Lead Exposure
The Silent Epidemic

LEAD EXPOSURE POSES SERIOUS HEALTH RISKS

- **6x more likely** to develop a reading disability
- **7x more likely** to drop out of high school
- **Lower scores** on neurobehavioral development tests
- **Loss of IQ for every 1 mcg/dL increase in blood lead level**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Young &amp; Unborn Children are Most Susceptible</th>
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<td>- Children (0-6 years) absorb lead more than adults</td>
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<td>- The only way to know that a child has been exposed to lead is to perform a blood lead test</td>
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<td>- During pregnancy, lead is easily transferred from mother to unborn child, through the placenta</td>
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<td>- 1% (~747,000) of women of child-bearing age (15-49 years) have blood lead levels ≥ 5 mcg/dL</td>
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Lead Sources Still Exist

- **240,000** water main breaks per year
- **5,363** community water systems committed 8,093 violations of Lead & Copper Rule in 2015, serving 18 million people
- Only **459 (5.7%)** compliant by December 31st; <3% incurred penalties

Blood lead results can be available in minutes with a simple finger prick, right in the doctor’s office, via point of care lead testing system.

Sources:
- "Irreversible Brain Damage/IQ Loss": https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC1257862/

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TO LEARN MORE | 1-800-424-LEAD | epa.gov/lead | hud.gov/lead | LeadCare2.com