

An important step in identifying lead exposure sources during childhood lead poisoning investigations is sampling products to determine if they are contaminated with lead.

The Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program at the Oregon Health Authority can test products at its office or send these to labs for analysis. Products that can be tested include medicines, cosmetics, spices, and some foods.

If samples are not sent in their original packaging, they should be individually placed in a clear plastic sandwich bag and labeled with as much information as possible. Liquid samples should be in plastic containers. Include the following information on the sample: name and/or description of the product; brand/manufacturer if known; country/city purchased (if outside of the US); amount of product used per day/week/month; and the purpose or use of the product. Pictures of the product packaging are also helpful.

Amount of product needed for each sample:

- Dry powders = 1-2 tablespoons
- Pills/tablets = At least 10
- Liquids = 2 teaspoons

Samples can be mailed to the following address:

**Lead Program**  
**800 NE Oregon St. Suite 640**  
**Portland, OR 97232**

Test results for the products will be sent to you from either your local public health authority or our program. Results from labs could take 2-3 weeks before they are available.

If you have any questions, please contact me directly.

**Ryan Barker**

Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program  
OREGON HEALTH AUTHORITY

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