

EPI MONTHLY REPORT

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH IN MIAMI-DADE COUNTY
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LEAD-FREE KIDS FOR A HEALTHY FUTURE NATIONAL LEAD POISONING PREVENTION WEEK

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) report that childhood lead poisoning still remains a major preventable environmental health problem within the United States. Hundreds of thousands of children living in the United States have elevated blood lead levels that may cause significant damage to their health. They can develop behavior and learning problems (such as hyperactivity), slowed growth, hearing problems, and aggressive patterns of behavior. Stopping a child's exposure to lead from leaded paint, house dust, or any other source is the best way to prevent the harmful effects of lead.

To raise awareness of the consequences of lead poisoning among parents and pregnant women who live in homes built before 1978, the Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County (DOH-Miami-Dade) is participating in National Lead Poisoning Prevention Week (NLPPW) October 20-26, 2013. DOH-Miami-Dade joins the CDC, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development in encouraging parents to learn more about how to prevent lead poisoning.

What is Lead Poisoning? Lead is a metal found in many things around us (paint, ceramics, water, soil, and dust). You can eat, drink, or breathe in lead. When too much lead gets into your body, it is called lead poisoning. Until recently, a confirmed case of lead poisoning was defined as an individual with blood lead level greater or equal to 10 micrograms per deciliter. On January of 2012, the CDC changed its "blood lead level of concern" to 5 micrograms per deciliter. With this new concern level, more children will be identified as having lead exposure earlier, allowing parents, physicians and other health professionals to take earlier actions to combat lead poisoning and further exposure.

Why are children at risk? All children under the age of 6 years old are at risk because they grow up so rapidly and because they tend to put their hands or other objects, which may be contaminated with lead dust, into their mouths. However, children living at or below the poverty line who live in older housing are at greatest risk. Additionally, children of some racial and ethnic groups and those living in older housing are disproportionately affected by lead.

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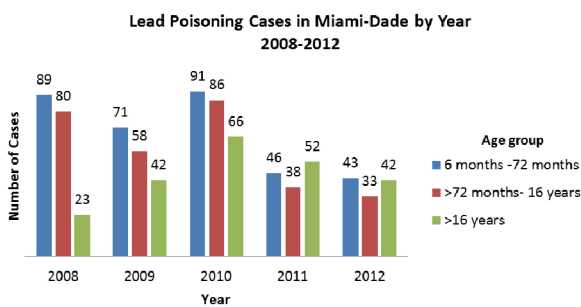
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Lead Poisoning in Miami-Dade County:

Since 2008, the DOH-Miami-Dade Healthy Homes and Lead Poisoning Prevention Program (HHLPPP) started to focus on lead poisoning cases among all children and adults. Since then, reported cases among adults aged 25 and older have increased, while reported cases among children less than 6 years old have gradually declined. In 2012, there were 118 confirmed lead poisoning cases, which 43 cases (36%) were children under the age of six, 33 cases (28%) between the ages of 7 and 16 years old and 41 cases (36%) were older than 16 years old.



What can I do to prevent Lead Poisoning?

Keep the area where your child plays clean and dust free. Make sure your child does not chew on anything covered with paint. Wash your child's hands often, especially before meals. Give your child a healthy diet that includes foods with iron, calcium and vitamin C that are good for him or her. Healthy foods protect children from lead poisoning.

This year's NLPPW theme, "Lead-Free Kids for a Healthy Future," underscores the importance of testing your home, testing your child, and learning how to prevent lead poisoning's serious health effects. Established in 1999 by the US Senate, National Lead Poisoning Prevention Week occurs every year during the last week in October. During this week, many states and communities offer free blood-lead testing and conduct various education and awareness events. For more information about NLPPW activities in your area, contact the



DOH-Miami-Dade HHLPPP at (305) 470-6877.

Do your part by preventing children's exposure to lead hazards among your family and your community. Together we can make lead poisoning history!

References:

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2013, October 1). National Lead Poisoning Prevention Week. Retrieved from <http://www.cdc.gov/nceh/lead/nlppw.htm#newsletter>.
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2013, October 1). Blood Lead Levels in Children. Retrieved from http://www.cdc.gov/nceh/lead/ACCLPP/Lead_Levels_in_Children_Fact_Sheet.pdf.
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- Florida Department of Health. (2013, October 1). Healthy Homes and Lead Poisoning Prevention Program. Retrieved from <http://doh.state.fl.us/environment/medicine/lead/healthyhomes.html>.
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. [National lead poisoning prevention week web banner]. Retrieved from <http://www2.epa.gov/lead/national-lead-poisoning-prevention-week-web-banners>.

Topic of the Month: October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month!



About 1 in 8 women born today in the United States will get breast cancer at some point during her life. After skin cancer, breast cancer is the most common kind of cancer in women. The good news is that many women can survive breast cancer if it's found and treated early.

If you are age 40 to 49, talk with your doctor about when to start getting mammograms and how often to get them. Women ages 50 to 74 need mammograms every 2 years. You may choose to start getting mammograms earlier or to get them more often.

Talk to a doctor about your risk for breast cancer, especially if a close family member has had breast or ovarian cancer. Your doctor can help you decide when and how often to get mammograms.

