



Getting Your Child Tested For Lead



WHY YOUR CHILD SHOULD BE TESTED FOR LEAD

Lead poisoning can make it hard for your child to learn, pay attention, or behave and may cause long-term health problems. Children may not look or act sick. Having your child tested for lead is the only way to know if there is lead in your child's body.

Ask your child's doctor for a blood lead test at one and two years old if your child is in a program such as **Medi-Cal, CHDP, WIC, Head Start, or other similar programs**. If your child is not in one of these programs, ask your child's doctor about their risk of lead exposure.

CHILDREN ARE AT A HIGHER RISK FOR LEAD EXPOSURE IF THEY:

- **Live** in a house or building built before 1978 or near a source of lead air emissions such as highways, industrial sites, general aviation airports, recycling sites.
- **Consume or come in contact with** certain foods, spices, traditional remedies, dishware or other products.
- **Spend time** outside the U.S.
- **Have a sibling with** an elevated blood lead level.
- **Have a family member who works with lead** such as construction or painting or has hobbies that involve lead such as stained glass, fishing, pottery, firearms, antiques.

For a list of lead sources, ask your doctor or visit: <https://bit.ly/3SFK72S>

CHDP is the Child Health and Disability Prevention Program
WIC is the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for
Women, Infants, and Children

WHAT TO EXPECT: BLOOD LEAD TESTING FOR YOUR CHILD



- 1** The test may be done at your child's doctor's office or at a laboratory.
- 2** There are two methods of collecting blood for lead testing: capillary or venous. Capillary tests typically use blood taken from your child's finger. Venous tests use blood from a vein in your child's arm.
- 3** Depending on the result, your child's doctor may order additional tests. Follow-up blood lead tests must be venous.

For more information visit:
www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/clppb
or contact your local Childhood Lead
Poisoning Prevention Program:

