

# BLOOD LEAD LEVEL (BLL)

## QUICK REFERENCE FOR PRIMARY CARE PROVIDERS

Medicaid requires all children to be tested at 12 and 24 months of age. Children between 36 and 72 months who were not previously tested must be tested at least once.

	BEST PRACTICE	CONSIDERATIONS/TREATMENT	RETESTING	PARENT EDUCATION & REFERRALS
<b>NOT YET TESTED</b>		Conduct risk assessment (see page 2 of this document). Test based on Medicaid requirements or risk assessment results.	Need for testing can be based on risk factors and Medicaid testing requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nutritional handouts</li> <li>Safe cleaning handouts</li> </ul>
<b>BLL &lt;5 µg/dL</b>	Review lead level with family		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Retest in 6-12 months if child is at high risk</li> <li>If child is less than one year of age at initial test, retest after first birthday</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nutritional handouts</li> <li>Safe cleaning handouts</li> </ul>
<b>BLL 5-14 µg/dL</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Confirm capillary result with venous test</li> <li>Review lead level with family</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consider other children who may be exposed</li> <li>Conduct environmental history</li> <li>Review diet/iron sufficiency</li> <li>Provide nutritional counseling related to calcium and iron</li> </ul>	Venous retest within 1-3 months to ensure BLL is not rising	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nutritional handouts</li> <li>Safe cleaning handouts</li> <li>Refer family to local health department for nursing case management</li> <li>Refer family to Lead Safe Home Program to determine eligibility for environmental investigation and abatement</li> </ul>
<b>BLL 15-44 µg/dL</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Confirm capillary result with venous test</li> <li>Review lead level with family</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consider other children who may be exposed</li> <li>Consider evaluation such as an abdominal x-ray if leaded foreign bodies are suspected</li> <li>Conduct environmental history</li> <li>Review diet/iron sufficiency</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Venous retest within 4 weeks to ensure BLL is not rising</li> <li>Repeat every 1-3 months until levels are &lt;5</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nutritional handouts</li> <li>Safe cleaning handouts</li> <li>Refer family to local health department for nursing case management</li> <li>Refer family to Lead Safe Home Program to determine eligibility for environmental investigation and abatement</li> </ul>
<b>BLL 45+ µg/dL</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Confirm capillary result with venous test within 48 hours</li> <li>Review lead level with family</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consider other children who may be exposed</li> <li>Any treatment at this level should be performed in consultation with MI Poison Control 800-222-1222</li> <li>Consider hospitalization and/or chelation</li> <li>Family should NOT return to lead-contaminated home</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Confirm initial BLL with venous repeat within 48 hours</li> <li>Treat as directed by expert</li> <li>Monthly venous samples will be required</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nutritional handouts</li> <li>Safe cleaning handouts</li> <li>Refer family to local health department for nursing case management</li> <li>Refer family to Lead Safe Home Program to determine eligibility for environmental investigation and abatement</li> </ul>

### QUESTIONS?

Contact us at 517-335-8350  
[www.michigan.gov/lead](http://www.michigan.gov/lead)



See Blood Lead Risk Assessment on other side.

# BLOOD LEAD RISK ASSESSMENT

All children covered by Medicaid are considered at high risk for blood lead poisoning. The AAP periodicity schedule requires children to be tested for blood lead poisoning at 12 and 24 months of age. In addition, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) mandates that if a child is covered by Medicaid, is between 36 and 72 months of age, and has not been tested for blood lead, the child must be tested. The AAP also requires a blood lead risk assessment to be performed during specific visits as indicated by the AAP periodicity schedule. If the parent/guardian is unsure if the child was previously tested, the child must be tested. For children who have been tested, the following questions are intended to assist the PCP in determining if further testing is necessary in addition to that completed at the mandated ages:



Does the child currently live in a home built before 1950 or have they lived in a home built before 1950 in the recent past? Do they spend time at or often visit a home built before 1950?

Yes     No     Don't know



Does the child live with an adult whose job or hobby involves lead?

Yes     No     Don't know



Does the child currently live in a home built before 1978 that was recently remodeled? Have they lived in or often visited a home built before 1978 that was recently remodeled?

Yes     No     Don't know



Does the child's caregiver use home remedies that may contain lead?

Yes     No     Don't know



Does the child have a brother, sister or playmate with lead poisoning?

Yes     No     Don't know



Does the child have a brother, sister or playmate with lead poisoning?

Yes     No     Don't know

If answered NO to all of these questions, the child is probably not at risk for lead poisoning.

If answered YES or DON'T KNOW to any of these questions, consider testing the child for lead poisoning.

**To learn more about lead poisoning prevention and blood lead testing,  
contact the Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program:**

**517-335-8350 or [www.michigan.gov/lead](http://www.michigan.gov/lead)**

Also see: AAP Council on Environmental Health. Prevention of Childhood Lead Toxicity. Pediatrics. 2016; 138(1):e20161493.DOI: 10.1542/peds.2016-1493