

## Appendix C1: Exposure Investigation Fact Sheet

### ATSDR Exposure Investigation Fact Sheet

# Lead in Newton & Jasper County, MO

## Who are we?

- The Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) is the main federal agency that works to protect public health from chemicals in the environment.

## Our partners

- Region 7 Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
- Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services (MDHSS)
- Mid-America Pediatric Environmental Health Specialty Unit (MAPEHSU)
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention/Division of Laboratory Sciences (CDC/DLS)

## Why are we here?

- ATSDR is conducting this Exposure Investigation to test for lead in blood and the environment to better understand how lead in the environment may be related to lead levels in the body.
- Lead has been found in soil in Newton and Jasper County as a result of operations from historic mining, milling, and smelting.
- People can be exposed to lead in soil, water, and dust from swallowing it or breathing it.
- Children may have a higher exposure because they breathe faster than adults, they put their hands in their mouths and, some children eat dirt (called "pica" behavior).

## What are we doing here?

- ATSDR will test blood from children younger than 6 years old, pregnant women, and women of childbearing age (15-44).
- Participants will have the inside and outside of their homes tested for lead by EPA and MDHSS.
  - We will test painted surfaces, dust, soil, and water.
- Participants will answer questions about their household, family, and lifestyle so we can better interpret the results of the testing.
- The testing will be conducted **free of charge** to participants.

## How are we going to do this?

- Participants will make an appointment with ATSDR to have their blood collected (2 milliliters, a small tube) during one of two testing events in the area.
- Participants will answer a questionnaire about themselves and/or their child.
- Participants will make an appointment with EPA and MDHSS to have their household tested.
- It will take about 30 minutes to collect blood and complete the questionnaire.
- It will take about 1 hour each for EPA and MDHSS to sample your household.
- ATSDR and partners will accept 300 participants (225 children and 75 women) on a first come first serve basis.

## When and where are we going to do the sampling?

- We will be in Jasper and Newton County to sample children younger than 6 years old, women that are pregnant, or women of childbearing age (15-44).
  - **The blood lead sampling will take place at:**

## Benefits of participating in the EI

- The benefit of being in the investigation is that you will know the level of lead in your blood or your child's blood and sources of lead in and around your home.
- All testing and sampling will be done **free of charge**.
- Eligible participants will receive a \$20 gift card.

## Risks of participating in the EI

- Some people may find it uncomfortable to have blood drawn from a vein, especially for children.
- Sometimes a bruise can occur where the blood is taken. These bruises usually go away on their own.
- You may feel lightheaded for a short time and rarely, fainting may occur.

## What happens after the sampling?

- If we find that the level of lead in your or your child's blood is elevated, we will recommend things you can do to lower exposure.
- Data collected will help scientists determine whether current lead cleanup practices are protective of health.

## Contact information

To make yours or your family's appointment for blood lead testing and indoor/outdoor home testing, or for additional information about this exposure investigation:

Call 833-678-2724 or email [MOLead@cdc.gov](mailto:MOLead@cdc.gov)

For additional information about ATSDR see:  
[www.atsdr.cdc.gov](http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov)