

# HEAVY METALS



Lead toxicity

by Noor Mansour

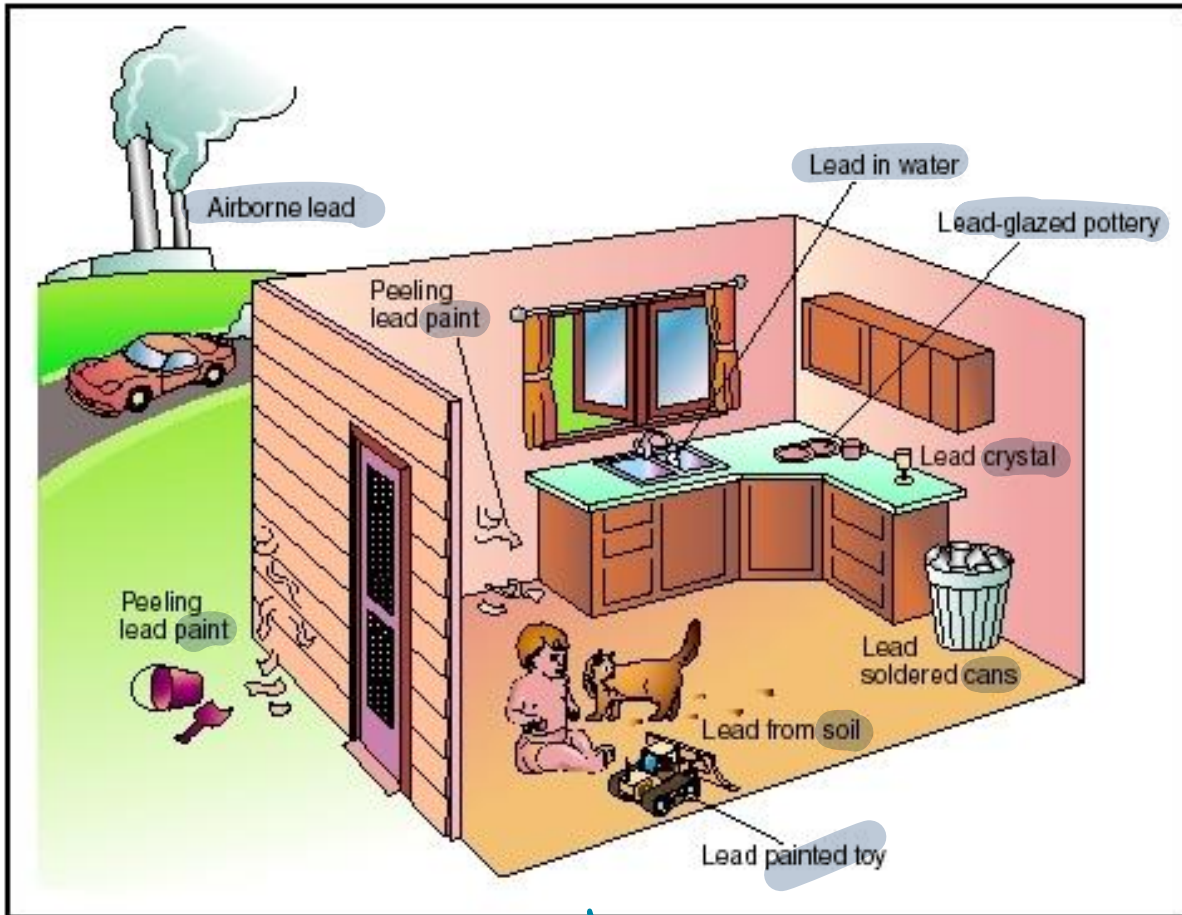
slide  
مكرر من  
Iron toxicity

# HEAVY METALS

- LEAD ✓
  - IRON ✓ العنصر الهام
  - MERCURY
  - ARSENIC
  - NICKEL
  - CADMIUM
  - THALLIUM
  - ALUMINUM
  - GOLD
- 
- Some metals needed in trace amounts
  - Body lacks any major system to remove excess metals → mainly renal excretion

# الرصاص ← LEAD

- Lead poisoning is one of the oldest occupational and environmental diseases in the world
- **Exposure from:** environment (water, air, soil, food), fuels, paints, production of storage batteries, glass polishing, shooting  
→ contaminated with lead  
الطلق (الرصاص المسموم)  
صوحد في بطاريات السيارات
- Environmental lead exposure has declined considerably in the last three decades.  
عقود  
السبب
- ① Paint و gasoline  
② elimination of lead as an additive in gasoline, as well as diminished contact with lead-based paint and other lead-containing consumer products.



