

---

# Lead status in maternal blood and its effect on neonatal haematological disorders in benha community

**Afaf Ibrahim Kamel Shalaby**

The understanding of lead's role in human health has changed profoundly during the past five decades in that period pediatricians have discarded the once widely held belief that affected cases either died or recovered completely from lead poisoning. They are now confronted with data demonstrating that millions of lead-exposed children, most of whom have no symptoms, may have impaired neurobehavioral function. This new information has drawn the public health services to declare that lead poisoning remains one of the most common and socially devastating environmental diseases of young children. Many studies showed that prenatal lead level or early infancy lead levels, were related to later psychologic scores, after adjustment for other variables such as maternal and socioeconomic status. In spite of the last definition of the center for disease control which determines the upper limit for blood lead by 25 ug/dl. We found that the tendency to decrease this limit increases day after day all over the world as a result of the recent studies, which prove that the neuropsychological insult occurs gradually at levels quite below the level of 25 ug/dl. In this study the blood lead level was determined in 50 mothers and their newborns. We found that the mean value of blood lead in maternal blood was and the mean value of blood lead in newborns was 12.6 ug/dl. This shows that our environment is considered of high degree of pollution, and these levels exceeding the permissible safe levels reported by different authorities abroad these newborns will get other burden of lead pollution from the environment.