

# Lead Poisoning Among Foreign-Born Residents of New York City:

## *Demographics and Interventions*

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# Presentation Overview

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- Progress in preventing childhood lead poisoning in NYC
- Profile of childhood lead poisoning in 2006
  - Lead poisoning among foreign born New Yorkers
- Intervention strategies
  - Focusing on efforts in the immigrant community

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# Background

## NYC Lead Poisoning Prevention Program

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### ■ Mission

- Prevent lead poisoning
- Promote blood lead testing
- Provide intervention services for lead poisoned children & lead poisoned pregnant women

### ■ Screening Requirements

- Required blood lead test at age one and age two
- Assessment of children 6 mo-<6 yrs and testing of those at high risk
- 400,000 blood lead tests per year reported to LPPP

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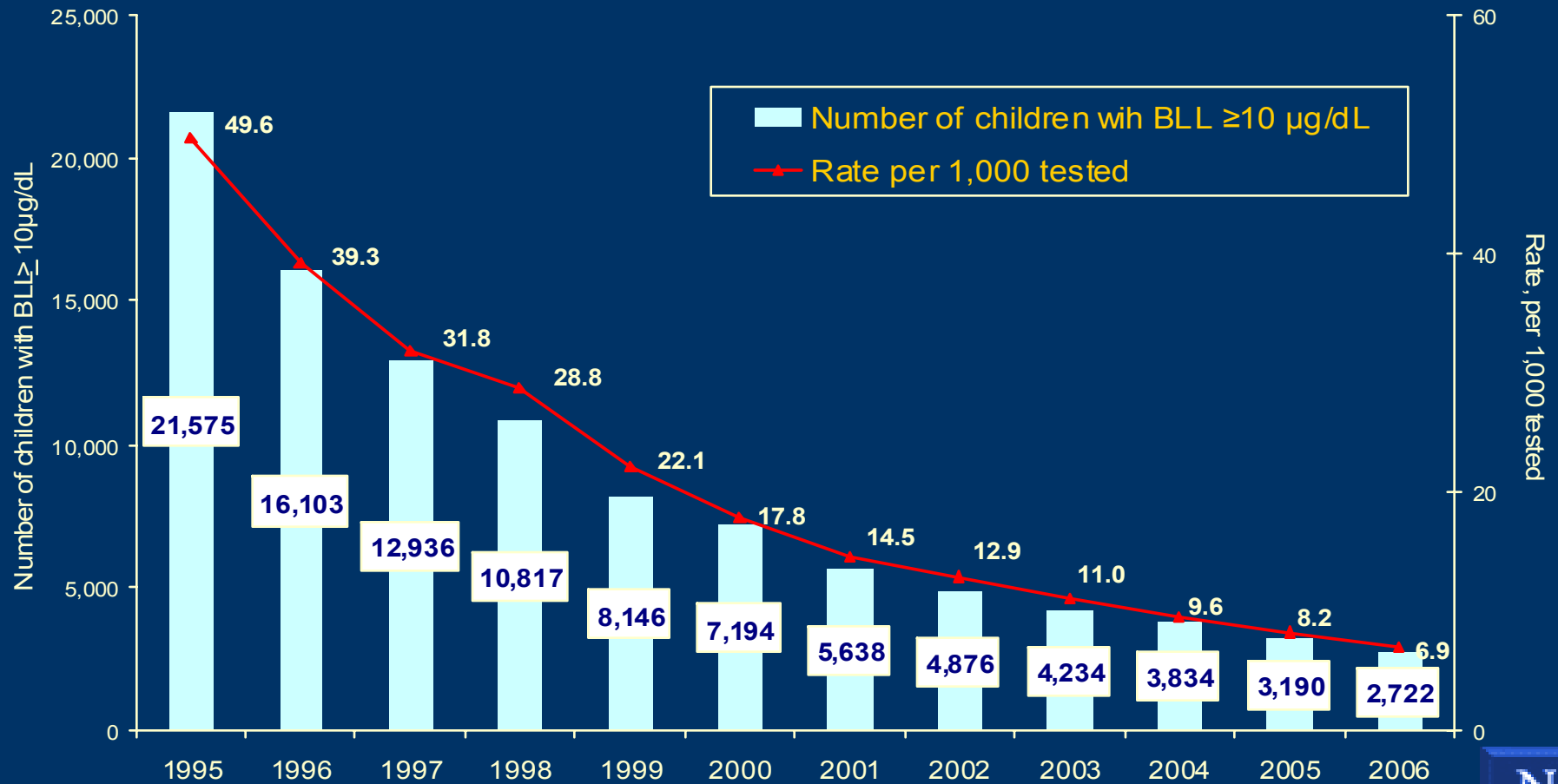
# LPPP Bases its Interventions On Blood Lead Level - Children