طلق المسدس (shooting)



# LEAD

- Lead is a cumulative poison that causes both **chronic (plumbism)** and **acute** intoxication
- **Acute** poisoning is **rare** but **chronic** one is a **serious problem** (low-level lead exposure) → هو اlevel low لس chronic لانه exposure time عالي لبل بال جسم فترة طويلة
- The **intestinal tract** is the primary route of entry in **non-industrial exposure... from food & water**

← من صناعات  
ذرية Food

**Lead-containing paint** is a **1ry** source of lead exposure in **children (pica)** → *craving* <sup>↳ primary</sup>

كل اشياء ما عدا الاكل .  
لما حالة عند الاطفال انه يحب ياكل anything unless food

Lead exist in both **inorganic** and **organic** form

# Toxicokinetics

- **Absorption:**

- **Oral exposure:**

- adult diet (**10% absorbed, children absorb 50%**)

ب. بزرگوار استقامت lead

- **Dietary deficiencies** of calcium, iron, zinc enhance lead absorption as well as its tissue storage

سریع  
به آ

**Inhalation:** absorption is greater and more rapid by pulmonary route....is **the major route of industrial exposure** (lead fumes, fine particles)

اهمیت  
و صرف

**Dermal absorption** is poor, Cutaneous absorption of lead is limited (typically far **less than 1%**), except in case of organic lead

→ depends on skin condition (اذا كان skin damaged بزرگوار استقامت lead absorption)

distribution of lead \*  
يكون بالـ systems للأسف.

# Toxicokinetics

- After absorption lead circulate through the blood associated 99% with erythrocytes and 1% present in plasma  
↓  
RBCs
- **Distributed first to soft tissues** (renal tubule and liver) and then incorporates into bone, hair and teeth for storage
- Crosses the placenta and the BBB → CNS system  
90%
- High affinity for bone and other calcified tissue.....90% deposited in bone "lead lines" (tertiary lead phosphate)

يكون بالـ نظام بيضاء العظام →



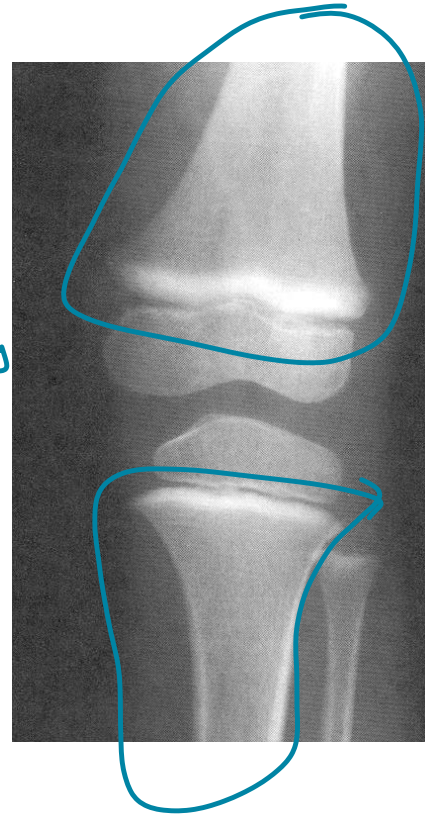
X-ray

# LEAD



LEAD LINES

هناك شعاع  
بأشعة من العظام  
يقول انه هنا  
تراكم في lead



\* الارتفاع يؤثر على نمو العظام ويوقف  
elongation of bone  
weakening

lead storage  
in bones



— بهزل بالدم والانسجة من شهر لشهرين  
يس بالعظام بهزل سنين

# Toxicokinetics

- **Clearance:** half life in the blood and soft tissues is 1–2 months; while in bone is years to decades
- ~70% of lead excretion occurs via the urine
- Less amounts are eliminated via the feces and exfoliation of epithelial tissue, sweat, and breast milk
- **A dose of 0.5g of absorbed lead is estimated to represent a fatal dose** Lethal Dose → 0.5g

# Toxic dose

- Whole blood lead concentrations are **non toxic** if **< 150  $\mu\text{g/L}$  (1 mmol/L)** *← كان الـ 150 هو الحد الذي لا يتعداه في الكبار*  
*adults*
- Concentrations over **600  $\mu\text{g/L}$  [3 mmol/L]** (children) or **800  $\mu\text{g/L}$  [4 mmol/L]** (adults) are usually associated with **severe toxicity**.

