Does your child need a lead test?

Does your child . . .

Yes	No	
☐	☐	live in or regularly visit a home built before 1978, especially if it has had recent repairs?
☐	☐	have a sibling or friend with an elevated blood lead level?
☐	☐	have a parent or caregiver who works with lead, either at their job or their hobby?
☐	☐	come from a country outside the U.S.?
☐	☐	use traditional remedies or cosmetics, such as greta, azarcon, or kohl?
☐	☐	have Apple Health/Medicaid?

If you answered **YES** to any of these questions or if you think your child has had any contact with lead, **your child needs a blood lead test.**

Tear off the card below and give it to your child's doctor at your next well child visit. If your child has Apple Health insurance, take advantage of their no-cost testing, even if you answered **NO** to other questions.

My child needs a blood lead test.

Provider: A lead risk factor questionnaire identified this child as having one or more risk factors for lead exposure.

Federal law mandates that all children enrolled in Medicaid are required to get blood lead tests at ages 12 and 24 months.

For more information, visit doh.wa.gov/lead.

What causes lead poisoning in children?

The most common way lead can get into your child is from paint in older homes. Paint can be dangerous when it chips or becomes dust. Lead dust can be breathed or swallowed by children. Wash children's hands and toys often to rinse off any dust.

Things around the home that can contain lead:

- Old paint chips and dust
- Handmade pottery
- Soil and dirt
- Imported spices
- Toys and jewelry
- Water

Why should your child be tested for lead?

If lead gets into your child, it can cause brain and kidney damage, as well as make it hard for them to learn, pay attention, and behave properly. Even small amounts of lead can hurt your child, so it is important to find out if your child should be tested.

What are the symptoms of lead poisoning?

Most children who have lead poisoning do not look or act sick. A blood test is the only way to tell if your child has been exposed to lead.

What happens if your child has lead poisoning?

The Department of Health or your local health jurisdiction can help you find and get rid of the lead source. Your family may also be connected with resources, like nutrition services, to support your child's health.

For more information on lead and
to see lead risk in your neighborhood,
go to doh.wa.gov/lead.

Washington State Department of Health
Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention
1-800-909-9898

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For persons with disabilities, this document is available on request in other formats. To submit a request, please call 1-800-525-0127 (TDD/TTY 711).

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