

Overview: Connect high-risk Asian-Americans in Hamtramck and the Detroit area with local organizations and agencies to design, plan, and implement a culturally appropriate lead poisoning prevention program

Three Main Goals:

1. Increase lead-testing and enhance the linkage to services for high-risk children and pregnant women in the Asian American community.
2. Provide healthcare professionals and providers with education related to lead testing and elevated blood lead level treatment.
3. Implement a primary prevent program to increase awareness and linkage to care for Bangladesh Americans in Hamtramck.

The EMU Lead Team



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If you have any questions about the Lead Prevention Program please feel free to contact our team

Michigan Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program for Underserved Asian Americans



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What is Lead?

- Lead is a natural metal found in the Earth. Humans have used lead to make a lot of things:
 - Paint and Gasoline
 - Jewelry and Toys
 - Pipes, Sinks, and Faucets
 - Pottery and Cookware
 - Imported goods
- In 1978 the United States banned the use of lead in these products because it is dangerous and harmful

Why is Lead Dangerous?

- Like arsenic, lead is very toxic
- Lead is especially harmful to children and can cause:
 - Growth problems
 - Learning disabilities
 - Behavior problems like aggression or violence
 - Hearing and speech difficulties
 - Muscle or joint pain

Why are the Bangladeshi at Risk for Elevated Blood Lead Levels?

- Many of our homes were built before 1978 and were painted with lead paint. Water pipes, sinks, and faucets were also made with lead.
- Children in Hamtramck are more than two times more likely to have elevated lead levels in their blood. All children are at greater risk because children like to put everything in their mouths!
- Immigrants and children of immigrants have an increased risk for elevated blood levels
 - 81% of Bangladeshi in Hamtramck are foreign-born, 30% are children between ages 0-6 years of age
- Low English proficiency makes it difficult to access medical related resources.
- Low-income is an increased risk factor for having elevated blood lead levels
 - 38.5% of Bangladeshi in Hamtramck live at the poverty level

What Can We Do?

- Awareness
 - Learn about the dangers of lead and tell others about it
- Screening
 - The most important thing you can do, GET TESTED!
 - Blood is tested with a small finger poke
- Reducing exposure
 - Hand washing, especially after playing outside or with toys
 - Cleaning flat surfaces with disposable cleaning products
 - Remove your shoes before entering your house
- Home remediation/lead abatement

Resources for Screening and Support

- Wellness and Community Events
- Your Doctor's Office
- Hamtramck WIC Office
 - (734) 727-7156
- Wayne County Health Department
 - (734) 727-7100