

LEAD POISONING

- Lead production workers, battery plant workers, welders and solders may be overexposed to lead if proper precautions are not taken. Lead is stored in the bone but may affect any organ system.
- Occupational exposure to lead in painting, smelting, printing, battery manufacturing, mining, gasoline, glass, and bridge, tunnel and elevated highway construction may also occur.
- Another cause of lead poisoning is through the contamination of water from lead pipes.
- Additional causes of lead poisoning include calcium products, progressive hair dyes, kajal, surma, kohl, and foreign digestive remedies.

SYMPTOMS OF LEAD POISONING IN CHILDREN

- The effects of lead poisoning varies depending on the age of the individual and the amount of exposure.
- In children, Lead overexposure may cause children to be less playful, irritable, and sluggish (lethargic).
- Neurological symptoms associated with lead overexposure include an impaired ability to coordinate voluntary movements (ataxia), brain damage (encephalopathy), seizures, convulsions, swelling of the optic nerve (papilledema), and/or impaired consciousness.
- Some affected children experience learning or behavioral problems such as mental retardation and selective deficits in language, cognitive function, balance, behavior, and school performance.
- In some cases, symptoms may be life-threatening.

SYMPTOMS OF LEAD POISONING IN ADULTS

- In adults, overexposure to lead may cause high blood pressure and damage to the reproductive organs.
- Additional symptoms may include fever, headaches, fatigue, sluggishness (lethargy), vomiting, loss of appetite (anorexia), abdominal pain, constipation, joint pain, loss of recently acquired skills, difficulty sleeping (insomnia), irritability, altered consciousness.
- In addition, affected individuals may experience low levels of iron in the red blood cells (anemia), peripheral neuropathy, and, in some cases, brain damage (encephalopathy).
- Some affected individuals experience decreased muscle strength and endurance; kidney disease; wrist drop; and behavioral changes such as hostility, depression, and/or anxiety.
- In some cases, symptoms may be life-threatening.
- Patients suffering from lead poisoning causing dyslexia disease.

MERCURY POISONING

- Mercury is used by dental assistants and hygienists, and chemical workers.
- Mercury poisoning may be caused by exposure to large amounts of mercury in the manufacturing of thermometers, mirrors, incandescent lights, x-ray machines, and vacuum pumps.
- Another cause of mercury poisoning is contaminated water and fish.
- Children often are exposed to mercury through paint, calomel, teething powder, and mercuric fungicide used in washing diapers.
- Additional causes of mercury poisoning is exposure to mercury in thermometers, dental amalgams, and some batteries.

SYMPTOMS OF MERCURY POISONING

- Mercury can affect the lungs, kidneys, brain, and skin.
- Symptoms of mercury poisoning include fatigue, depression, sluggishness (lethargy), irritability, headaches, coughing, breathlessness (dyspnea), tightness or burning pain in the chest, and/or respiratory distress.
- abnormal buildup of fluid in the lungs (pulmonary edema); pneumonia; and/or abnormal formation of fibrous tissue (fibrosis).

SYMPTOMS OF MERCURY POISONING

- lack of concentration, loss of memory, mental confusion, impaired ability to coordinate voluntary movements (ataxia), impaired ability to coordinate voluntary movements (cerebellar ataxia); tremors of the legs and arms, slurred speech (dysarthria), Changes in mood, behavior, and consciousness may also occur.
- Patients suffering from mercury poisoning causing Minamata disease.

COPPER POISONING AND ITS SYMPTOMS

- Long-term exposure to copper can cause irritation of the nose, mouth and eyes and it causes headaches, stomachaches, dizziness, vomiting and diarrhea. Intentionally high uptakes of copper may cause liver and kidney damage and even death.
- Hypotension (low blood pressure), jaundice (yellowish pigmentation of the skin), and gastrointestinal distress are also the symptoms of copper poisoning.
- Too much copper can be toxic. You can get too much copper from dietary supplements or from drinking contaminated water. Extra copper in the liver overflows and builds up in the kidneys, brain, and eyes. This extra copper can kill liver cells and cause nerve damage.
- Patients suffering from copper poisoning causing Wilson's disease.