

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT THE BLOOD LEAD SCREENING PROJECT

Why is the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health doing a Blood Lead Screening?

The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (LADPH) is responding to concerns about lead exposure in Vernon and surrounding communities through a Blood Lead Screening Project. The Blood Lead Screening is an opportunity for residents to know their current lead status and to consider appropriate medical or environmental interventions if necessary.

Who can participate in the Blood Lead Screening?

The Blood Lead Screening Project is being offered to adults, children, residents, students and workers in the community who have never been screened for lead before, or who have been screened before, and wish to receive another screen to determine their current status of lead exposure.

How long will the Blood Lead Screening be offered?

The Blood Lead Screening began on April 7, 2014 and will continue through at least the next five years.

Where do I need to go to have my blood screened for lead?

Blood samples will be drawn and analyzed at Quest Diagnostics laboratories. You may schedule an appointment ahead of time, or walk-in to a Quest Diagnostics laboratory facility in the area during normal business hours. Certain Quest Diagnostics laboratories also have Saturday hours. For locations or to schedule an appointment, please visit www.questdiagnostics.com or call (888) 277-8772.

What do I need to do to participate in the Blood Lead Screening?

If you are interested in the Blood Lead Screening, you will need to call the Blood Lead Screening Hotline at **1-844-888-2290** or visit the website at www.bloodleadtesting.com to sign up for a special form called a *Laboratory Requisition*. When you are ready to have your Screening, you will need to take this Requisition Form with you to the laboratory, so the lab technicians will know that you are part of DPH's Blood Lead Screening Project. You may also choose to visit your own healthcare provider for a blood lead screening, but you will be responsible for the costs of the screening at your healthcare provider.

Can you tell me more about the blood lead test?

The test that is being used for this screening is a very simple, safe and widely-used test that can determine the amount of lead in the blood.

What about my results?

When your results are ready, they will be sent directly to DPH, and will be kept strictly confidential under federal HIPAA regulations. You will receive your blood lead results by mail from DPH when they become available. If you have questions after you receive your results, you can call the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health's Lead Hotline at **1-800-LA-4-LEAD** or **1-800-524-5323**.