<b>BLL</b>	<b>Intervention</b>
<b>10-14 µg/dL (EBLL)</b>	<b>Education to parents &amp; providers to: Encourage follow-up testing Provide lead poisoning prevention information Provide information on how to contact HPD for an inspection if there is peeling paint</b>
<b>≥ 15 µg/dL (EIBLL)</b>	<b>Environmental investigation &amp; case management: Paint hazard inspection of primary &amp; secondary addresses Risk assessment conducted Enforcement of environmental orders Coordination of care with health care providers &amp; families Referrals for lead safe housing as needed</b>

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# Dramatic Decline in Number of Lead-Poisoned Children



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NYC  
Health

# Success Due to Many Factors

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- Regulations prohibiting use of lead in:
  - Residential paint
  - Gasoline
  - Canned goods and other consumer products
- Housing improvements, including window replacement
- Education and outreach
- Early identification through screening

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# Health Effects of Lead Poisoning for Children and Pregnant Women

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- Children
  - Learning problems
  - Behavior problems
- Pregnant Women
  - High blood pressure
  - Increased risk of miscarriage
  - Premature births
  - Decreased fetal growth
  - Future learning and behavior problems as child grows

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# Lead Poisoning in New York City 2006

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- 2,722 children age 0-18 years newly identified with BLLs  $\geq 10$   $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$
- 800 children age 0-18 years newly identified with BLL  $\geq 15$   $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$
- 75 pregnant women newly identified with BLL  $\geq 15$   $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$

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# Profile of NYC Children with BLLs $\geq$ 15 $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$

- In 2006, of the **800 children with an EIBLL**
  - 84% lived in homes built before 1950
  - 44% lived in the borough of Brooklyn
  - 61% were younger than 3 years old
  - 89% were Black, Asian, or Hispanic
  - **18% were foreign-born**
  - 77% had a lead paint hazard identified upon inspection of their home or secondary address

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# Foreign Born Children Disproportionately Represented Among EIBLLs

- Percent of children foreign born
  - 14% of NYC children
  - 18% of NYC EIBLL children
- Most frequently reported countries of birth for foreign born children with EIBLLs in 2006
  - Bangladesh
  - Haiti
  - Mexico
  - Pakistan

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# Age at Identification an Issue Among Foreign-born Lead Poisoned Children

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- These children tend to be older at first identification
- Foreign born children with lead poisoning were, on average, 75 months of age at the time of the earliest blood lead test reported for them
- US born children with lead poisoning were, on average, 18 months of age at the time of the earliest blood lead test reported for the them

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# Profile of NYC Pregnant Women with BLLs $\geq$ 15 $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$

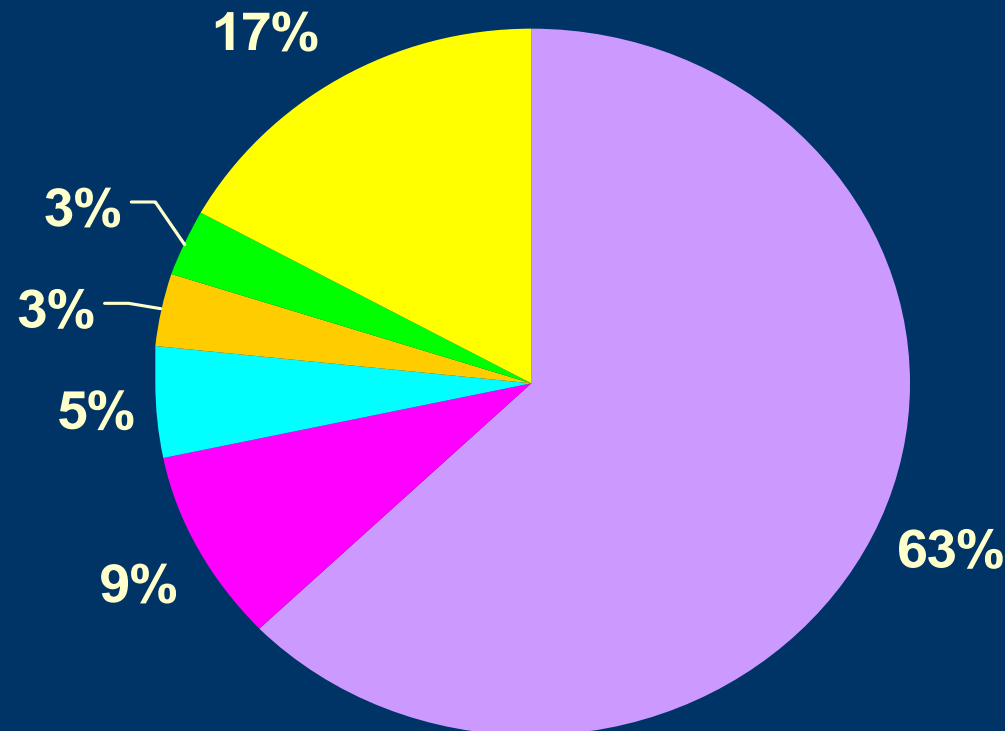
- In 2006, of the 75 pregnant women identified with BLLs  $\geq$  15  $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$ 
  - 49% lived in the borough of Queens
  - 72% were Hispanic, 23% were Asian, 5% were Black
  - **99% were foreign born**
  - 68% were born in **Mexico**, 15% in **Bangladesh**
  - over 60% lived in the United States less than five years

