

# Lead

## Heavy Metal with Heavier Consequences

There is no safe level of lead in the bloodstream; any amount of lead is toxic. Some symptoms are not obvious, which is why testing for lead levels in the blood is so important.

Children are at the highest risk of lead poisoning, especially from ages 0-6.

### Children



#### Brain and Nervous System

Lower IQ, behavior problems and learning disabilities. Damage to nervous system function.



#### Hearing

Hearing loss.



#### Body

Bone and muscle deterioration.



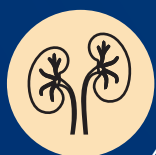
#### Growth

Slowed growth.



#### Blood

Anemia.



#### Kidneys

Abnormal function and damage.

### Adults

#### Brain and Nervous System

Memory loss, irritability, lack of concentration, headaches and depression. Speech and language problems. Damage to nervous system function.



#### Cardiovascular

High blood pressure.



#### Body

Fatigue, muscle and joint pain.



#### Digestive System

Poor appetite, nausea and constipation.



#### Kidneys

Abnormal function and damage.



#### Reproductive System

Men: Decreased sex drive and sperm count, sperm abnormalities.  
Women: Spontaneous miscarriage.

