ASSESSMENT OF LEAD CONTAMINATION OF HOMES IN LAGOS CITY, NIGERIA

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Principal sources of lead and its compound in the air are vehicle emissions and industrial discharges form fuel combustible engine. In Nigeria automobile exhaust constitute 75-80% of the gross air pollution and lead is a major contaminant.(Adogame 1997). The lead levels from contaminated homes during the study ranges from 0.19-388.08mg/kg for high density area, 18.5-398.15mg/kg for medium Density area and 10.25-215mg/kg for low density area of Lagos city, Nigeria. The most common perceived health problems resulting from lead poisoning and headaches which constitute 26.3%, 21% and 23.3% for high, medium and low density areas respectively. Abdominal pains constitute 8.9%, 7.9% and 17% for high, medium and low density areas respectively. The general body weakness constitute 8.8%, 11.8% and 16.7% for high, medium and low density areas respectively. Some control measures against lead may be very necessary to avoid lead moving up to a poisoning level which include reduction of vehicular emissions and precautions to control tail pipe emissions through improved combustion