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# Top 5 Countries of Birth Pregnant Women with Lead Poisoning

■ Mexico ■ Bangladesh ■ India ■ USA ■ Pakistan ■ Other



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# Overview of LPPP Interventions

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- Reduce lead hazards in homes and communities (paint and non paint sources)
- Case coordination and environmental intervention for lead poisoned children and pregnant women
- Promote testing
  - Building awareness among health care providers & families
- Community outreach and education
  - Targeting high risk communities and populations

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# Community Education and Outreach

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- Targeted bilingual media campaign
- Parent talks and staff trainings targeted to areas with high rates of lead poisoning
- Collaboration with CBOs and local media to reach high-risk populations
- Provider outreach and education
- Increased awareness of literacy, culture and language

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## Peeling Lead Paint Turns Into Poisonous Dust

Guess where it ends up?



5 Simple Ways to Protect Your Child

Fix Lead  
Paint  
Hazards

What Landlords Must Do  
*And Every Tenant Should Know*



## Pregnancy and Lead Poisoning



What Every Woman  
Should Know

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# Cultural Sensitivity

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- Work with community partners
- Cross training staff on relevant issues
- Smart translation and “transcreation”
- Multicultural staff

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# Health Warning Signs

Herbal Medicine Products  
Imported from India

भारत से आयात किए गए हर्बल  
(जड़ी बूटी से बने) औषधि उत्पाद

- Health Warning -

- स्वास्थ्य चेतावनी -

Certain herbal medicine products made in India contain high levels of lead or mercury. Lead and mercury are poisons and are dangerous to your health.

भारत में निर्मित कुछ हर्बल (जड़ी बूटी युक्त) औषधि उत्पादों में सीसा कबूचा पाया की उच्च मात्रा होती है। सीसा तथा पारा जहर हैं और आपके स्वास्थ्य के लिए खतरनाक हैं।

**Do not use these products:**

- **Jambroliin**, made by Unjha Ayurvedic Pharmacy and used for diabetes
- **Lakshmilash Ras (Nardiya)**, made by Baidyanath and used for colds and fever
- **Maha Sudarshan**, made by Arya Aushadhi Pharmaceutical Works and used for flu and body ache
- **Mahayogaraj Guggulu**, enriched with silver, made by Baidyanath and used for rheumatic pain



**निम्न उत्पादों का प्रयोग न करें :**

- **Jambroliin / जाम्ब्रोलिन**, ऊँजा आयुर्वेदिक फार्मसी द्वारा निर्मित और मधुमेह के लिए प्रयुक्त
- **Lakshmilash Ras (Nardiya) / लक्ष्मीलाश रस (नर्दिचा)**, वैद्यनाथ द्वारा निर्मित और बुखार तथा बुखार के लिए प्रयुक्त
- **Maha Sudarshan / महा सुदर्शन**, आर्य औषधि फार्मास्यूटिकल वर्क्स द्वारा निर्मित और फ्लू तथा बदन दर्द के लिए प्रयुक्त
- **Mahayogaraj Guggulu / महायोगराज गुग्गुलु**, वैद्यनाथ द्वारा निर्मित और गठिया (रि्यूमेटिक) दर्द के लिए प्रयुक्त

यदि आप इनमें से किसी उत्पाद का प्रयोग करते हैं तो अपने डॉक्टर से मिलें। अधिक जानकारी के लिए 311 और 212-POISONS (212-764-7667) पर कॉल करें।

See your doctor if you use any of these products. Call 311 or 212-POISONS (212-764-7667) for more information.

