



**SAN MATEO COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY  
TEST INFORMATION**

**Section: Chemistry**

**Test Name: Lead (Capillary Screening)**

<b>Test Includes:</b> Blood Lead by LeadCare	
<i>Reporting</i>	
<b>Results Available:</b> 7 days	<b>Contact Number:</b> (650) 573-2500
<i>Reference</i>	
<b>Method:</b> LeadCare II Instrument	
<b>Turnaround Time:</b> 7 days	<b>Reference Range:</b> <10.0 µg/dL
<b>Limitations:</b> Specimens must be collected exactly as directed to prevent elevated results from environmental contamination.	
<b>Note:</b> Any capillary screening BLL ≥10 µg/dL must be confirmed with a venous sample.	
<b>Interpretation:</b>	
<u>Blood Lead 10-14 µg/dL:</u>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Test every 3-4 months until two consecutive tests are &lt;10.0 µg/dL or three consecutive tests are &lt;15 µg/dL.</li> <li>• Notify Childhood Lead Program within 7-10 days.</li> </ul>	
<u>Blood Lead 15 – 19 µg/dL</u>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Confirm capillary results with a venous sample after a minimum 30 days from initial screen.</li> <li>• Retest every 3-4 months.</li> </ul>	
<u>Blood Lead 20-44 µg/dL</u>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The repeat venous sample should be done within 5 days. If confirmed to be &gt;20 µg/dL, conduct a complete medical evaluation:</li> <li>• If &gt;40 µg/dL retest every 3 months or sooner if level remains high or increases.</li> <li>• A blood lead ≥40µg/dL should prompt a serum creatinine to assess renal function.</li> </ul>	
<u>Blood Lead 45 – 69 µg/dL</u>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Confirmatory test within 24-48 hours.</li> <li>• Begin medical treatment and environmental assessment and remediation within 48 hours.</li> <li>• Pharmacologic treatment is indicated and should be conducted under the guidance of a physician experienced in the treatment of lead poisoning.</li> <li>• Considered a medical emergency. Medical treatment and environmental assessment/remediation must begin immediately.</li> <li>• Retest depends on level of confirmatory test and provider and case manager discretion.</li> </ul>	
<u>Blood Lead &gt;70 µg/dL</u>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Immediate medical emergency, hospitalize and chelate</b></li> <li>• Confirm test stat</li> </ul>	
<b>Diagnostic Information:</b> Small amounts of blood lead can be damaging to the development of a child.	



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<i>Specimen Requirements</i>	
<b>Specimen Collection:</b> To prevent contamination of the capillary specimen, the collection procedure must be followed scrupulously. For training on procedure, contact the San Mateo County Childhood Prevent Program at (650) 573-2335.	
<b>Sample Type:</b> Capillary sample collected using LeadCare capillary and treatment reagent; fill capillary tube according to manufacturer stated fill volume. Venous samples are collected in tubes with heparin or EDTA as anti-coagulants. EDTA tubes must be at <i>least</i> one quarter full. Otherwise you could obtain falsely lower blood lead results.	
<b>Volume/Amount Required:</b> See above	<b>Preferred Specimen:</b> Either capillary or venous
<b>Collection/Preservation:</b> See Sample Type above	<b>Storage Instructions:</b> Blood in LeadCare treatment reagent vials can be stored for 48 hours at room temperature or up to 7 days at refrigerator temperature.
<b>Causes for Rejection:</b> Clotted blood, refrigerated blood, QNS, specimen decomposition, specimen > 7 storage days.	<b>Sample Container:</b> LeadCare Treatment Reagent vial or heparin/EDTA vacutainer.
<b>Sample Test Kit:</b> LeadCare II Blood Lead Test Kit	<b>Availability:</b> No restrictions
<i>Specimen Submission</i>	
<b>Request Form:</b> Standard Lab Test	<b>Specimen Handling:</b> Universal precautions.
<b>Transport Temperature:</b> Room temperature	
<b>Shipping Requirements:</b> Deliver specimens same day as collected; otherwise refrigerate. Avoid temperature extremes. If mailed, package specimens according to the guidelines for submission of laboratory specimens through US Postal System.	
<i>Billing</i>	
<b>CPT Code(s):</b> 83655	<b>Fees:</b> \$22
Effective Date: July 1, 2008	