

Prevention

Lead poisoning prevention is a preferable option than treatment. You cannot reverse the damaging effects of lead poisoning. There are things you can do to prevent and protect your children from exposure to lead poisoning. By knowing the sources of lead that could be endangering children and then taking the steps to protect any further lead exposure. Some steps you can take toward lead poisoning prevention include keeping such things as your children's finger nails cut short and using good hygiene, like keeping hands clean especially when eating.

Permanently remove any lead hazards from your home. If your home was built before 1978 it could have been painted with lead based paint. If you see chipping or peeling paint on walls, ceiling, doorway, exterior siding and window sills have chipping or peeling paint. Also, friction from painted doorways cause dust that settle onto the floors. If you think you might have lead-based paint you should contact and hire a lead abatement contractor. This professional service will remove, seal. Or enclose a lead-based paint. Simply painting over the lead hazard will not suffice. Improper removal of lead can increase the hazard by spreading it around the house even more, so it is important to hire someone with special training in correcting lead problems.

Having your child tested for lead poisoning is very simple and is done by your child's health care professional by having a blood test done. This test should be done for children who are six months to one year old and for family members that suspect a high level of lead exposure.