

INTRODUCTION

In 2017, we published the results of a review of the blood lead levels (BLL) of children living in Latin America and Caribbean (LAC) published up to 2013, and recommended the identification and control of "lead hot spots" (Olympio et al., 2017).

OBJECTIVE

In this study we assessed whether there had been advances in reducing BLL for the Region.

METHODS

After abstract submission, there was a progression in the literature search. The complete data will be presented on this poster.

We conducted a literature review in PubMed, Lilacs and Web of Science databases (January-2014 to March 2020).

Inclusion criteria: 0-18-year-old children living in LAC; presented BLL results; and described the method used for collecting and analyzing blood.

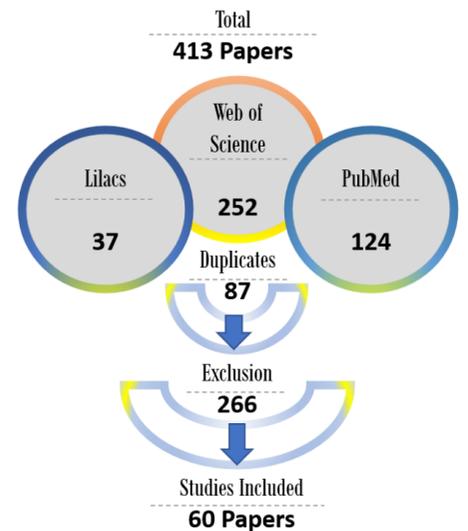
Original papers were considered in English, Spanish and Portuguese. Reviews, commentaries, and thesis were excluded.

RESULTS

The children's BLL found were in average lower than the previous period.

Higher BLL were associated with notorious sources or to occupational exposures.

Fewer countries (n=8) published data on BLL in children, compared to the previous study (n=13).



CONCLUSIONS

Most of the BLL studies in LAC were carried out in areas with known lead exposure sources, similar to the previous period.

The percentage of children at risk of lead poisoning in the Region remains unknown, because few studies have published data on environmental exposure levels, and in general, the studies included small sample sizes.

We maintain our recommendation to identify and control sources, and suggest the establishment of a systematic public health surveillance system for lead to bridge the knowledge gap and inform policy-making in the Region.

RESULTS



REFERENCES

Olympio KPK, Gonçalves CG, Salles FJ, Ferreira APSS, Soares AS, Buzalaf MAR, Cardoso MRA, Bechara EJH. What are the blood lead levels of children living in Latin America and the Caribbean? *Environment International*. 2017;101:46–58. doi: 10.1016/j.envint.2016.12.022.

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS



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