

National Lead Poisoning Prevention Week – You Can Help!

Neighborhood News – October 2022

For the 10th year in a row, the World Health Organization (WHO) will launch Lead Poisoning Prevention Week from October 23-29. The campaign is focused on building awareness about the health effects of lead exposure, preventing lead exposure, and urging further action to eliminate lead paint through regulatory action. Even though there is wide recognition of the harmful effects of lead, exposure to lead remains a key concern to health care providers and public health officials worldwide.

Lead Screening among Children is a Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set (HEDIS) measure 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 declined from 77.16% in 2020 to 75.80% in 2021.

How can you help?

- ✓ Educate your patients on the importance of lead screening.
- ✓ Use Gap in Care Reports provided by Neighborhood to identify children who have not had a blood test for lead poisoning and send a reminder.
- ✓ Provide in-office capillary or venous testing at least once by the patient’s second birthday.
- ✓ Re-screen patients with blood lead levels greater than or equal to 5 mcg/dL. within 90 days of an elevated blood lead level result.
- ✓ Inform members of Neighborhood’s Member Rewards (i.e.; \$25 gift card) for completing lead screening by their second birthday. Members are also eligible to receive additional rewards for well visits and immunizations. Please view the link below for more information and a copy of the Member Rewards Form <https://www.nhpri.org/your-health/resources/rewards/>.
- ✓ Code appropriately and timely on submitted claims using 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

*Please note that Rhode Island Department of Health (RIDOH) has more stringent lead screening guidelines required by law. If a child is compliant with RIDOH screening guidelines, the HEDIS measure will also be met. For additional information regarding lead screening requirements, please visit: <http://www.health.ri.gov/healthrisks/poisoning/lead/for/providers/>

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