

BIOMONITORING STUDY ON YOUNG CHILDREN LIVING IN THE NOTRE-DAME NEIGHBOURHOOD

Direction de santé publique de l'Abitibi-Témiscamingue

HOW TO PARTICIPATE?

The Public Health Department is conducting a biomonitoring study on young children in the Notre-Dame neighbourhood. This study is in line with previous studies conducted to assess lead and arsenic concentrations in children in the Notre-Dame neighbourhood. This year's study aims to measure lead, arsenic and cadmium concentrations in children, as well as in the soil and indoor dust. The higher the number of participants in the study, the more likely it is to describe accurately the environmental exposure of the neighbourhood's children.



The study targets **children between 9 months and 6 years of age** (born between October 13, 2012 and February 13, 2018), as they are most vulnerable to environmental contaminants. Toddlers are also more likely to breathe in and ingest dust while playing on the floor. Contaminants can also be found on objects they tend to put in their mouths.

YOUR PARTICIPATION IN THIS STUDY IS VOLUNTARY AND IS IN TWO PHASES.

PHASE 1

A nurse will collect a blood sample and nail clippings from your child. To avoid having to wait, we encourage you to **schedule an appointment immediately**.

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| SAMPLES WILL BE COLLECTED ON : | { Saturday, OCTOBER 13 and Sunday, OCTOBER 14 at the hospital's test center (4, 9 ^e Rue) |
| TWO WAYS TO BOOK AN APPOINTMENT : | {  819 764-4600
@ 08_ciassat_biosurveillance@ssss.gouv.qc.ca |

IMPORTANT : Please do not cut your child's nails to ensure that they are long enough for the appointment.

The appointment

Firstly, a health professional will go over the consent form, which you must sign to participate in the study. You will also be asked to complete a detailed questionnaire about your lifestyle habits, as they can help explain the presence of certain contaminants in your child.

This could take up to 30 minutes. The samples will then be collected.

MEASUREMENTS	BLOOD SAMPLE	NAIL SAMPLE
A nurse will take the height and weight of your child.	A nurse will collect a small amount of blood (approx. a teaspoon). This will help determine the concentration of lead and cadmium in your child's blood.	Using a nail clipper, a nurse will cut your child's fingernails and toenails. These samples will be used to identify the concentration of arsenic in their nails.

This could take about 15 to 20 minutes. Following this first appointment, you will be invited to book another appointment for the second phase.

PHASE 2

At the time of the second appointment, a public health team will visit your residence to collect soil samples from your lot and dust samples from within your home. These samples will be used to measure the presence of lead, arsenic, and cadmium on your lot and in the rooms where your child plays most of the time.

This could take about 15 to 20 minutes.

Communication of study results

It will be several months before the study results become available. However, if your child's blood test results require medical follow-up, your child will be referred to a paediatrician at the hospital here in Rouyn-Noranda for care. The presentation of preliminary findings of the study publicly will be in winter 2019.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON :

- the contaminants under study and their impact on human health;
- the everyday products that can pose health risks and that require your special attention.

Visit the website of the CISSS de l'Abitibi-Témiscamingue :

www.cisss-at.gouv.qc.ca

(click on *Étude de biosurveillance - Quartier Notre-Dame*).

If you have any further questions, you may also contact us:



819 764-4600



08_cisssat_biosurveillance@
ssss.gouv.qc.ca

Centre intégré
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