




Pediatric Lead Testing

Patients on any government assistance programs are considered at-risk and should be tested for lead exposure (including Medi-Cal/CenCal Health eligibility).



The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends ALL children ages 6 months - 6 years should have lead risk assessments performed.

TIPS FOR YOUR PRACTICE:

-  Include an alert in your EMR system or the patient's chart to test for lead exposure at 12 and 24 months. Keep a chart alert for all patients under age 6 who've never been screened for lead exposure.
-  Discuss the importance of lead exposure testing with parents/guardians at each well-child visit before 6 years of age.
-  Offer point-of-care lead testing in your office.

TESTING PROTOCOLS:

- 1 All CenCal Health members must be given a blood lead test at age 12 and 24 months at minimum.¹ All CenCal Health members must undergo a risk assessment at 6 months, 9 months, 12 months*, 18 months, 24 months*, 3y, 4y, 5y, 6y².
- 2 If a risk assessment or a lead test is not administered (e.g., refused/declined), document this in your patient's chart.
- 3 Provide oral or written anticipatory guidance about lead exposure and testing at each health assessment (6 months - 6 years).
- 4 Report any abnormal lead tests to your county's Department of Public Health and the California Lead Poisoning Prevention Branch (CLPPB).

Utilize Lead Testing CPT Code: 83655

If you have any questions, please contact populationhealth@cencalhealth.org or go to bit.ly/CCHleadtest.

If you would like to request any Health Education materials about lead exposure and testing, please email healtheducation@cencalhealth.org.

¹ Source: California Department of Public Health.

² The American Academy of Pediatrics

* Perform risk assessments or screenings as appropriate, based on universal screening requirements for patients with Medicaid or in high prevalence areas.