Nemzeti Népegészségügyi Központ EFOP 1.8.0-VEKOP-17-2017-00001 "Egészségügyi ellátórendszer szakmai módszertani fejlesztése"

RISK ASSESSMENT FOR EXPOSURE TO LEAD IN DRINKING WATER

EFOP-1.8.0.-VEKOP-17-2017-00001 PROJECT C.I. WORKING GROUP

ZSUZSANNA BUFA-DŐRR, SENIOR PROFESSIONAL LEADER OF THE PROJECT



BEFEKTETÉS A JÖVŐBE

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON INTEGRATED PROBLEM SOLVING APPROACHES TO ENSURE SCHOOLCHILDREN'S HEALTH CONFERENCE 23-24. MAY 2019



Európai Unió Európai Szociális Alap



Magyarország Kormánya

WHAT DO WE EXPECT FROM DRINKING WATER?

- To be clean, safe and healthy
- Taste good and look clean
- + meet legal requirements

Quality of the supplied drinking water is monitored more often than any food product!



PARAMETERS INFLUENCING THE QUALITY OF DRINKING WATER



LEAD IN TAP WATER

Main sources: water supply system, water supply system in buildings, fittings

(lead pipes, copper pipes, stainless steel fittings, tin-lead solder, plastic pipes and fittings)

• Mainly old buildings (built before 1945), in downtown areas



- Main water quality factors:
 - pH
 - scaling potential (alkalinity, total hardness)
 - iron, organic matter content
 - water temperature
 - stagnation time

EFOP-1.8.0.-VEKOP-17-2017-00001 PROJECT C.I WORKING GROUP

AIM: ASSESSMENT AND EVALUATION OF LEAD EXPOSURE FROM DRINKING WATER TO THE POPULATION

Target:

- Asses the lead exposure by drinking water,
- Estimate on national level
- Assess the health effects
- Force the communicaton to public
- Studies leading to a policy decision



RESEARCH AREAS

- 1. National survey of lead in tap water
- 2. Investigation of the lead leaching factors
- 3. Development of methodological guides
- 4. Health effects of exposure to lead in tap water
- 5. Evaluation of temporary solutions to reduce lead content of the tap water
- 6. Communication to public "Open laboratory"



NATIONAL SURVEY OF LEAD CONTENT OF TAP WATER

Based on international guidelines

("Best Practice Guide on the Control of Lead in Drinking Water" és a "Guidance on sampling and monitoring for lead in drinking water")

- 6 months monitoring
- National representative survey (what proportion of the population is affected, where, etc.)
- Risk assesment (on-line decision-tree function with risk map)
- Database (possible data connections)
- Personalized information on the risk

NATIONAL SURVEY OF LEAD IN TAP WATER



Selection of sampling areas:

Best Practice Guide on the Control of Lead in Drinking Water (2010, International Water Association) Guidance on sampling and monitoring for lead in drinking water (European Communities, 2009)

NATIONAL SURVEY OF LEAD CONTENT OF TAP WATER



NATIONAL SURVEY OF LEAD CONTENT OF TAP WATER



- Lead in drinking water has no special taste or smell
- Only water testing gives reliable information
- Need for testing in the high risk groups (living in old buildings, having small children, pregnant women)

 "Open laboratory" program is FREE for anyone and for all child-care facilities

"OPEN LABORATORY" – SAMPLING PACKAGE

- Content:
 - Sampling sheet
 - Sampling instruction
 - 2 sampling vessels

- RDT: random daytime sample (after longer stagnition time)
- F: flushed sample (after 1 minute flushing)



Number of household entering the "Open Laboratory" program by county (total: 1200)



Lead content of RDT samples

■ RDT under 10 µg/l ■ RDT above 10 µg/l







ASSESSMENT OF HEALTH EFFECTS

- Health effects in children
 - Anemia
 - Retarded muscle and bone growth
 - Hearing loss
 - Learning disorder
 - Nervous and kidney damage
 - Movement coordination, speech and behavior disorders
- 10 µg/dl increase in lead of blood may cause a 3-point IQ decrease in children
- Significant impact on population level

ASSESSMENT OF HEALTH EFFECTS

Health effects in adults through LONG term exposure

- Anemia
- Cataracts
- Damage to male organs
- Digestive disorders
- Hypertension
- Memory loss
- Concentration difficulties
- Other nervous system symptoms
- Complications during pregnancy (miscarriage, premature birth)



ASSESSMENT OF HEALTH EFFECTS



EVALUATION OF TEMPORARY SOLUTIONS

- Point of use water treatment devices
- Possibility of home water treatment
- Treatment with chemical dosing of the inlet water in buildings
- Simultatneous control of other risks of this solutions
- At least six months study





COMMUNICATION



Nemzeti Népegészségügyi Központ EFOP 1.8.0-VEKOP-17-2017-00001 "Egészségügyi ellátórendszer szakmai módszertani fejlesztése"

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

olom@nnk.gov.hu feltaro@nnk.gov.hu vizosztaly@nnk.gov.hu





Európai Unió Európai Szociális Alap



Magyarország Kormánya

BEFEKTETÉS A JÖVŐBE