

# Lead Testing and EPSDT in Kansas

Federal Requirements, State Oversight and Clinical Impact

**Liz Whitson, May 2026**





# Purpose of Today's Presentation

- Describe EPSDT and Kan Be Healthy
- Clarify Kansas Medicaid testing compliance
- Screening vs Testing differences
- Importance of screenings
- Education
- Reimbursement

# What is EPSDT/Kan Be Healthy?

## **EPSDT (Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment)**

- Federal Medicaid program for children under age 21
- Provides preventative health screenings and necessary treatment

## **Kan Be Healthy (KBH)**

- Kansas Medicaid program name for EPSDT
- Ensures children receive recommended preventative screenings, including lead testing



# KBH Lead Screening Requirements

## **Lead Screening under EPSDT/KBH**

- Required for all Medicaid-enrolled children
- Must be completed at:
  - 12 months
  - 24 months
  - 24-72 months if they have never been tested
  - Screening is required regardless of perceived risk.

## **Bright Futures Periodicity Schedule - AAP**

- Blood tests at 12 and 24 months of age

## **CDC-Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention**

- At least 1 blood test between 12 and 24 months of age
- All children < 6 years old tested, if not tested at a younger age

## **Medicaid Requirements**

- Blood tests by 12 and 24 months of age, regardless of known exposure risk

## Health Risks of Lead Exposure

- Damage to brain and nervous system
- Learning and developmental delays
- Often occurs without obvious symptoms

## Children at Higher Risk

- Living in homes built before 1978
- Exposure to lead paint, dust or contaminated soil
- Certain environmental or household exposure

# Screening vs Testing

## Screening

- Questionnaire

## Testing

- Capillary
- Venous
  
- HDs may bill Medicaid using CPT code 83655 QW for blood lead testing if using a point-of-care blood lead testing system

# KMAP Lead Screen Questionnaire

## KBH - EPSDT Blood Lead Screening Questionnaire

**Purpose:** To be completed at each KBH screen from 6 to 72 months.



**Instructions:**

- Administer this Questionnaire at **each** well child visit between 6 and 72 months and discuss with parent/guardian common sources of lead exposure in children's environments and provide anticipatory guidance on preventing lead exposure.
- Any response of Yes or Don't Know (?) requires immediate capillary or venous blood lead testing.** All children on Medicaid must receive a capillary or venous blood lead test BEFORE 12 months and 24 months of age, both. For Medicaid children, if there is no record of a previous blood lead test, a catch-up capillary or venous test should be performed by 72 months.

Patient's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ DOB: \_\_\_\_\_ Medicaid #: \_\_\_\_\_

Provider's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Administered by: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Yes ? No Questions: Does your child...**

Yes	?	No	Questions: Does your child...
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Live in or visit a home, day-care or other building built before 1978 or has recently been repaired or remodeled?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Live in or visit a home, day-care or other building with lead pipes, faucets or plumbing fixtures?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Eat food, including fruits and vegetables, that may have been grown in lead-contaminated soil?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Eat/chew non-food things like paint chips, dirt, crayons, paper, keys, etc. or have trouble eating healthy foods?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Have delays in growth or meeting typical milestones in playing, learning, speaking, behaving and moving?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Have a family member or friend with lead poisoning (lead levels of 3.5 micrograms per deciliter or greater)?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Play in bare soil, live near lead waste piles, live near battery recycling plants or other industries that release lead?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Come from or visit another country?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Does your child come in contact with an adult whose job or hobby involves lead exposure? <b>Examples are listed below:</b>

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Welding, cutting</li> <li>Valve and pipe fittings</li> <li>Lead mining, smelting or refining</li> <li>Go to a firing range or reloading bullets</li> <li>Lead abatement and clean up</li> <li>Pottery, jewelry or stain glass making</li> <li>Making fishing weights</li> <li>Recycling materials</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Brass or copper foundry</li> <li>Drinking home distilled liquor</li> <li>Automotive repair shop or junk yard</li> <li>Any demolition, construction or repair work on houses, other buildings, bridges, etc.</li> <li>Burning lead-painted wood, refinishing furniture</li> <li>Lead battery manufacturing, assembly, distribution, testing or repair</li> <li>Other _____</li> </ul> |
|---|---|

