

# Medical Management Recommendations for Health Care Professionals



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DEPT. OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

- There is no safe level of lead in the blood
- Any confirmed level of lead in the blood indicates child has been exposed to lead
- Any elevated capillary test should be confirmed with a venous blood sample
- The following are general guidelines and are adapted from the CDC

Childhood Blood Lead Testing & Follow-up Recommendations			
Blood Lead Test Result	Retest using Venous Blood to confirm within:	Recommended Actions based on BLL	Venous Retest Intervals—after recommended actions
< 5 µg/dL	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide lead education (dietary &amp; environmental)</li> <li>• Environmental assessment for pre-1978 housing</li> <li>• Provide follow-up blood lead monitoring</li> </ul>	Retest according to Blood Lead Screening Plan
5 - 9 µg/dL	1 – 3 months	<u>Above Actions, plus:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complete history and physical exam</li> <li>• Lab work: iron status, consider hemoglobin or hematocrit</li> <li>• Refer to health department for environmental investigation</li> <li>• Recommend lead hazard reduction in home</li> <li>• Neurological, behavioral, and developmental monitoring</li> <li>• Abdominal X-Ray (if particular lead ingestion is suspected with bowel decontamination)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3 months for first 2-4 tests</li> <li>• 6 - 9 months after BLL are declining</li> </ul>
10 - 19 µg/dL	1 week – 1 month*		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 - 3 months for first 2-4 tests**</li> <li>• 3 - 6 months after BLL are declining</li> </ul>
20 - 24 µg/dL	1 week – 1 month*		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 - 3 months for first 2-4 tests**</li> <li>• 1 - 3 months after BLL are declining</li> </ul>
25 - 44 µg/dL	1 week – 1 month*		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 weeks - 1 month for first 2-4 tests</li> <li>• 1- 3 months after BLL are declining</li> </ul>
45 - 59 µg/dL	<b>ASAP</b> no later than 48 hours	<u>Above Actions, plus:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lab work: iron status, hemoglobin or hematocrit, free erythrocyte protoporphyrin</li> <li>• Oral Chelation therapy. Consider hospitalization if lead-safe environment cannot be assured</li> </ul>	Every 24 hours or as medically indicated
60 - 69 µg/dL	<b>ASAP</b> no later than 24 hours		Every 24 hours or as medically indicated
≥ 70 µg/dL	Urgently as an emergency test	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hospitalize and commence chelation therapy (following confirmatory venous blood lead test) in conjunction with consultation from a medical toxicologist or a pediatric environmental health specialty unit</li> <li>• Proceed according to actions for 45-69 µg/dL</li> </ul>	Every 24 hours or as medically indicated

\*The higher the BLL on the screening test, the more urgent the need for confirmatory testing

\*\*Some case managers or PCPs may choose to repeat blood lead tests on all new patients within a month to ensure that BLL level is not rising more quickly than anticipated.

Sources of Lead	Occupations Involving Lead	Hobbies Involving Lead	Cultural Practices & Folk Medicines
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lead-based paint in poor condition</li> <li>• Lead dust from deteriorated lead paint</li> <li>• Contaminated soil from paint or pollution</li> <li>• Some toys, imported candy, and cosmetics</li> <li>• Some folk medicines</li> <li>• Bringing lead home from work</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contractors who renovate or repair buildings</li> <li>• Workers who sand, scrape or blast lead paint</li> <li>• Recyclers of metal, electronics, batteries</li> <li>• Manufacturers of bullets, ceramics &amp; electronics</li> <li>• Steel workers</li> <li>• Firing range workers, gunsmiths, police officers</li> <li>• Construction and demolition workers</li> <li>• Foundries and scrap metal operations</li> <li>• Bridge construction and repair</li> <li>• Automobile repair</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stained glass</li> <li>• Fishing sinkers</li> <li>• Computer electronics</li> <li>• Automotive repair</li> <li>• Reloading bullets</li> <li>• Soldering</li> <li>• Artistic painting, jewelry making, and pottery glazing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ayurvedic medicines</li> <li>• Azarcon</li> <li>• Daw Tway</li> <li>• Bhasma</li> <li>• Smrti</li> <li>• Ba-baw-san</li> <li>• Ghasard</li> <li>• Greta</li> </ul>

## Definitions:

**BLL:** Blood lead level

**Testing:** A blood test

**Screening:** Applying criteria in the Blood Lead Testing Plan to determine risk

**Lead Hazard Reduction:** Lead abatement and interim controls like paint stabilization, lead dust, control, cleaning, and addressing bare soil.

## Lead Prevention Tips for Parents:

- 1) **Keep it Clean:** Wash children's hands often and wet wipe/wet dust surfaces to remove lead contamination
- 2) **Make your home lead safe:** Find and properly take care of sources of lead in the home
- 3) **Healthy Diets:** Provide regular meals and foods rich in iron, calcium, and Vitamin C
- 4) **Medical Check-ups:** Have child see PCP. If a BLL over 5 µg/dL, make sure child is tested to ensure levels decline.

## Contact Information:

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