

Blood Lead Reference Value Workgroup

Jill Ryer-Powder, Ph.D., MNSP, DABT: Chairman

Charge of Blood Lead Reference Value (BLRV) Workgroup

- ▶ CDC currently uses a BLRV of 5 micrograms per deciliter (ug/dL) to identify children with blood lead levels that are higher than most children, i.e., children in the highest 2.5% of blood lead levels.
- ▶ The current BLRV is based on the 97.5th percentile of the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES) blood lead distribution in children ages 1-5 years using data from 2007-2008 and 2009-2010. CDC is charged with assessing NHANES data every 4 years using the two most recent survey cycles of available data to determine if the blood lead reference value should be updated.
- ▶ The charge of the BLRV Workgroup is to provide recommendations for establishing or re-establishing a blood lead reference value (BLRV) for the Center for Disease Control's National Center for Environmental Health (NCEH) via the Lead Exposure and Prevention Advisory Committee (LEPAC)

Members of BLRV Workgroup

Ginger Chew; Designated Federal Officer (DFO); Health Scientist, Division of Environmental Health Science and Practice, National Center for Environmental Health (NCEH)

Wallace Chambers; LEPAC Member; Deputy Director of Environmental Public Health, Cuyahoga County Board of Health

Nathan Graber; LEPAC Member; Pediatrician, St. Peter's Health Partners

Jill Ryer-Powder; LEPAC Member; Principal Health Scientist, Environmental Health Decisions

Bruce Lanphear; Professor, Simon Fraser University

Julianne Nassif; Director of Environmental Health, Association of Public Health Laboratories (APHL)

Amanda Reddy; Executive Director, National Center for Healthy Housing (NCHH)

Mark Werner; Director of Bureau of Environmental and Occupational Health, Wisconsin Department of Public Health

Nsedu Obot Witherspoon; Executive Director, Children's Environmental Health Network (CEHN)

Progress of BLRV Workgroup

- ▶ Conducted 3 virtual meetings that covered:
 - ▶ History of BLRV
 - ▶ Purpose and charge of BLRV Workgroup
 - ▶ Decision regarding end product, i.e., report of recommendation
 - ▶ Develop timeline for completion of report
- ▶ Completed and reviewed outline for report of recommendation
- ▶ Identified areas that need further research before completion of report
- ▶ Assigned sections of report to workgroup members

Work in Progress

- ▶ Met on October 20 - Dr. Jones presentation regarding laboratory performance at low blood lead concentrations
- ▶ Continue to research specific areas necessary to complete report
- ▶ Write each section of the report - draft report by November 13
- ▶ Meet on November 17 to review draft, determine editing protocol, and update timeline to estimate date of completion of report