**Does your family use products from other countries? Examples include:**

Yes	?	No	Questions: Does your family use products from other countries? Examples include:
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Traditional medicines such as Ayurvedic, greta, azarcón, alarcón, alkohl, bali goli, coral, ghasard, liga, pay-loo-ah and rueda
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cosmetics such as kohl, surma, sindor and KumKuma
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Imported or glazed pottery or cookware, imported candy, imported jewelry and imported nutritional pills other than vitamins
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Spices and foods canned or packaged outside the U.S.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Imported toys and toy jewelry

**Reminder:** Any response of Yes or Don't Know (?) requires immediately capillary or venous blood lead testing.

Version: February 2024

NOTE: All capillary tests with a result of 3.5 ug/dL or greater should be confirmed with a venous sample.

NOTE: KDHE recommends all pregnant and lactating persons be tested for blood lead.

## What is considered elevated BLL?

- $>3.5\text{mcg/dL}$  or greater = elevated
  - All capillary results must be confirmed by venous sample before an investigation occurs
  - All subsequent blood draws venous if BLL high

## What is considered safe BLL?

- No level is considered safe
- $<3.5\text{mcg/dL}$  considered non-elevated for action

Local Health Department will:

- Confirm venous BLL was  $>3.5\text{mcg/dL}$
- Conduct investigation using KDHE Investigation Guideline
- Try to identify sources of lead exposure with questions

## **Coverage Requirements**

- Confirmatory venous BLL test with a result equal or greater than 10mcg/dL
- Prior authorization is required
- Must be billed with primary diagnosis code R78.71
- Initial Comprehensive visit procedure code T1029
- Follow-up visit procedure code T1029-U1

## **Not Billable as part of Lead Hazard Risk Assessment**

- Laboratory assessment
- Testing of substances that must be sent off-site for analysis
- Any non-medical activities like removal/abatement of lead sources
- Relocation efforts



# Registered Nurse Educator

## Coverage Requirements

- Must be a venous blood sample
- BLL equal to or greater than 5 mcg/dL
- Provider Type/Specialty must be a LHD (13/131)
- Allowable Places of Service: Home(12) or State or Local Public Health Clinic(71)

## Service Limitations

- Visit must include diagnosis code Z77.011 for claim billing
- RN education visits (T1001 U1) are limited to 4 times a year



# KMAP General Bulletins

## **KMAP General Bulletin 24180**

- Lead Hazard Risk Assessments – Local Health Departments Enrollment and Coverage

## **KMAP General Bulletin 24196**

- Registered Nurse Education Visits for Elevated Blood Lead Levels

# That's A Wrap

- Early: assessing and identifying problems early
- Periodic: checking children's health at periodic, age-appropriate intervals
- Screening: providing physical, mental, developmental, dental, hearing, vision and other screenings, including lead, to detect potential problems
- Diagnostic: performing diagnostic tests to follow up when a risk is identified
- Treatment: control, correct or reduce health problems found

1. [www.medicaid.gov/medicaid/benefits/downloads/epsdt-coverage-guide.pdf](http://www.medicaid.gov/medicaid/benefits/downloads/epsdt-coverage-guide.pdf)

2. <https://www.medicaid.gov/medicaid/benefits/early-and-periodic-screening-diagnostic-and-treatment>

- [CMCS informational bulletin](#)
- [KDHE KMAP Elevated Blood Lead Levels \(PDF\)](#)
- [KDHE KMAP Lead Hazard Risk Assessment \(PDF\)](#)
- [EPSDT A Guide for States \(PDF\)](#)
- [AAP Prevention of Childhood Lead Toxicity](#)
- [CDC Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention](#)
- [Medicaid.gov. Lead Screening](#)
- [KDHE MAPEHSU](#)

## Thank You/Questions

