with wood paneling or vinyl wallpaper. Stripping off the paint will release more lead into the environment, and a new coat of paint can itself peel, re-exposing the paint beneath it.

Also, lead and lead salts are toxic to pets. Pets are naturally curious and are prone to claw, scratch and pick at peeling materials. To minimize the risk to your pet, watch what they pick up in their mouths! These toxic lead salts can be found in such common things as insecticides and linoleum.

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Be careful when doing any kind of remodeling such as removing old paint, replacing linoleum on floors, counters, etc. Keep pets and children away from work sites and building materials. Properly dispose of any leaded materials and remove them promptly from the premises. Know the possible signs of lead poisoning, vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain, lack of appetite, irritability, listlessness, hysteria or convulsions. When a pet shows gastrointestinal as well as neurological symptoms, lead poisoning could be the culprit and you should contact the vet as soon as possible.

Many water mains are still made of lead, so household water should be tested for lead content. If lead is present in the water, allow it to run for a few minutes before using it. Use cold or bottled water to prepare foods or infant's formula because hot water tends to leech more lead. Iron deficiency anemia is a common problem among one and two year olds that predisposes them to eating nonfood substances and causes them to absorb more of the lead taken into their bodies.

If lead exposure is suspected, consult your health department about appropriate removal and clean-up

procedures. Also, people who may have been exposed to lead or lead dust recently should have the lead levels in their blood tested by their doctor or local health department.

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Home Management - Get Rid Of The Lead

By Elizabeth Newberry

If you're considering purchasing a new home, you probably want to pinch a few pennies along the way. One major way to cut back on the cost of moving into a new home is by purchasing an older home. Actually, not only does purchasing an older home help save you some money, it also helps preserve the structures of our country's past.

However, while they still seem to be in good condition upon visual inspection, many of today's older homes contain dangerous materials beneath the surface. One of the most common dangerous materials found in older homes is lead paint, and as we all know, or should know, lead paint can lead to lead poisoning - especially in children.

You shouldn't run from a good deal just because it may contain lead paint; however, you should take all necessary measures for good home management, and this includes checking for the presence of and removing any lead paint in the home. Not only will this protect your family, but it will also help you cut the costs of homeowner's insurance. Many homeowners are required to purchase homeowner's insurance if they have borrowed money in order to pay for the home.

The beginning steps of home management are a sort of balancing act. You need to make the necessary repairs to the home before you move in, and you need to purchase homeowner's insurance. At the same time, you don't want to get a homeowner's insurance quote with dangerous chemicals in the home, such as lead paint. Have your home tested for the presence of lead paint. Remember, most homes have several layers of paint, so be sure to scrape through them all. If lead is detected in any layer of paint, get rid of it!

Getting rid of lead paint isn't just part of effective home management. It can help lower your homeowner's insurance rates as well as promote your family's health.

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