

Testing for Lead Poisoning



YOUNG CHILDREN ARE AT THE GREATEST RISK OF BEING DIAGNOSED WITH LEAD POISONING, AND THEREFORE SHOULD BE TESTED.

Any level of lead found in the blood can adversely affect a child's behavior, academics, and overall health.



Age Criteria

- ✓ WellCare of Kentucky recommends that a verbal risk assessment for lead toxicity be performed at every well-child visit.
- ✓ Lead screening, using blood lead level determinations, must be done for every Medicaid-eligible child **between the ages of 12 months and 24 months** – twice, during the following time frames:
 - The first test is expected at 12 months of age.
 - The second test is expected at 24 months of age.
 - Any child between 24 and 72 months not previously tested, must receive a blood lead test.



MedTox Testing:

WellCare has contracted with MedTox Laboratories to provide you with a fast, non-invasive means of measuring blood lead levels using a *capillary* (finger stick) blood sample and filter paper in the office. Lead supplies can be ordered from MedTox at **no cost** to you. These pre-assembled collection kits are available by request and include all collection supplies and shipment materials. There are no initiation fees or contract requirements.



For more information or to set up your MedTox Account, please call **1-877-474-5767** or contact your Provider Representative.



For additional information about MedTox, visit **medtox.com**.

For information on childhood lead prevention initiatives in Kentucky, visit www.chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dph/dmch/cfhib/Pages/clppp.aspx

wellcareky.com



Coding Information (CPT)

The CDC has approved two types of blood tests. One involves taking blood from a finger (*capillary*) and the other from a vein (*venous*). If the capillary sample has a blood lead level of 3.5 µg/dL or above, re-test with a venous blood test to diagnose a child with lead poisoning.

- **83655** – Lead test