*Water المصنوع في Lead*

*Lead is 15 parts of water is 1 billion parts*

- level for lead in drinking water is **15 ppb**.....however, the maximum contaminant level **goal 0 ppb**

*zero contaminant*

# Lead toxicity

Distribution of lead in various organs and systems



# Toxicity

- The toxic **effects** range from **تأثير السم يعتمد على الجرعة**
- **inhibition of enzymes** to the **production of severe pathology or death**
- Lead exerts **multisystemic toxic effects** that are mediated by multiple modes of action:
- Primarily by **binding to sulfhydryl group** of protein molecules....cause **inactivation of several enzyme systems** → **ممكن الانزيمات فتتاجها لا نتاج الطاقة او بتغل**  
**Free radicals**
- Lead affect the **nervous system**, the **GI**, **hematopoietic**, **reproductive & CV systems**

# Hematologic Effects

- Decreased heme synthesis.....increase production of RBCs by bone marrow (compensatory mech.) → reduction in bone marrow by the mechanism of immature RBCs synthesis
- These cells are released as immature reticulocytes and stippled cells (**basophilic stippling**) immature ← RBCs, stippled ← RBCs

- When blood smear is stained erythrocytes display dots.....<sup>due to</sup> accumulation of mRNA  
microscope at RBCs

- Normocytic or Microcytic and hypochromic anemia

Lead



# Renal Toxicity (nephrotoxicity)

- **Chronic lead nephrotoxicity** consists of interstitial fibrosis, progressive nephron loss, azotemia & renal failure

Rare

- **Acute lead nephrotoxicity** consists of proximal tubular dysfunction and azotemia.....can be reversed by Tx with chelating agents antidote *creatinine & urea nitrogen ارتفاع*

- Impairs the renal synthesis of heme-containing enzymes involved in vitamin D metabolism....affect

bone → osteoporosis  
↓ reduction of 25-OH

vitamin D activation! lead toxicity  
• active form ↓ 25-OH

- Hyperuricemia with gout  
↓  
uric acid accumulation



صون دكزمو  
صالحكوب بالامر

# Neurologic, Neurobehavioral, and Developmental Effects in Children

- Manifestations range from impaired concentration, headache, diminished visual-motor coordination, & tremor to overt encephalopathy: ~~lethargy~~ or ~~delirium~~, ~~vomiting~~, ~~irritability~~, ~~loss of appetite~~, ~~dizziness~~, and convulsions
- May progress to obvious ataxia, and reduced level of consciousness... may progress to coma and death
- Lead affects virtually every neurotransmitter system in the brain (glutamatergic, dopaminergic, and cholinergic systems)....  
*excitatory or inhibitory*
- Recovery is often accompanied by sequelae including epilepsy, mental retardation....in some cases, optic neuropathy and blindness

بأثر على  
CNS

في وقت لو الواصل recovery منه بس ممكن  
يعاني من هالاشياء ↑

# Effects on Cardiovascular System

- The pathogenesis of lead-induced **hypertension** is multifactorial including: *؟ hypertension لیس*

1. **Inactivation of endogenous nitric oxide and cGMP**, possibly through lead-induced reactive oxygen species;  
*1. 2. 3. → Vasodilator*
2. Changes in the **RAAS** and increases in sympathetic activity.....important humoral components of HTN;  
*→ Renin angiotensin aldosterone system*
3. possible rise **in endothelin & thromboxane===vasoconstrictors**

# Other Toxic Effects

بأثر على النظام المناعي

- Lead **decreases immunoglobulins, peripheral B lymphocytes,** and other components of the immunologic system.....**immunosuppressive agent** → يخفض المناعة

- Retention and mobilization of lead in bone occur by the same mechanisms involved in calcium regulation.....**competes with Ca for GI absorption**  
يقبل امتصاص Ca

- Lead affects osteoblasts, and osteoclasts.....has been associated with **osteoporosis** and **delays fracture repair**  
هناك حساسية العظام