The New York City Health Code prohibits the sale of herbal medicine products containing lead or mercury. न्यूयार्क शहर स्वास्थ्य कोड सीसा अथवा पारा युक्त हर्बल औषधि उत्पादों की बिक्री पर निषेध लगाता है।

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Michael R. Bloomberg, Mayor (NYC)  
Thomas R. Frieden, M.D., M.P.H., Commissioner (NYC)

Herbal Medicine Products  
Imported from China

中國進口  
草藥成品

- Health Warning -

- 健康警告 -

Certain herbal medicine products made in China contain lead and mercury. Lead and mercury are poisons and are dangerous to your health.

某些中成藥 (中國製造的草藥成品) 含有鉛和汞, 這兩種化學成份有毒, 對健康有害。

**Do not use these products:**

- **Emperor's Tea Pill (Concentrated) Tian Huang Bu Xin Wan**  
Made by Lanzhou Traditional Herbs and used to maintain the body's natural balance.
- **Hepatico Extract (Concentrated) Shu Gan Wan**  
Made by Lanzhou Traditional Herbs and used to promote a healthy liver and maintain regularity.



**請不要使用下述產品 :**

- **天王補心丸 (濃縮中藥丸)**  
傳統蘭州中藥系列, 用於維持體內功能的自然平衡。
- **舒肝丸 (濃縮中藥丸)**  
傳統蘭州中藥系列, 用於促進肝臟健康, 維持肝功能正常。

See your doctor if you use any of these products. Call 311 or 212-POISONS (212-764-7667) for more information.

如果使用過或正使用以上產品, 請告訴你的醫生, 取得諮詢。請撥打311或212-POISONS (212-764-7667), 瞭解更多詳情。

The New York City Health Code prohibits the sale of herbal medicine products containing lead or mercury. 《紐約市健康法》禁止銷售含有鉛或汞的草藥成品。

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Thomas R. Frieden, M.D., M.P.H., Commissioner (NYC)

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**Landlords must fix peeling paint.  
It's the law.**

Call 311 for information.



The New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene  
Michael R. Bloomberg, Mayor  
Thomas R. Frieden, M.D., M.P.H., Commissioner



## Peeling Lead Paint Turns Into Poisonous Dust

Guess where it ends up?



5 Simple Ways to Protect Your Child

### Lead Can Cause Learning Problems

**L**ead is a poison often found in old paint. Lead paint, and the dust it turns into, is the most common cause of lead poisoning. It's especially dangerous for young children. Lead can cause learning and behavior problems.



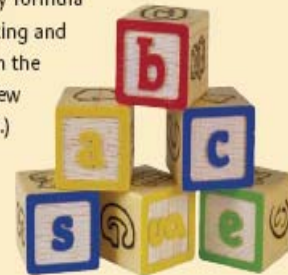
**L**ead dust from peeling paint can land on windowsills, floors, and toys. When children play on the floor and put their hands and toys in their mouths, they can swallow lead dust.

**S**ometimes foods and spices, medicines, clay pots and dishes, cosmetics, and toys from other countries can contain lead.

**M**ost lead-poisoned children do not look or feel sick. A blood test is the only way to know for sure if your child has lead poisoning.

### 5 Simple Ways to Protect Your Child From Lead Poisoning

- 1 Report peeling paint to your landlord. If your landlord doesn't fix it, call 311.
- 2 Remind your doctor to test your child for lead poisoning at ages 1 and 2. Ask the doctor about testing older children.
- 3 Wash floors, windowsills, hands, toys, and pacifiers often.
- 4 Don't use foods and spices, medicines, clay pots and dishes, cosmetics, and toys from other countries. They may contain lead.
- 5 Use only cold tap water to make baby formula and for drinking and cooking. (Run the water for a few minutes first.)



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# Community Partners

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- Chhaya Community Development Corporation
- Charles B. Wang Community Health Center
- Asian Americans for Equality
- Pragati, Inc.
- SAKHI
- NYU Center for the Study of Asian-American Health

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# Community Partners cont.

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- Alianza Dominicana
- Latin American Integration Center
- TEPEYAC NY
- Project Hospitality
- Mixteca
- The Committee for Hispanic Children & Families
- Haitian Americans United for Progress
- Caribbean Women's Health Association
- Arab-American Family Support Center
- African Services Committee

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# Community Partners cont.

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- Harlem Children's Zone
- CAMBA
- Citizen's Committee for the Children of New York
- New York Immigration Coalition
- NYU Center for Immigrant Health
- Center for Immigrant Education & Training, LaGuardia Community College
- Immigration and Health Initiative of Hunter College
- Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs

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# Lessons Learned

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- Community participation is critical
- Simplify messages
- Ask questions
- There is still plenty we do not know

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# Next Steps

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- Continue working with community partners serving the immigrant community
  - Learn more about best to communicate with these communities, learn more about exposures and interventions
- Learn more about lead poisoning in refugee population
  - Data match with BRIA

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