



Alaska Medical Assistance

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### Remittance Advice (RA) Message

Title: **Updated CDC Guidance for Blood Lead Screening**

Date: 03/16/2022

Run Length: 6 weeks

Provider Type(s): All

Message: On October 28, 2021, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) updated the blood lead reference value (BLRV) from 5 micrograms/deciliter to 3.5 micrograms/deciliter. Given that no safe blood lead level (BLL) has been established, earlier recognition of lead exposure enables providers and families to intervene by mitigating exposure that might otherwise result in higher blood lead concentrations. BLL testing is required for Medicaid recipients at 12 and 24 months of age as well as any Medicaid recipients under 6 years of age who have not been previously tested. All BLL tests must be reported to the Department of Public Health, Section of Epidemiology per 7 AAC 27.014. Follow-up investigations are conducted for all children with a BLL of 3.5 micrograms/deciliter or higher.

For more information please visit [CDC's Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Web page](#).