

Lead in Toy Jewelry:

Questions and Answers

If swallowed or put in the mouth, lead jewelry is hazardous to children.

What should I do if I believe my child has put lead jewelry into his/her mouth?

See your health care provider. He or she can perform a blood test to see whether your child has been exposed to lead and if so recommend treatment. Most children with elevated blood lead levels do not have any symptoms. However, there is no safe level of lead in blood. As blood lead levels increase, lead has a larger effect on children's learning and behavior. A blood lead test is the only way you can tell if your child has an elevated lead level.

Can just wearing the jewelry cause my child to have a high level of lead in his/her blood?

No, however small children often put things in their mouth. If you have a small child in your household you should make sure the child does not have access to jewelry or other items *that may contain lead.*

How can I obtain more information about the recall?

The CPSC asks that parents search their children's toys for metal jewelry and throw it away. Photos of the jewelry and more information on the recall can be obtained from the CPSC at www.cpsc.gov or 1-800-638-2772.



Lead in Jewelry Poses Health

Health Alert!
Some jewelry may pose a health risk to children



Some types of metal jewelry (bracelets, rings, necklaces, pendants etc.) have been found to contain high levels of lead, which is a known hazard to human health.

Young children are particularly at risk because when they wear or play with jewelry, they are more likely to put it in their mouths or handle it and put their fingers in their mouths.

Much of the metal jewelry found to contain lead is attractive to children because it is of the toy or cosmetic type, and is often found in vending machines, at cosmetic or costume jewelry counters, and in toy departments.



The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission has recently issued warnings on metal toy jewelry and several jewelry importers have voluntarily recalled millions of pieces of jewelry.

Families with children, particularly those under 6 years of age, should carefully inspect whether this type of jewelry is in their homes.

If a child has or has had such metal jewelry and frequently licks, sucks, or handles it, he or she may have been exposed to lead and should be tested for lead.

For more information about child lead testing, contact your doctor or the Mecklenburg County Health Department at (704) 336-5381 (ENGLISH) or (704) 336-5396 (SPANISH).

For more information about lead in jewelry or the Consumer Product Safety Commission, go to www.cpsc.gov

or call

1-800-638-2772.

