

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: My blood sample was collected as part of the Paulsboro Water Settlement with Solvay Specialty Polymers USA, L.L.C., but I did not receive the results. How can I get my results?

A: Your blood results should have been sent to you by the Dahl Administration, the company that served as the Paulsboro Water Settlement Administrator. The telephone number for Dahl Administration is: 1-855-615-5431.

Rutgers University did not perform the blood testing but conducted the study based on the lab results. People who were part of the Paulsboro Water Settlement were able to be in the Rutgers study.

Q: I brought the results to my doctor. She or he doesn't know what to tell me about the results. When I bring the results to my doctor is there any other information I should bring?

A: You can tell your doctor that you are part of a Paulsboro Water Settlement case, and as a result of the lawsuit you had, your blood tested for PFNAs. You can give your doctor a copy of the blood test result and ask him or her to keep it with your health records.

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has information available online that your doctor might find helpful for interpreting your results. Here is the link you can share with your doctor:

https://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/pfc/docs/pfas_clinician_fact_sheet_508.pdf

Q: I have different compounds and/or results compared to my other family member's PFCs. Why are our results different?

A: There are many reasons why people have different blood levels of these chemicals including:

- People take in and get rid of chemicals differently.
- There are multiple possible sources of PFCs. In addition to water, PFCs can be found in some foods, food packaging, consumer products, house dust, as well as indoor and outdoor air and workplaces.
- These chemical may be stored in different parts of the body, so levels of the chemicals in the same person's blood may vary at different times.

Q: I have so many chemicals in my blood. Does that mean my health is at risk?

A: This blood test only tells you whether you have these specific chemicals in our blood. At this time the results cannot be used to predict health effects or causally linked to specific health problems.

The blood test you received is NOT a standard clinical blood test. Clinical blood tests are ordered by your doctor. Some differences between a clinical blood test and the blood test for PFCs is explained in the Box below

Clinical blood tests

- Clinical blood tests are used by health care workers to help guide caring for your health. Some examples of clinical blood test are:
 - a. Cholesterol test
 - b. Blood sugar test
 - c. Blood lead-level test
- With a clinical test, if your values are outside the normal range, this may indicate you are at risk for a disease.
- With a clinical test there is standard acceptable range of values. If your values are too high or too low, your health care worker may give you advice such as lifestyle changes, additional testing, and/or may prescribe medication.

The PFC blood test

- The purpose of the PFC blood test was NOT to guide your health care. It is one measure of your past exposure to PFCs.
- No health-related levels have yet been established for PFC levels in blood.
- There are no standard levels for PFCs in people's blood.
- The federal government (the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) collects information on levels of PFNA and other related compounds (known as PFCs) in an annual survey (NHANES or the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey)
- From NHANES we do know that almost all Americans (over 98%) have some PFCs in their blood.
- NHANES does not tell us level of PFCs is acceptable in people's blood – only the average levels that people in the US have. Information from NHANES about PFCs in peoples blood in the US is available at:
<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/18007991>