Lead Testing Requirements and Medical Management Recommendations

for Children Ages 6 to 72 Months

Revised 5/2007

Ohio Department of Health
Bureau of Child and Family Health Services • Ohio Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program (OCLPPP)

There is no safe level of lead in the blood.
Any confirmed level of lead in the blood is a reliable indicator that the child has been exposed to lead.

Administer two tests at age 1 and 2 years, or up to age 6 years if no test has been administered before (or as medically necessary) based on the following criteria.

1) Is the child on Medicaid?
   If yes, **TEST — *IT'S OHIO LAW AND A FEDERAL REQUIREMENT***. If no, go to step 2.

2) Does the child live in a High Risk ZIP Code? (contact OCLPPP or visit www.odh.ohio.gov for list)
   If yes, **TEST — *IT'S OHIO LAW!*** If no, go to step 3.

3) Ask the parent five key questions to assess risk.
   Use the Risk Assessment Questionnaire (RAQ) and ask if the child:
   - Lives in or regularly visits a house built before 1950? This includes a day care center, preschool, or home of a baby sitter or relative.
   - Lives in or visits a house that has peeling, chipping, dusting or chalking paint?
   - Lives in or visits a house built before 1978 with recent, ongoing, or planned renovation/remodeling?
   - Has a sibling or playmate who has or did have lead poisoning?
   - Frequently comes in contact with an adult who has a hobby or works with lead? Examples are construction, welding, pottery, painting, and casting ammunition.

If the family answers "yes" or "do not know" to any of the above questions, TEST.
If the family answers "no," provide anticipatory guidance and follow up at the next visit.

All blood lead test results, by law, are required to be reported to ODH by the analyzing laboratory.

Confirmed Blood Lead Levels (BLL)	Recommended Medical Management Actions
0–5 µg/dL	• Provide anticipatory guidance: Discuss sources, effects of lead, and hazards associated with renovating pre-1978 homes during well child care at 6, 9 and 12 months. • Test blood lead level (BLL) again in 12 months.
6–9 µg/dL	**In addition to medical management actions listed above:** • Explain that there is no safe level of lead in the blood. • Discuss wet cleaning to remove lead dust on surfaces; eliminating access to deteriorating lead-paint surfaces; and ensuring regular meals which are low in fat and rich in calcium and iron. • Refer to the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) or for other nutritional counseling.
10–14 µg/dL	**In addition to medical management actions listed above:** • Test BLL again in 2 months. • Refer to Help Me Grow program. **State or local health department will conduct a public health lead investigation.**
15–19 µg/dL	**In addition to medical management actions listed above:** • **Confirm capillary results by venous or second capillary blood sample within one month.** If BLL persists in this level (i.e., 2 confirmed tests at least 2 months apart), proceed according to actions for BLL 20–44.
20–44 µg/dL	**In addition to medical management actions listed above:** • Take medical, environmental and nutritional Hx; test for anemia and iron deficiency; assess neurologic, psychosocial and language development; screen all siblings under 6; and evaluate risk of other family members (e.g., pregnant women). • Refer to the Bureau for Children with Medical Handicaps (BCMH) program, if appropriate. • Test BLL every 1–2 months until the BLL remains <15µg/dL for at least 6 months and lead hazards have been removed or made lead-safe, and no new exposure exists.
45–69 µg/dL	**In addition to medical management actions listed above:** • **Confirm fingerstick (capillary) results by venous blood sample within 24 hours.** • **Consider chelation therapy:** ▾ Obtain a venous specimen to ensure that therapy is based on current and reliable information. ▾ Refer to a specialist. • Test BLL again in 1 month.
≥70 µg/dL	**This level is a medical emergency:** Order an urgent repeat venous BLL test, **but begin chelation immediately!** **Utilize medical management actions listed above.**

ODH Information and Referrals

Help Me Grow Hotline: 1-800-755-GROW (1-800-755-4769)
Bureau Children with Medical Handicaps (BCMH): 614-466-1700
Bureau of Early Intervention (EI): 614-644-8389
Women, Infants and Children (WIC): 614-466-4110
Medicaid Provider Hotline: 800-686-6108
ODH OCLPPP: 614-466-5332

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