

UNITYPOINT HEALTH - MERITER LABORATORIES

Updates to Lead testing and children

3/18/24

Wisconsin Department of Health Services has updated the guidance associated with Lead testing and children. The current Lead, Blood (Capillary) test, LAB3069, can be used for all pediatric testing. Please review the guidance below and update any necessary order sets.

Lead-Safe Wisconsin: Universal Testing

Universal testing means all children should get at least two lead tests by age 2. Children aged 3 to 5 should get tested if they have no record of a previous test. Starting January 2024, Wisconsin recommends* testing:

- All children at age 1.
- All children again at age 2.
- Any children between ages 3 to 5 without a previous test.

*These recommendations match the federal Medicaid requirement. Additional testing may be recommended in the city of Milwaukee.

Additionally, all children under 17 years of age can be tested if:

- Their parent or guardian expresses concern about lead exposure or asks for their child to be tested for lead poisoning.
- Their health care provider becomes aware of possible lead exposure or lead poisoning risk factors.
- They are a newly arrived refugee. [CDC \(Centers for Disease Control and Prevention\) recommends](#) testing at arrival and again three to six months after the initial test.

Click the link below for more information and to find answers to frequently asked questions:

[Lead-Safe Wisconsin: Universal Testing | Wisconsin Department of Health Services](#)

If you have any questions, please call the UnityPoint Health - Meriter Laboratories Client Services Department at 608-417-6529 or 1-800-236-0465.