UPDATES

Health notices · Thursday 26 November

3 notices from the agencies today, in plain words, each with the original linked.

CDC updated guidance on testing children for lead poisoning

CDC · Guidance

If you're caring for a child, CDC's updated guidance explains that a blood lead test is the best way to find out if a child has lead poisoning-even when there are no visible symptoms.

CDC says children who may be at increased risk should be tested, including children who live or spend time in housing built before 1978, live in low-income households, or have certain lead exposure from work or hobbies.

CDC also notes that tests may be capillary (finger or heel) first, with follow-up confirmation using a venous blood draw, depending on results. Any lead exposure should be taken seriously because no safe level has been identified.

If a child's blood lead level is higher than CDC's reference value, their doctor may recommend follow-up actions and care, including removing lead from the environment and planning follow-up testing.

What to do

Read the original notice

- Talk with your child's healthcare provider about whether your child needs a blood lead test if you think they may have been exposed.
- If your child has a blood lead test above CDC's reference value, follow the healthcare provider's recommended follow-up actions and care based on the blood lead level.

FDA approved topiramate for seizure and migraine prevention uses

FDA · Approval

If you have epilepsy, topiramate is indicated to treat certain seizure types. It can be used as initial treatment or alongside other seizure medicines, for people 2 years and older.

If you get migraine, topiramate is indicated for preventive treatment for people 12 years and older.

Read the original notice

FDA classifies an oral care toothpaste for cross-contamination

FDA · Recall

If you use ORL Organic Oral Care Cinnamint toothpaste (4 oz; ORL; ORL Labs, LLC; Scottsdale, Arizona; UPC 850006245512), the FDA classifies it as a Class II item due to possible cross-contamination.

The FDA says sampling found progesterone, estradiol, and dehydroepiandrosterone (DHEA), which are sex-related hormones.

The issue is reported for distribution across the USA nationwide, with the FDA notice published on 2026-11-18.

Read the original notice

Where this comes from

- CDC updated guidance on testing children for lead poisoning

  Centers for Disease Control and Prevention · https://tools.cdc.gov/api/v2/resources/purls/WSRTW
- FDA approved topiramate for seizure and migraine prevention uses

  US Food and Drug Administration - Drugs@FDA · https://www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/cder/daf/index.cfm?event=overview.process&ApplNo=219207
- FDA classifies an oral care toothpaste for cross-contamination

  US Food and Drug Administration - enforcement report · https://www.fda.gov/drugs/drug-safety-and-availability/drug-recalls