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To: All Pediatricians & Family Practice PCPs

From: IEHP – Provider Relations

Date: October 16, 2024

Subject: Blood Lead Level Screening in Children – On or Before Second Birthday!

Remember, it is essential that pediatric Members complete their blood lead screening on or before their second birthday. **DHCS mandates all children enrolled in Medi-Cal have a blood lead screening at 12 and 24 months of age.**

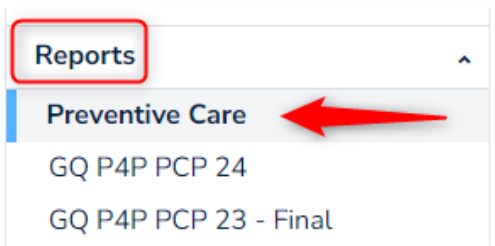
The blood lead test is crucial for early detection and intervention as exposure can significantly impact children’s health and development in multiple areas, such as:

- impaired growth
- hearing problems
- hyperactivity
- lower IQ
- behavioral and learning problems

The blood lead screening can be completed via capillary or venous blood draw. A **capillary blood test (fingerstick) can be collected in-office** and sent to the lab for processing, which is more convenient for families and removes any stress or anxiety that may arise from a venous blood draw on a small child.

If you need assistance with training for this process, please reach out to your LabCorp or Quest representative.

As a reminder, Lead Screening in Children is a core measure in the IEHP GQ P4P program, as well as a Quality Bonus service upon completion ON or BEFORE the child’s second birthday.



Please take a moment to review your records and Preventive Care Rosters on the portal to outreach and schedule caregivers to complete the blood lead screening as needed.

For more information, please leverage the Quality Performance Learning Guide for Lead Screening in Children for information on the measure and best practices:

ProviderServices.iehp.org > Programs & Services > Provider Incentive Programs > Quality Performance Learning Guide > Lead Screening in Children

For copies of an educational brochure on the importance of lead screening, please contact your Provider Relations Manager or see our website at iehp.org > Staying Healthy > Kids and Teens

Thank you for your continued dedication to pediatric care and the health of our youngest Members.

If you have any questions, please contact the IEHP Provider Call Center at (909) 890-2054, (866) 223-4347 or email ProviderServices@iehp.org

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