



Dear Child Care Provider,

You play a critical role in the early detection and prevention of childhood lead poisoning. We are providing you with this folder to give you the tools needed to increase blood lead level testing in children. Inside you will find:

- How to Use This Toolkit
- Lead Fact Sheets
- Lead Law Update Card
- Information from the City of Nashua

Who is at risk?

Every child is at risk for lead poisoning and every child should be tested at ages 1 and 2, as should children ages 3 to 6 who have not previously been tested.

Why is it important?

Lead is highly toxic. Lead poisoning can harm the brain, damage speech and hearing, and result in learning and behavior problems. Children in our region are at particular risk, since the most common source of childhood lead poisoning is lead paint in older homes, and over 50% of the homes in the Greater Nashua Public Health Region were built before lead paint was banned in 1978.

It's the law.

As of April 2018, New Hampshire became a universal testing state, requiring that all health care providers conduct blood lead level tests for all 1 and 2 year olds. We also recommend testing for 3 to 6 year olds who have not been tested.



What can you do?

- Share this information with parents, caretakers, staff, or anyone else, because anyone can be affected by childhood lead poisoning.
- Make sure parents understand that NH State Law requires children to be tested for lead poisoning at ages 1 and 2.
- Encourage parents to talk to their doctor about lead testing.

Respectfully,

Bobbie D. Bagley

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