

Wisconsin Childhood Blood Lead Testing Recommendations



Wisconsin recommends universal testing which includes:

- All children at age 1 and again at age 2
- Any children between ages 3 and 5 without a previous test

These recommendations match the federal Medicaid requirement. Additional testing may be recommended in the city of Milwaukee.

All children under 17 years of age can be tested if the:

- Parent or guardian expresses concern about lead exposure or asks for their child to be tested for lead poisoning.
- Health care provider becomes aware of changes in possible lead exposure or risk factors in a child.
- Child is a newly arrived refugee. Test upon arrival and 3-6 months after the initial blood test.



Procedure reminders



Ensure proper handwashing before taking the sample.



Follow the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) steps for lead testing on capillary draws.



All lead tests on Wisconsin residents must be reported to Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS).

CDC information on testing children for lead poisoning: www.cdc.gov/nceh/lead/prevention/testing-children-for-lead-poisoning.htm



Wisconsin Department of Health Services
Childhood Lead Poisoning and Prevention Program
DHSLeadPoisoningPrevention@dhs.wisconsin.gov
608-266-5817
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