

MDHHS Health Studies In Your Practice Area: Information for Health Care Providers

WHAT ARE THE HEALTH STUDIES?



The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) is conducting two epidemiological health studies in your practice area that your patients may be participating in:

- Michigan PFAS Exposure and Health Study (MiPEHS).
- Multi-Site Health Study (MSS).

They aim to evaluate the relationship between exposure to per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) and human health outcomes.

Visit our study website at Michigan.gov/DEHbio and click on MiPEHS or MSS.

WHY IS MDHHS CONDUCTING THESE HEALTH STUDIES?



The Department of Environment, Great Lakes & Energy (EGLE) first identified PFAS in drinking water in the Belmont/Rockford area of Kent County in 2017 and the Parchment area of Kalamazoo County in 2018. Epidemiological studies like MiPEHS and MSS will add to our understanding of how PFAS affect human health.

WHAT ARE PFAS AND HOW MIGHT MY PATIENTS BE EXPOSED?



PFAS are a family of human-made chemicals that have been used in manufacturing and commercial products since the 1940s. Practical uses of PFAS include non-stick surfaces on cooking pans and food wrappers, waterproofing chemicals, and foams used to fight fires.



Ingestion of water, food, or even household dust contaminated with PFAS is the primary route of exposure for PFAS for the general population. Workers in industries that manufacture or use products containing PFAS are at higher risk for PFAS exposure.

Visit Michigan.gov/PFASresponse to learn more about PFAS in your community.



HOW MIGHT CERTAIN PFAS AFFECT THE HEALTH OF MY PATIENTS?

Research evaluating the relationship between exposure to PFAS and human health outcomes is ongoing. At this time, the evidence does not support deviations from established standards of medical care or vaccine schedules for individuals exposed to PFAS.

Epidemiological studies have found associations between certain PFAS (in parentheses) and the following health outcomes:



- Increased risk of thyroid disease (PFOA, PFOS).
- Increased risk of decreased fertility (PFOA, PFOS).
- Pregnancy-induced hypertension/pre-eclampsia (PFOA, PFOS).
- Small decreases in birth weight (PFOA, PFOS).
- Liver damage, as evidenced by increases in serum enzymes and decreases in serum bilirubin levels (PFOA, PFOS, PFHxS).
- Decreased antibody response to vaccines (PFOA, PFOS, PFHxS, PFDeA).
- Increases in serum lipids, particularly total cholesterol, and low-density lipoprotein (LDL) cholesterol (PFOA, PFOS, PFNA, PFDeA).

Visit atsdr.cdc.gov/pfas/resources for the latest PFAS information from the CDC's Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR).

WHAT CAN I EXPECT IF MY PATIENTS PARTICIPATE IN THE HEALTH STUDIES?



- **Healthcare Provider Blood Draw Authorization Form**
Participants with certain underlying conditions will bring you this form for your determination as to whether they can safely undergo a blood draw at the study office.
- **Questions from participants about study lab results**
Participants may have questions about their study lab results. MDHHS toxicologist and physician staff members are available to answer any questions and provide resources.
- **Medical Records Abstraction Form**
For participants in MSS, a Medical Records Abstraction Form will be mailed to your office for completion in late 2021.

WHERE CAN I GO FOR MORE INFORMATION AND PFAS CLINICAL GUIDANCE?



- Call 844-464-7327 to reach MDHHS toxicologist and physician staff members.
- Find the latest PFAS information for clinicians from ATSDR at atsdr.cdc.gov/pfas/resources.
- Visit our study website at Michigan.gov/DEHbio and click on MiPEHS or MSS.