فكينا عنها حساسية العظام  
وبأثر على النمو

Calcium ↓ + Vitamin D ↓  
يحدث Osteoporosis  
وله بسبب Lead toxicity

## Other Toxic Effects

CLs  
Reproductive system  
• Lead toxicity has long been associated also with **sterility** and **spontaneous abortion and low birth weight** → or infertility

- **GI effects:**

- Abdominal cramp

more common  
– Constipation, Nausea, vomiting

- Less common Diarrhea

# Diagnosis

- Skeletal x-ray's fluorescence measurement of lead *in bone (lead lines)*
- Blood levels of lead
  - Anemia microcytic, hypochromic (with basophilic stippling )
  - Azotemia, Gout *→ uric acid ↑*
- High blood levels of  $\delta$ -ALA & coproporphyrins (after few weeks of exposure)

*presence of*

*↑ urea nitrogen*

# Diagnosis

- N.B: consider lead poisoning in any patient with multisystem findings with abdominal pain, headache, anemia, and, less commonly, motor neuropathy, gout, and renal insufficiency.

↓  
neurological damage إذا صار عنده

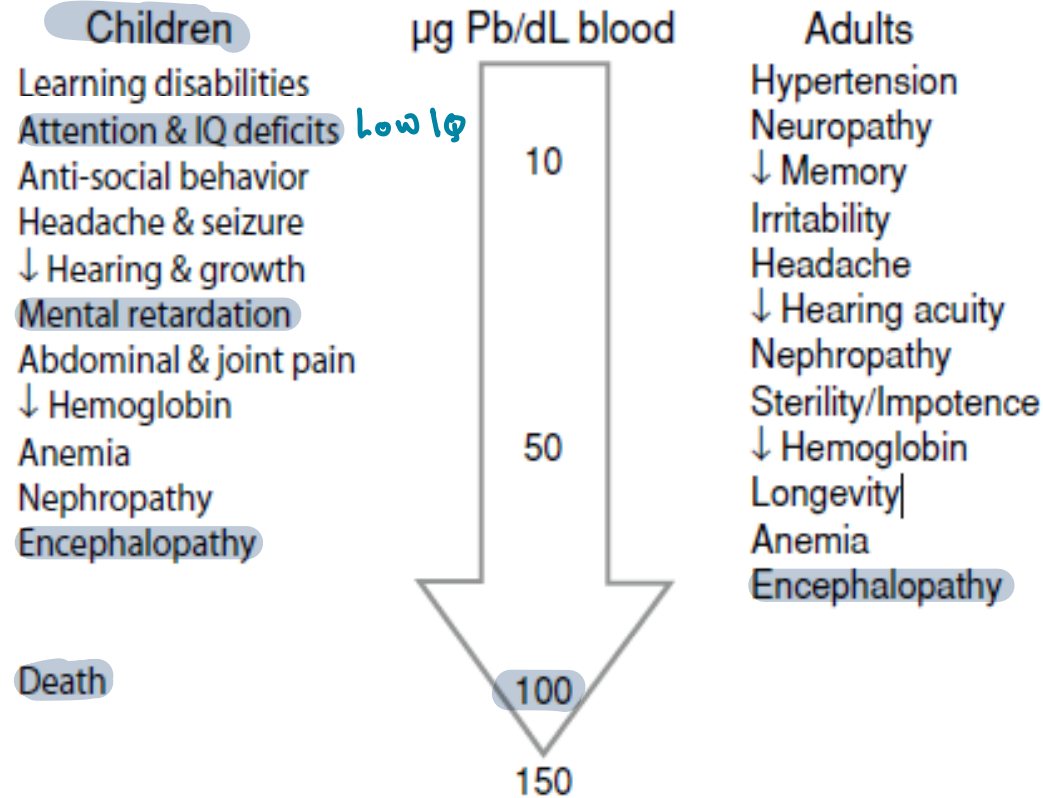
- Consider lead encephalopathy in any child or adult with delirium or convulsions (especially with coexistent anemia)



# اعتاداً على blood or plasma بنسبته الأعراض Lead level

FIGURE 1. Effects of lead poisoning on human health<sup>a</sup>

\* مش مطلوبه  
تحفظوا على بدمية  
و بشو EF الی علیها  
لبس اعرفوا انه  
EF هيا :  
dose dependent  
و بتختلف بين  
children & Adults



<sup>a</sup> Adapted from Gurer and Ercal (49).