Reference:

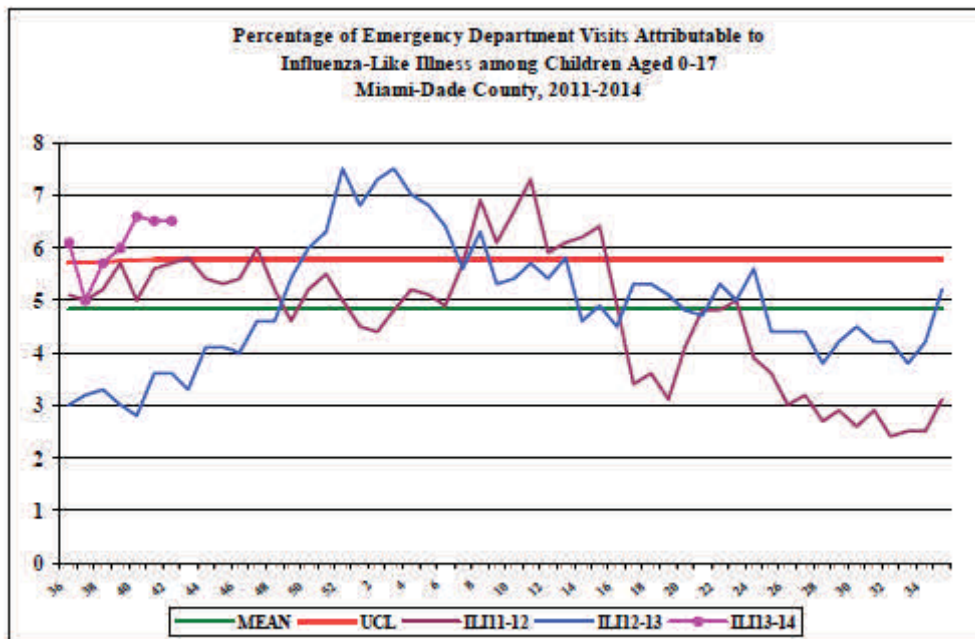
- National Health Information Center. (2013, October 18). October National Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Retrieved from: <http://healthfinder.gov/nho/OctAnnounce.aspx>

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Influenza-Like-Illness, Children Aged 0-17



During this period, there were 8,215 ED visits; among them 532 (6.5%) were ILI. At the same week of last year, 3.6% of ED visits were ILI.

PARTICIPATE IN INFLUENZA SENTINEL PROVIDER SURVEILLANCE

Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County **NEEDS** Influenza Sentinel Providers!

Sentinel providers are key to the success of the Florida Department of Health's Influenza Surveillance System. Data reported by sentinel providers gives a picture of the influenza virus and ILI activity in the U.S. and Florida which can be used to guide prevention and control activities, vaccine strain selection, and patient care.

- Providers of any specialty, in any type of practice, are eligible to be sentinel providers.
- Most providers report that it takes **less than 30 minutes a week** to compile and report data on the total number of patients seen and the number of patients seen with influenza-like illness.
- Sentinel providers can submit specimens from a subset of patients to the state laboratory for virus isolation **free of charge**.

For more information, please contact
Lakisha Thomas at 305-470-5660.

TO REPORT ANY DISEASE AND FOR INFORMATION CALL:
Epidemiology, Disease Control & Immunization Services

Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program305-470-6877
Hepatitis305-470-5536
Immunizations or outbreaks305-470-5660
HIV/AIDS Program305-470-6999
STD Program305-575-5430
Tuberculosis Program305- 575-5415
Immunization Service305-470-5660
To make an appointment.....786-845-0550

About the Epi Monthly Report

The Epi Monthly Report is a publication of the Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County: Epidemiology, Disease Control & Immunization Services. The publication serves a primary audience of physicians, nurses, and public health professionals. Articles published in the Epi Monthly Report may focus on quantitative research and analysis, program updates, field investigations, or provider education. For more information or to submit an article, contact Kathleen Ochipa at (305) 470-6918.



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Miami-Dade County Monthly Report Select Reportable Disease/Conditions September 2013

Diseases/Conditions	2013 Current Month	2013 Year to Date	2012 Year to Date	2011 Year to Date
HIV/AIDS				
AIDS*	47	565	433	571
HIV	125	1125	828	1035
STD				
Infectious Syphilis*	31	267	234	237
Chlamydia*	754	7612	7110	6490
Gonorrhea*	183	1801	1782	1750
TB				
Tuberculosis**	9	88	81	99
Epidemiology, Disease Control & Immunization Services				
Epidemiology				
Campylobacteriosis	31	283	273	356
Ciguatera Poisoning	5	20	15	12
Cryptosporidiosis	3	18	19	18
Cyclosporiasis	0	2	1	5
Dengue Fever	12	38	24	12
E. coli, O157:H7	3	6	4	14
E. coli, Non-O157	0	0	0	0
Encephalitis, West Nile Virus	0	0	0	0
Giardiasis, Acute	29	203	167	212
Influenza Novel Strain	0	0	0	0
Influenza, Pediatric Death	0	1	2	0
Legionellosis	2	20	14	12
Leptospirosis	0	0	0	0
Listeriosis	0	1	1	3
Lyme disease	4	6	4	0
Malaria	1	8	6	15
Meningitis (except aseptic)	1	27	16	22
Meningococcal Disease	1	15	12	12
Salmonellosis	64	434	389	430
Shigellosis	8	48	59	92
Streptococcus pneumoniae, Drug Resistant	5	66	56	62
Toxoplasmosis	0	0	3	0
Typhoid Fever	1	2	2	3
Vibriosis	0	10	3	1
West Nile Fever	0	0	0	1
Immunization Preventable Diseases				
Measles	0	0	0	0
Mumps	0	0	1	0
Pertussis	2	36	52	24
Rubella	0	0	0	0
Tetanus	0	0	0	0
Varicella	0	49	37	39
Hepatitis				
Hepatitis A	4	23	19	16
Hepatitis B (Acute)	2	12	15	4
Lead				
Lead Poisoning	6	73	67	109

*Data is provisional at the county level and is subject to edit checks by state and federal agencies.

** Data on tuberculosis are provisional at the county level.

