



Epi Watch

A Monthly Epidemiology Newsletter



Division of Disease Control
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Pinellas County Health Department

205 Dr. M.L.King Street North
St. Petersburg, FL 33701
(727) 824-6900
www.PinellasHealth.com

Director

John P. Heilman, MD, MPH
john_heilmanmd@doh.state.fl.us

Assistant Director

Claude M. Dharamraj, MD, MPH
claudedharamraj@doh.state.fl.us

Division of Disease Control

Director

Deborah A. Healey, RN, MPH
debbie_healey@doh.state.fl.us

Epidemiology Program Manager

Julia Gill, PhD, MPH
julia_gill@doh.state.fl.us

Epidemiology Surveillance Coordinator

Andrea Dopico, MPH
andrea_dopico@doh.state.fl.us

Nursing Program Specialist

Susan Heller, RN, BSN
sue_heller@doh.state.fl.us

HIV/AIDS Program Manager

Lisa Cohen, BS
lisa_cohen@doh.state.fl.us

STD Program Manager

Sherry Lewis, BS
sherry_lewis@doh.state.fl.us

TB Program Manager

Robert Berger, BA
robert_berger@doh.state.fl.us

To report diseases or request information call:
(Mon-Fri, 8-5, Area code 727):

Epidemiology	824-6932
Hepatitis	824-6932
HIV/AIDS	824-6964
Lead	824-6932
Immunizations	824-6936
STD	824-6911
Tuberculosis	824-6953
Non-business hours	824-6900

Epi Watch is a monthly newsletter produced and distributed by the Pinellas County Health Department Epidemiology Program.

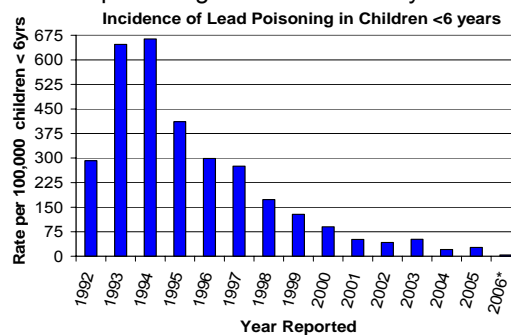
Childhood Lead Poisoning

Kyla Shelton, BS, MPH Candidate



Lead Poisoning is defined as the presence of an elevated blood lead level of ≥ 10 $\mu\text{g}/\text{dl}$. In the United States, the leading source of lead exposure in children is lead-based paint. Other exposures include: ethnic/folk/home remedies, imported products, arts and crafts and occupational settings. Symptoms are not always present but can include: irritability, hyperactivity, stomach pains, tiredness, and weakness in the hands, wrists, and ankles. The most common intervention is to locate and eliminate the source of exposure and allow blood lead levels to return to normal. Continued exposure and elevated blood lead levels may lead to hearing loss, anemia, brain, nerve, and kidney damage, coma, and death. This is highlighted by the recent death of a 4-year-old Minneapolis boy from lead poisoning caused by the ingestion of a lead-based charm.

Lead poisoning was added to the State of Florida's list of reportable diseases and conditions in 1992. The Pinellas County Health Department received funding to create the Lead Intervention Team due to the high-risk community served. At that time, 70% of children under the age of 6 lived in high-risk areas where the percentage of pre-1950 or pre-1970 housing (more likely to contain lead-based paint) exceeded the national average and 41% were Medicaid-enrolled. Through the program's screening and educational efforts, childhood lead poisoning was decreased by 96%.



*As of May, 12

The Healthy People 2010 goal is complete elimination of childhood lead poisoning, so prevention efforts will continue to be a priority. We continue to provide surveillance and investigation services and limited screenings for children. It is the primary responsibility of the child's physician to ensure screening and prevention of childhood lead poisoning as part of the standard of care. Additional information on lead poisoning can be found at:

www.cdc.gov; www.pinellashealth.com/lead.asp;
www.doh.state.fl.us/environment/community/lead/index.html

Please Note: Lead poisoning remains a reportable condition in the state of Florida. Beginning July 1, 2006, all reports and inquiries should be directed to:
Phone: (727) 824-6932 or Fax (727) 820-4270
Attn: Lead

"The reason for collecting, analyzing, and disseminating information on a disease is to control that disease. Collection and analysis should not be allowed to consume resources if action does not follow." Foege, W.H. et al. (1976). Int. J of Epidemiology, 5:29-37.

NA = Not Available

Selected Reportable Diseases in Pinellas County

Disease	2006 May	2006 Year-to-Date	2005 Year-to-Date	2005 Total
AIDS	13	93	88	160
Animal Bite, PEP Recommended	3	16	18	48
Animal Rabies			1	5
Arboviral Illness (Human):				
Dengue		2		3
EEE				
SLE				
WNV				18
CA/LaCrosse				
Botulism				
Campylobacteriosis	3	10	20	39
Chlamydia	239	1099	946	2505
Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease (CJD)			1	2
Cryptosporidiosis		2	2	15
Cyclosporiasis			47	57
<i>E. coli</i> O157:H7				
Giardiasis	1	12	6	30
Gonorrhea	161	657	536	1436
<i>H. influenzae</i> :				
Meningitis				
Pneumonia		1	1	1
Primary bacteremia	1	4	2	6
Epiglottitis				
Hansen Disease			1	1
Hemolytic Uremic Syndrome (HUS)		1	1	1
Hepatitis, Acute Viral:				
A		2	5	9
B	2	5	16	36
C		3	3	7
Non-A, Non-B			1	1
Hepatitis B: Pregnant woman +HBsAg	1	12	18	33
HIV	15	63	124	238
Legionellosis	2	7	3	8
Listeriosis			1	1
Lyme Disease			1	4
Malaria		1		1
Meningitis:				
Group B Strep				
<i>S. pneumoniae</i>		1	4	6
Other bacterial	1	4	3	5
Meningococcal Disease	1	5	4	7
Mercury Poisoning				
Mumps			1	1
Pertussis		9	4	13
Plague (Bubonic & Pneumonic)				
Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever	1	2		
Salmonellosis	12	45	54	212
Shigellosis	5	12	33	169
Smallpox				
<i>Streptococcal</i> disease, Inv. Group A	2	7	6	11
<i>S. pneumoniae</i> , Inv. disease (DR)	1	8	16	27
<i>S. pneumoniae</i> , Inv. disease (Suscept)	2	14	19	29
Syphilis:				
Total	11	59	31	95
Infectious (P and S)	4	16	16	41
Early Latent	6	28	10	32
Late Syphilis(Late Latent; Neurosyphilis)	1	15	5	22
Congenital				
Tuberculosis	3	16	12	27
<i>Vibrio</i> infections (vulnificus)		1		2

Provisional cases reported by the Pinellas County Health Department. Blank cells indicate no cases reported.

For a complete list of reportable diseases and guidelines for reporting please visit:

http://www.myflorida.com/disease_ctrl/epi/surv/lor8_4.pdf