# LEAD TREATMENT

TREATMENT:

ABC ← لا تنسى

- REMOVAL OF THE SOURCE & STABILIZE THE PATIENT

- CHELATING THERAPY:   
 مركبات بتعمل complex مع  
impair وبتعمل heavy metals  
تسبب tissue accumulation  
  - BAL
  - Calcium EDTA
  - SUCCIMER
  - D - PENICILLAMINE → penicillamine مشتق من
- SUPPORT

# Treatment

- Treat seizures and coma if they occur → anti epileptic medications
- Provide adequate fluids to maintain urine flow but avoid overhydration.....may aggravate cerebral edema  
- diuretic over edema  
- corticosteroids or mannitol
- Patients with increased intracranial pressure may benefit from corticosteroids or mannitol
- Decontamination by activated charcoal and whole bowel irrigation → acute poisoning

# CHELATING AGENTS

## WHAT MAKES A GOOD CHELATING AGENT?

- NONTOXIC & FORMS NONTOXIC COMPOUNDS
- HIGH WATER SOLUBILITY
- SIMILAR DISTRIBUTION TO THE METAL
- LOW AFFINITY FOR CALCIUM and other ions
- EASILY REMOVED FROM THE BODY
- GREATER AFFINITY FOR THE METAL THAN ENDOGENOUS LIGANDS → the best criteria for any chelating agents
- *Treatment with chelating agents decreases blood lead concentrations and increases urinary excretion*

- **DIMERCAPROL (BAL)**: **British AntiLewisite** comp. (I.M)

يستخدم:

- Forms complexes with sulfhydryl groups
- Used for inorganic mercury, arsenic and in lead poisoning  
*CNS*
- **Chelate lead in serum and cerebral spinal fluid**
- Usually used in combination with calcium EDTA
- The complex is rapidly excreted in the urine
- May cause **hemolysis in patient with G6PD deficiency**  
*↓ مرض التفتول*
- ADE: transient hypertension, tachycardia, N,V, fever  
*nausea, vomiting*

↓  
Adverse Effect

# CALCIUM DISODIUM EDETATE (CaNa<sub>2</sub>EDTA)

(im/iv)

- Mobilize lead from soft tissue and bone
- Forms a stable, nonionizable, water soluble compound with lead
- Complex rapidly excreted in urine
- ADE: fever, headache, N,V, anorexia, myalgia, hypotension
- ADEs: nephrotoxicity minimized by adequate hydration → *بحرہ نئی اور اسی کے ساتھ*  
*good renal function*
- May deplete manganese, zinc & iron



SUCCIMER (DMSA)...p.o → orally

- DIMERCAPTOSUCCINIC ACID...water soluble analog of BAL
- Enhances the urinary excretion of **lead** and **mercury** without affecting the elimination of the endogenous minerals as Ca, Fe, and Mn
- ADEs: GI disturbances, mild reversible increase in transaminase enzymes, allergic reaction

penicilline derivatives

PENICILLAMINE...p.o → orally

- Penicillin derivative without antimicrobial activity...allergy!
- Widely replaced by succimer because of its poor safety profile

# مستويات تفاعلية

Symptomatic	Tx. regimen
	EDTA for 5 days

Asymptomatic	Tx. regimen
Blood lead <sup>&lt;24</sup> 10-24 µg/dl	Chelation no recommended
Blood lead 25-44 µg/dl	<u>Succimer</u> for 2-4 weeks OR EDTA for 5 days
Blood lead 45-69 µg/dl	<u>EDTA</u> for 2 weeks
Blood lead >70 µg/dl high level	BAL for five days + EDTA for 5 days

اعرفوا  
هنا

وصاي

# LEAD

\* لازم اراقب Fluid amount  
عشان ما  
Cerebral edema  
بیسر

## • SUPPORT:

- Establish adequate urine output before administering chelating agent (fluid bolus but monitor coz may aggravate cerebral edema)
- Dialysis for patients with severe renal insufficiency
- Blood lead levels: stop chelation if level <30µg/dl → او اقل من 24
- Recurrent blood level assessment before and after treatment with chelating agents at regular interval  
↓

عشان اشوف lead level وین مہار  
واندا قل من 30 او 24 بوقف chelating agent