

Warning!



Imported eye powders such as
Surma, Kohl, Kajal, Sindoor
often contain **LEAD** that can poison you or your
child!

Lead Poisoning is preventable!

Find out more on back ...



Alameda County
Lead Poisoning Prevention Program
(510) 567-8280
www.aclppp.org

What are these eye products and why are they dangerous?



- Eye and bindi powders such as “Surma” and “Kohl” and “Kajal” and “Sindoor” have been used for many years for health and beauty. Using them is a valued cultural practice in many countries in South and Central Asia, Africa, and the Middle East. However, these products often contain dangerous amounts of lead.
- Lead is especially dangerous to young children. Children with lead poisoning usually do not look or act sick. But, even small amounts of lead can harm young children. Lead can slow their growth and cause learning and behavior problems.
- Young children can easily get lead poisoning from these products. They can get lead into their bodies through the areas around the eyes or if they rub and touch their eyes and then put their fingers in their mouths.

What can I do to protect my child from lead poisoning?

- Do not use imported eyeliners like Surma, Kohl, or Kajal unless you have them tested to make sure they are safe. Use eyeliners approved for use in the United States.
- Ask your doctor to test your child for lead poisoning.
- There are many other sources of lead poisoning. Lead may also be found in:
 - paint from older homes
 - imported foods and spices
 - imported glazed pottery
 - folk/home remedies or medicines.

For more information:

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Adapted from an original poster by Contra Costa County

