
CHAPTER 5: PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

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Public Health Surveillance Mandates

Based on surveillance data gathered by the State Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program and review by the state health officer and representatives from medical schools in the state, all parishes in Louisiana are identified as high risk for lead poisoning.

Medical providers who provide routine primary care services to children ages 6 months to 72 months must have children screened in compliance with Louisiana Medicaid (KIDMED) requirements and in accordance to practices consistent with current Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines, which include the following specifications:

- Administer a risk assessment questionnaire at every well child visit,
- Use a blood test to screen all children at ages 12 months and 24 months or at any time from ages 36 months to 72 months, if they have not been previously screened, and
- Use a venous blood sample to confirm results when finger stick samples indicate blood lead levels $\geq 15\text{ug/dl}$.

Mandatory Case Reporting by Health Care Providers

Medical providers must report a lead case to the Office of Public Health's Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program by fax **within 24 working hours**. A lead case is indicated by a blood lead test result of $>15\text{ug/dl}$ (micrograms per deciliter). The original lead case reporting form shall be mailed within five business days. (See Appendix A for contact information)

Reporting Requirements of Blood Lead Levels by Laboratories and by Health Care Providers Performing Office-Based Blood Lead Analyses for Public Health Surveillance

All results of blood lead testing of children less than 72 months of age, regardless of the blood lead level, must be reported to the Louisiana Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program by electronic transmission. (See Appendix A for contact information)