Opinion: Universal testing could prevent lead poisoning in children
by Karl W. Hess M.D., FAAP, Shaker Heights, Ohio

I'm very concerned about the persistence of lead poisoning when it is so easily diagnosed.

Although the information is readily available, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reports that lots of children do not get the recommended tests. The only solution at this time, in my opinion, is to get universal laws requiring a lead test before nursery school. That is late but better than never and might get pediatricians who are laggards into the habit of getting lead tests. It could be confined to areas where the housing was built before 1978.