

LEAD POISONING IN CHILDREN

Historical - Comparatively rare disease

Use of lead nipple shields

Use of cosmetics - face and neck - contaminating breast - Japanese

Use of stains and dyes on hair - India

More recently

Frequent occurrence in Queensland

Calling attention to paints of high lead content

Present problem in USA

Sources

Inside paint - floors and other woodwork - painted plaster
walls - window sills

Immediate environment - playpens, high chairs, cribs, toys

Other - metallic lead toys - molten lead inhaled
solid lead chewed - bullets, etc.

Nipple shields still used occasionally

Use of storage battery boxes for fuel in household

Water supply - lead pipes

Bullets in body - especially within a joint

Frequency

Baltimore - from 1931 to July 1, 1949

<u>Age in Years</u>	<u>Number of cases</u>	<u>White</u>	<u>Colored</u>	<u>Number of Deaths</u>	<u>White</u>	<u>Colored</u>
Under 1	1					
1	37					
2	121					
3	32					
4	13					
5	8					
6	4					
7	2					
8	1					
10	1					
Total	220	78	142	78	27	51

Largest number in any one year - 31

Smallest number in any one year - 2

Cincinnati - Largest number of cases - 20 - 1951

87 from 1928 to 1953 - with 25 fatalities

KE 0008701

Manner of recognition of cases

Serious illnesses - mostly convulsions - brought to hospital

Many missed undoubtedly

General origin of cases

Urban areas of poor housing with poor maintenance of rented property

Problem of the poorer - slum - areas - largely - not exclusively

Remedy

Prevention

Early recognition - alertness of mother and physician - clinical

Procedures- X-Ray

of

Laboratory - Analysis of blood and urine

Post mortem - analysis of tissues

Treatment of cases

Symptomatic

Combat intracranial pressure

Specific

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