

# Helping you with hedis® ...



# Lead Screening in Children

**Lead Screening in Children** looks for your patients 2 years of age who had one or more capillary or venous lead blood test for lead poisoning by their second birthday.

## WHAT YOUR PROVIDER OFFICE NEEDS TO KNOW

The Michigan Department of Community Health has developed a statewide lead testing/lead screening plan. It is available at [www.michigan.gov/lead](http://www.michigan.gov/lead).

The 3 criteria listed for testing children are:

1. **All** children living in these target cities must be tested: Battle Creek, Grand Rapids, Lansing, Benton Harbor, Hamtramck, Muskegon/Muskegon Heights, Dearborn, Highland Park, Pontiac, Detroit, Jackson, **Saginaw**, **Flint**, and Kalamazoo
2. **All** children insured by **Medicaid** must be tested – no exceptions or waivers exist. Also, all children enrolled in **WIC** must be tested.
3. For those children who do not fall in the above two categories, the child's parent/guardians should be asked specific exposure questions to determine each child's risk.

## “HOW CAN I IMPROVE MY HEDIS® SCORES?”

- Consider a standing order for in-office lead testing for any child 12 months of age.
- Educate parents about the dangers of lead poisoning and the importance of testing since there are not any specific symptoms.
- Test children at age 12 months and again at 24 months.
- Provide testing in your office (Filter paper tests and supplies are available free of charge from the Michigan Department of Community Health laboratory to test Medicaid members – 517-335-9867 or email [MDCHlab@michigan.gov](mailto:MDCHlab@michigan.gov)).
  - CPT code 36416 can be used for capillary test procedure (when test is sent out to laboratory for completion).
  - CPT code 83655 can be used for complete lead test (when test is completed within office).
- The only way to know if children are being exposed to lead is to have them tested.
- Effects of lead poisoning include developmental delays, shortened attention span, learning disabilities, aggression, antisocial or delinquent behavior.

## “WHY DOES A MEMBER KEEP SHOWING UP ON MY LEAD SCREENING FOR CHILDREN REPORTS?”

HealthPlus receives information from the State of Michigan regarding which children have had a lead test completed. Sometimes, the information on the lead test result did not exactly match the member's information. If you have a lead test result for a member on your list, please fax it to (810) 230-2106 and HealthPlus will follow up to get the result matched to the correct child.

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