

Children's Lead Screening Day at BIHS

Karen Howard Licensed Vocal Nurse, /Diabetes Case Manager Toiyabe Public Health will be coming to BIHS to lead screen **newly enrolled children at BIHS:**

First Scheduled Day: Wednesday, Sept.7th 9:30-11:00 am.

(Lead Screening will continue taking place throughout the month of September and October)

It is a Head Start regulation that children who have never had a lead screening, receive this preventative screening during the first 45 days of enrollment. Your child's lead screening results will be shared with you.

How the screening takes place: Lead testing is done in the same way a Hematocrit is completed. This testing involves wiping the children's finger with an alcohol prep pad and then a very small finger prick takes place. The droplet of blood is placed on a test strip and is read by a machine within a few seconds. Results are provided at the time the screening takes place at BIHS.

What is Lead & Where is it Found

Lead is a naturally occurring toxic metal found in the Earth's crust. Its widespread use has resulted in extensive environmental contamination. Lead can be found in paint made before 1976, toys, imported candy, soil, water, household water pipes, cosmetics, ceramic pottery, spices and plastic wrappers. cdc.gov

Symptoms of Lead exposure Lead exposure can also lead to anemia, learning disabilities, behavior and children's growth.

How Children Are Exposed To Lead One common way children can be exposed to lead are through contact with chips and particles of old lead paint. Children can be directly exposed to lead from paint if they swallow paint chips. But exposure is more common from swallowing house dust or soil contaminated by leaded paint. Lead poisoning happens when too much lead gets into the body through the skin or from breathing, eating, or drinking. Lead is toxic to everyone, but unborn babies and young children (6 months to 3 years) are at greatest risk for health problems from lead poisoning.



Certain types of candy has been known to have lead in it.



Lead in paint made before 1976



A toy truck made of lead.