

# HEDIS® Tip Sheet

## Lead Screening in Children (LSC)

### Measure Description

The percentage of children 2 years of age who had one or more capillary or venous lead blood test for lead poisoning **on or before their second birthday**.

**Product Line:** Medicaid

### Codes Included in the Current HEDIS® Measure

#### *Codes to Identify Lead Tests*

| Description | Code       |
|-------------|------------|
| Lead Tests  | CPT: 83655 |

### Ways Providers can Improve HEDIS® Performance

- Avoid missed opportunities by taking advantage of every office visit (including sick visits) to perform lead testing.
- Consider a standing order for in-office lead testing.
- Educate parents about the dangers of lead poisoning and the importance of testing.
- Provide in-office testing (capillary).
- Bill in-office testing when permitted by the State fee schedule and Molina policy.
- Document in the medical record a note indicating the date the test was performed and the result or finding. "Unknown" is not considered a result/finding.

### Ways Health Plans can Improve HEDIS® Performance

- Educate caregivers about preventing exposure to lead sources, the dangers of lead poisoning, and the importance of testing.
- Provide home lead test kits to members who opt-in.
- Audit, identify, and educate top 10 providers with open gaps.
- Ensure member communications respect language preferences and are culturally appropriate
- Include lead screening in value-based provider arrangements.
- Advocate for universal blood lead screening for all children between 9-12 months with state and local legislators.

### Required Exclusions

- Members who use hospice services or elect to use a hospice benefit any time during the measurement period.
- Members who die any time during the measurement year.

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