

Lead Screen (Child)

Revised: 10-30-23

Test description	Evaluation of whole blood for elevated lead levels
Test use	To identify potential lead poisoning in children
Test Department	Chemistry Phone: (860) 920-6635 FAX: (860) 920-6718
Methodology	Inductively Coupled Plasma-Mass Spectrometry (ICP-MS)
Availability	Testing is performed once each week
Specimen Requirements	250 μ l (0.25 ml) of whole blood collected by fingerstick and submitted in capillary collection tube containing EDTA or heparin anticoagulant.
Collection Kit/container	To obtain collection tubes, refer to Collection Kit Ordering Information.
Collection Instructions	Fingerstick blood collection technique. Use aseptic technique throughout the collection process in order to prevent contamination of the specimen with environmental lead.
Specimen Handling & Transport	Store at 2-8°C prior to transport. Transport at room temperature (15°C to 25°C). Avoid temperature extremes.
Unacceptable Conditions	Unlabeled specimens Specimens that have leaked or containers that have broken in transit Specimens that are clotted Specimens of insufficient quantity
Requisition Form	Clinical Test Requisition OL-9B (select Child Lead Screen)
Required Information	Name and address of submitter. Two patient identifiers (Name, DOB, Acc.#, MRN), town of residence (city, state, zip), race/ethnicity, specimen type or source of collection, date collected, and test requested. Please ensure information on the requisition matches the specimen.
Limitations	Because of the potential for contamination of capillary samples with environmental lead, elevated levels must be confirmed with a venous specimen.
Additional comments	Test availability is restricted to those Connecticut patients with no health coverage.