

Childhood Lead Poisoning Screening Plan Flowchart

State guidance for healthcare providers on screening children and youth for lead poisoning^a

START HERE

Newly arrived^b
refugee^c or
international
adoptee^d in the
United States

NO

YES

Participates in at least one of the
following programs or is an
international adoptee^d:

- Medicaid or Healthy Montana Kids
- Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)
- Head Start or Early Head Start
- Foster Care

NO

YES

Primary residence
is in a targeted zip
code for child
blood lead testing

See reverse for list of
targeted zip codes in
Montana

NO

YES



Administer risk assessment

Complete Childhood Lead Risk Questionnaire at ages 6, 9, 12, 18 and 24 months, then at 3, 4, 5 and 6 years of age. Perform blood lead test if any "yes/unsure" response. Consider administering risk assessment to older children.^g



Perform a venous or capillary blood lead test^{e,f}

Immediately test anyone 16 years of age and younger and all pregnant or lactating women and girls. Test youth older than 16 years of age if there is a high index of suspicion or clinical signs/symptoms.



Perform follow-up testing 3-6 months after initial testing as follows:

- All refugee children 6 years of age and younger regardless of initial test result.
- International adoptee at any age or refugee older than 6 years of age who had a blood lead level (BLL) at or above 3.5 µg/dL.
- Refugee older than 6 years of age who has a risk factor (e.g., sibling with a BLL at or above 3.5 µg/dL, environmental exposure risk factors) regardless of initial test result.



IMPORTANT: Immediately perform a blood lead test if there is clinical suspicion of lead poisoning or when a patient has a known exposure to lead.



Perform a venous or capillary blood lead test^{e,f}

Perform testing once at 12 months and once at 24 months of age. Perform one test by 6 years of age if not previously tested.



Administer risk assessment

Complete Childhood Lead Risk Questionnaire at ages 6, 9 and 18 months, then at 3, 4, 5 and 6 years of age. Perform blood lead test if any "yes/unsure" response. Consider administering risk assessment to older children.^g

^aThe flowchart follows screening guidance by the CDC, AAP/Bright Futures Periodicity Schedule and the CMS EPSDT benefit. ^bWithin 90 days of arrival in the United States. ^cGuidance from: U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2024). Immigrant and Refugee Health. Retrieved April 9, 2025, from <https://www.cdc.gov/immigrant-refugee-health/hcp/domestic-guidance/lead.html>. ^dThe CDC recommends international adoptees receive a blood lead test upon arrival in the United States and again at 12 and 24 months of age. ^eCapillary blood lead testing is only appropriate in persons under 16 years of age. All blood lead tests in persons aged 16 years and older should be from a venous sample. ^fSee Medical Case Management Recommendations in the screening plan for confirmatory and follow-up testing schedules and recommended clinical follow-up of children with a BLL at or above 3.5 µg/dL. ^gCheck with the insurer. Coverage for blood lead testing varies.

Targeted Zip Codes for Child Blood Lead Testing

MONTANA STATEWIDE

Listed in numerical order

59001	59101	59312	59442	59528	59756
59006	59102	59313	59443	59529	59759
59007	59201	59315	59444	59530	59760
59011	59214	59316	59446	59531	59761
59012	59215	59319	59447	59532	59801
59014	59218	59324	59450	59535	59802
59018	59219	59326	59451	59537	59832
59024	59221	59327	59452	59538	59837
59025	59222	59330	59453	59540	59840
59026	59223	59333	59454	59542	59843
59028	59225	59336	59457	59544	59845
59029	59226	59337	59460	59545	59848
59031	59230	59338	59461	59547	59851
59032	59240	59339	59462	59601	59853
59034	59241	59343	59463	59631	59854
59036	59242	59344	59464	59632	59856
59038	59244	59345	59465	59633	59858
59044	59247	59349	59467	59635	59863
59046	59248	59351	59468	59636	59865
59047	59250	59353	59469	59638	59867
59050	59252	59401	59471	59642	59872
59053	59253	59405	59472	59645	59873
59055	59254	59410	59474	59647	59923
59059	59255	59414	59477	59701	59933
59062	59256	59416	59479	59710	
59063	59257	59418	59480	59711	
59064	59258	59419	59482	59713	
59067	59259	59420	59483	59715	
59068	59260	59422	59484	59722	
59069	59261	59424	59486	59724	
59071	59262	59425	59487	59735	
59072	59263	59427	59489	59736	
59074	59273	59430	59501	59739	
59078	59274	59432	59520	59747	
59082	59275	59433	59522	59748	
59086	59276	59434	59523	59750	
59087	59301	59436	59525	59754	
59089	59311	59440	59526	59755	



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**PUBLIC HEALTH &
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