



MDH Updates on Mercury Surveillance and Outreach

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Minnesota Family Environmental Exposure Tracking (MN FEET)

- Study with HealthPartners Institute, SoLaHmo
- Measured mercury, lead, cadmium in pregnant women
- Findings
 - Urine mercury higher in women who used skin lightening products
 - Cord blood mercury higher in women who ate more of certain fish
 - Asian women at risk for high urine and cord blood mercury
 - Latina, East African women may be at risk from skin lightening



<https://www.health.state.mn.us/biomonitoring>

Ongoing work

- MN FEET Community Report released, results sharing ongoing
- Clinical follow-up with U MN School of Nursing students
 - 2 Minnesota Community Care clinics, hoping to expand
 - Screening all prenatal patients for urine mercury
 - MDH follows up with elevated cases re: skin lightening products
 - Offers home visit by MPCA, local public health agency
 - Assess effectiveness of routine screening



A black office telephone is shown on a wooden desk. A hand is visible, with a finger pressing one of the buttons on the phone's keypad. The background is slightly blurred, showing a computer monitor and other office equipment.

Mercury Policy Project

- St. Kate's MPH student
- Interviewing states where mercury explicitly reportable
- Topics include infrastructure for mercury surveillance and common findings

Request for Proposals Now Open

Skin Lightening Products Public Awareness and Education Grant

The purpose of the Skin Lightening Products Public Awareness and Education Grant is to increase public awareness and education on the health dangers associated with using skin lightening products that contain mercury that are manufactured in other countries and brought into the United States and sold illegally online or in stores.

\$200,000
available funding



Funding available
\$200,000. 50% to non-profits
and 50% to local public health

Informational conference call

- Monday, October 7, 2019
- 9:00-10:00 am
- Access the meeting by calling 888-742-5095, pin number 4893644698 followed by #.

Application deadline
Thursday, October 31, 2019

More information
www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/skin/grant

- \$200,000
 - 50% for nonprofits;
 - 50% for local public health
- Apply now
 - <https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/skin/grant.html>
- Application deadline
 - Thursday, October 31, 2019 4:30 pm