



Lead Update

RI Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program

April 2007

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Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program www.health.ri.gov/lead

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Lead Screening Report Now Includes Tests of Children Living Outside of RI

As of February 2007, the KIDSNET lead screening report includes blood lead results for children living outside of RI. Prior to this date, KIDSNET included lead-screening results for RI residents only, while out of state residents appeared as unscreened. KIDSNET now includes all lead screening results for children up to 6 years of age, which improves the accuracy of the screening report. KIDSNET participating providers have access to run reports to identify children in different ages in their practice who are due for immunizations or lead screening. Each practice can generate these reports using the KIDSNET website <https://kidsnet.health.ri.gov/> under "Practice Reports."

Since some practices do not have Internet access, beginning in March 2007 and on a quarterly basis thereafter, the Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program (CLPPP) will provide a report of children in your practice from 15-72 months of age who appear to never have been screened for lead. CLPPP staff will review each report to verify it is complete and error-free and will mail it to providers who haven't generated the report from KIDSNET. This report is an excellent tool to schedule required lead screenings and improve lead screening rates for your practice.

Provider response to and continued use of this report is monitored monthly, as it is essential to our goal of ensuring timely lead screening for every child in your practice. For questions regarding technical assistance with KIDSNET, please contact your KIDSNET Provider Relations Representative or the KIDSNET help desk at 401.222.4220.

Reminder: Lead Screening Requirements For Upcoming Preschool and Kindergarten Registration

The lead screening entry requirement for preschools and schools asks that all public and private kindergartens, day-cares, preschools, early childhood education programs or other child care facilities, require a statement from the child's health care provider at the time of **initial** enrollment indicating compliance with lead screening requirements.

Rhode Island lead screening requirements state that all Rhode Island children under 6 years of age (9-71 months) must be screened for blood lead at least once annually. Screening may be discontinued after a lead test at 3 years of age, if prior tests were not elevated, child has not moved, and the child's home has not undergone renovations.

For more information please visit the Rhode Island Department of Health Website at: www.health.ri.gov/lead/family/faq-schools.php.

State of Rhode Island v. Lead Industries Association, et al, C.A. 99-5226

On February 22, 2006, a jury of six Rhode Islanders rendered the first verdict in the country against the lead pigment industry and declared the presence of lead pigments in paints and coatings on buildings in Rhode Island a public nuisance. The Jury further determined that former lead pigment manufacturers The Sherwin-Williams Company, NL Industries, Inc, and Millennium Holdings LLC, substantially contributed to the public nuisance, and ordered these Defendants to abate the nuisance.

Shortly after this historic verdict, the Defendants filed standard post-verdict motions seeking, among other things, either a new trial or a verdict directed in their favor premised upon what they alleged to be dozens of errors of law and procedure committed by the Court during trial. Following two days of oral arguments the Court took these motions under consideration. On February 26, 2007, the Court denied all Defendants' motions and directed the parties to submit proposals for appointment of a Special Master to assist the Court in evaluating the abatement plan to be submitted by the State. The Court entered final judgment on March 16, 2007.

The Defendants have subsequently filed their notices of appeal, which will be heard by the Rhode Island Supreme Court in the near future. In the interim, the trial Court will be moving forward with implementation of the abatement remedy ordered by the Jury.

Product Watch

The following product(s) may contain a dangerous amount of lead:

➤ Metal Key Chains

Voluntarily recalled April 3, 2007.

Sold at: Dollar General Merchandising, Inc. stores nationwide, from December 2005 through January 2007 for \$1.25.

- The CPSC press release, along with pictures of the product can be seen at: [www.dollargeneral.com/recalls/key%20chain%20recall%20\(4-3-07\).pdf](http://www.dollargeneral.com/recalls/key%20chain%20recall%20(4-3-07).pdf)

➤ Children's Charm Bracelets and "Sportswear" Necklaces

Voluntarily recalled on April 17, 2007.

Sold in vending machines located in malls, discount department stores, and grocery stores nationwide from January 2006 through April 2007 for \$.25 cents.

- For more information including pictures of the product visit: www.cpsc.gov/cpsc/publ/prerell/prhtml07/07157.html

Rhode Island Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program 30th Anniversary

May is Lead Poisoning Prevention Month in Rhode Island, and we have invited community partners to organize workshops and other activities, which will be posted on our website, www.health.ri.gov/lead. Please contact Melissa.Barie@health.ri.gov if you are interested in organizing an event in your community.

This May we will also celebrate the 30th Anniversary of the lead poisoning prevention program at the Rhode Island Department of Health. Our annual conference is scheduled for May 23, 2007.

We Need Your Input!

We are considering adding content and updating our website. As valued readers of the Lead Update we welcome your suggestions. Are there any topics you would like to see addressed on our website that are currently missing? What types of data or reports would be useful on our website? Please contact Daniela Quilliam at Daniela.Quilliam@health.ri.gov or 401.222.7730 or Glenn Russell at Glenn.Russell@health.ri.gov or 401.222.5932 with your suggestions.