

Test for lead and other toxic metals around homes or workplaces to find out if either of them is the source of your or your children's or pets' elevated blood lead level (greater than 2 micrograms per decilitre).

Knowing where the contamination is coming from allows you to remove the poisoned individual from the source or the source from their life, and thus to lower the blood level and reduce consequent health impacts, or even prevent early death from metal poisoning.



Good samples to test for lead from this scene in an old house would include:

1. *windowsill dustwipe;*
2. *playfloor dustwipes carpet/hardfloor;*
3. *vegetable garden soil;*
4. *bare soil in play area;*
5. *rainwater from the kitchen tap;*
6. *any flaking paint especially from wood or metal surfaces;*
7. *painted or PVC toys or other items mouthed by the child*

Here's an example of what some results mean from the Interpretation sheet you'll receive if you buy a DIY-sampling kit:

Ceiling Dust Lead Biohazard Levels

Low biohazard	<300	mg/kg
Moderate biohazard	300 - 2000	mg/kg
High biohazard	2000 +	mg/kg

Soil Lead Biohazard Levels

Background (urban)	65 ± 60	mg/kg
Low biohazard	125 - 300	mg/kg
Moderate biohazard	300 - 1500	mg/kg
High biohazard	1500 - 5000	mg/kg
Very high biohazard	5000+	mg/kg

What is the DIY-Sampling Lab Test Kit?

There are two sample kits available and the base price includes lab analysis for lead only. If you want the lab to test any sample for arsenic, cadmium, chromium and copper you simply pay an extra \$9 per metal per sample. If a high level of chromium is found in a sample, you can also pay an extra \$50 per sample to determine how much of the chromium is in the form of highly toxic hexavalent chromium. The 2-



sample kit costs:

- \$100 for lead only, or
- \$172 for both samples to be tested for lead, arsenic, copper, cadmium and chromium.



The 8-sample kit costs

- \$250 for lead only, or
- the special bulk rate of \$450 for all 8 samples to be tested for lead, arsenic, copper, cadmium and chromium.

You are not required to use all the tests in one go. You can take some samples and send them off to the testing laboratory, and follow up later with any or all of the remaining samples. You pay postage for sending the samples to the lab. All other costs are included in the kit price.

We email part of the kit to you when we post the kit, and you fill in the description of the samples you collect and email that back to us. You also receive your results by email. Usual turnaround is less than 2 weeks - often only one week.

You CAN protect your family!

Q: What's the best test you can do if you don't collect your own groundwater, drinking water, soil, ceiling dust & dust-wipe samples from your home & yard?

A: If you're not sure whether it's worth testing your particular home and yard for heavy metals, then you can find out by asking your doctor to test your blood for lead, cadmium, copper & thallium, & urine for arsenic & chromium. Don't eat seafood or mushrooms for 5 days before sampling for a urine arsenic test. Ensure no dust enters the urine Royal blue (heavy metal-free) tube.

Q: What's the minimal testing that you should do in Rosebery, knowing that other homes and yards are heavy metal-contaminated and that many of the homes are built before 1970?

A: Ask the doctor to test your family's blood for lead & if the result is above 2 ug/dL (micrograms per decilitre), test a home play-floor dustwipe or ceiling dust, & play-soil or veggie garden-soil for lead. Lead is a marker contaminant. It is the most common industrial contaminant and is very likely to be found in all samples of soil and dust tested. The more lead is found the more urgent action is.

Make an appointment with your doctor today!

Resources:

Testing blood for lead

Blood lead testing: who to test, when, and how to respond to the result at
<http://www.lead.org.au/fs/fst46.html>

Dangers of a blood lead level above 2 ug/dL [two micrograms per decilitre] and below 10 ug/dL to both adults and children, at
http://www.lead.org.au/fs/Dangers_of_BPb_Level_Above_2ug_dL_and_Below_10ug_dL_20090922.pdf

Testing samples for lead

DIY-sampling / lab analysis lead kits, at
<http://www.lead.org.au/fs/Do-It-Yourself-Lead-Safe-Test-Kits-flyer.html>

Lead in ceiling dust

Lead Safe Fact Sheet - Lead in Ceiling Dust
by NSW Health Dept & EPA, at
<http://www.lead.org.au:80/fs/fst37.html>

Lead in paint

Lead Alert - The Six Step Guide To Painting Your Home - Third Edition, at
<http://www.environment.gov.au/atmosphere/airquality/publications/pubs/leadpaint.pdf>

Phone to order your kit by credit card payment today:

The LEAD Group Incorporated (a Health Promotion Charity & a Not-For-Profit Association) ABN: 25819463114
Phone Freecall 1800 626 086
Or go to www.lead.org.au

DIY-sampling /lab analysis heavy metal test kits

You take the samples, send them to a lab for analysis, we tell you what the results mean and what to do about any contamination found

Q: Why test your home and yard for lead, arsenic, cadmium, chromium and copper?

A: Because all of these metals have been found in high concentration in Rosebery yards# and all are toxic* to humans and pets. Eg 4590 mg/kg lead in soil

thallium has also been found in the Rosebery mine but it's VERY expensive to test for in water, soil and dust.
* chromium is an essential trace metal but when it's in the form of hexavalent chromium it's highly toxic. Copper is also an essential trace metal but is toxic at high dose.