



Lead Update

CLPPP: The Department of Health's New Database for Lead Poisoning in Rhode Island

On June 3, 2003, the Department of Health's Lead Program replaced Stellar, their legacy database of ten years, with "CLPPP" - a new database for client and environmental case management of lead poisoning in Rhode Island. All data previously stored in Stellar has now been converted to the new database. The upgrade to a lead database of more advanced design highlights the Department of Health's continuous work towards new and innovative methods to monitor and prevent childhood lead poisoning.

The CLPPP data system is a web-based application uniquely designed to collect client information, demographics, and blood test results as a core component of information on any child screened for lead poisoning. In addition, the database maintains an address history, which serves as a link between the Client information, Property Owner History, and Environmental Data. The Environmental Data is comprised of addresses, inspection information, Orders to Correct, abatements, enforcement and follow-up activities for individual sites or dwellings, in addition to complaint and audit tracking. These features enable the CLPPP system to support case management for both clients and environmental sites.

The CLPPP system also provides: enhanced reporting capability; simple cross reference between client blood lead levels and residential addresses; online access to client and environmental information; and the ability to import files from various data sources. With a host of new features to manipulate, Lead Program staff have devoted many hours to testing, as well as developing reports and protocols in order to enhance the capabilities of CLPPP for future users.

Due to the amount of time demanded by CLPPP testing, report design, and production, turnover of data requests will slow down considerably. Requests will be prioritized, and patience is greatly appreciated as we attempt to process the data needs of outside organizations amidst the development of the new CLPPP database.

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"Public and Professional Health Education, Health Promotion and Outreach Plan" is Now Available

In May 2003 RICLPPP made available a new resource entitled "Public and Professional Health Education, Health Promotion and Outreach Plan." This document is intended to serve as a resource to aid State Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Programs in the design and implementation of statewide health education and outreach strategies. Other partners in the prevention of lead poisoning may also find it helpful for strategy development. The Plan summarizes all of the outreach and education efforts that the Lead Program has found successful over the years of its operation. Some of them include: Health Care Provider Education and Training Programs, Media Campaign, Train the Trainers, Lead Poisoning Prevention Month, Educate the Legislators, and the Keep It Clean Campaign. For each strategy, the objective, target audience, implementation steps, frequency, and evaluation are discussed.

To request hard copies of this publication, contact the Program's Outreach and Education Coordinator, Ann Rundquist at 222-7681 or Ann_Rundquist@doh.state.ri.us. The Plan is also available in PDF format on the web at www.health.ri.gov/family/lead/outreachplan.pdf.

The Family Health Information Line: an Important Resource

Since 1998, the Family Health Information Line has served as a convenient resource for Rhode Island families with questions or concerns about lead poisoning. Close to one hundred callers a month call the Information Line with questions concerning lead. A majority of calls are about general lead safety. Other commonly asked questions include home repair, inspections, homeowner rights, tenant rights, screening and drinking water. The Information Line staff is well trained to answer these questions and to refer to other offices or agencies when appropriate. Please refer your clients to the Family Health Information Line, 1-800-942-7434 (Spanish and English), for questions concerning lead poisoning.

PLEASE NOTE: HEALTH's URL has changed from www.healthri.org to www.health.ri.gov