



AMERICAN ACADEMY OF PEDIATRICS

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AAP Recommends Reducing Lead Content of Paints

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

EVANSTON, ILL. --The American Academy of Pediatrics has recommended to the ~~Federal Trade Commission~~ ^{Federal Drug Administration} that the standards for lead content of paints be reduced to less than 0.06 per cent instead of the present standard of one per cent.

The Academy made its recommendation to the FDA in response to the Federal Drug Administration's publication in the Federal Register, Vol. 36, No. 211. In this publication, the FDA proposed to declare certain heavy metal-containing paints and other surface-coatings to require special labeling for child protection.

In the enclosed AAP statement, the Academy reviews the total permissible oral intake of lead from all sources in young children. The AAP points out that the continual use of paints with higher than 0.06 per cent will increase the risk of lead poisoning in children.

The AAP's Committee on Environmental Hazards therefore favors strict Federal regulation of the lead content of paints used on surfaces accessible to children.

(Additional information may be obtained by contacting Mr. George Degnon, director, AAP Department of Government Liaison, 1800 N. Kent Avenue, Arlington, Va. 22209. Telephone: 703-525-9560.)

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