

National Lead Poisoning Prevention Week – You Can Help!

Neighborhood News – October 2025

For the 11th consecutive year, the World Health Organization (WHO) is initiating [Lead Poisoning Prevention Week](#) taking place October 19-25. This global campaign raises awareness about the health effects of lead exposure, promotes prevention strategies, and advocates for stronger regulations to eliminate lead paint. Despite widespread recognition of lead's harmful effects, exposure remains a serious concern for healthcare providers and public health officials worldwide.

Lead screening among children is a Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set (HEDIS) measure. It's defined as:

“the percentage of children two years of age who had at least one capillary or venous blood test for lead poisoning on or before their second birthday.”

Neighborhood's HEDIS Lead Screening rate decreased from 80.65% in 2023 to 78.58% in 2024.

How can you help?

Educate: Talk to your patients about the importance of lead screening.

Utilize reports: Use Neighborhood's **Gap in Care Reports** to identify children who have not received a lead test. Send reminders.

Test: Perform in-office capillary or venous testing before the child's second birthday.

Re-screen: If a child's blood lead level is **3.5 mcg/dL or higher**, retest within **90 days** of the elevated result.

Promote Rewards: Let members know about Neighborhood's Member Rewards, including a \$25 gift card for completing lead screening by age two. Additional rewards are also available for well visits and immunizations. More details and the Member Rewards Form are available [here](#).

Code Accurately: When submitting claims, use one of the following:

- CPT Code: 83655
- SNOMED: 8655006, 35833009
- LOINC: 10368-9, 10912-4, 14807-2, 17052-2, 25459-9, 27129-6, 32325-3, 5671-3, 5674-7, 77307-7

The Rhode Island Department of Health (RIDOH) enforces stricter lead screening guidelines by law. If a child meets RIDOH screening guidelines, they will also satisfy the HEDIS measure. For full details, please [visit RIDOH's site](#).

HEDIS® is a registered trademark of the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA).