

Screening for Lead Poisoning

Patient information	
Full name:	Age:
Medical ID:	Gender:
Caregiver name (for patients below 18):	
Caregiver contact number:	
Healthcare provider:	
Symptoms and risk factors	
Has the patient potentially been exposed to lead? Please describe:	
Does the patient have any risk factors for lead poisoning (e.g. living or spending time in a house or building built before 1978, immigrants, refugees, or recently adopted from less developed countries, living or spending time with someone who works with lead)? Please describe:	
Is the patient presenting with symptoms consistent with lead poisoning? Please describe:	

Instructions

1. Prepare the patient for a capillary blood test (or 'finger prick' test). With young children, take steps to reduce their anxiety around the procedure, such as distraction techniques. It may be best for their caregiver to cover their eyes.
2. Perform the capillary test by pricking the patient's finger or heel with a lancet. The side of the finger is best as it is less painful than the tip. Collect the blood on a sampling card.
3. Once the blood has dried, remove a sub-punch from the card for analysis.

Results

Blood lead level: _____ $\mu\text{g/dL}$

Positive

Negative

Blood lead levels of **3.5 $\mu\text{g/dL}$** is considered outside the normal range.

- **Positive result:** $\geq 3.5 \mu\text{g/dL}$ is indicative of lead ingestion.
- **Negative result:** Blood lead levels below this value are considered negative.

Recommendations

Recommended for a confirmatory venous sample?

Yes

No

Additional notes

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2024, April 25). *CDC updates blood lead reference value*. <https://www.cdc.gov/lead-prevention/php/news-features/updates-blood-lead-reference-value.html>

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2024, April 11). *Blood lead level guidelines*. <https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/lead/bll-reference/index.html>