

**Mission:**

To protect, promote & improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county & community efforts.



**Rick Scott**  
Governor

**Celeste Philip, MD, MPH**  
Surgeon General and Secretary

**Vision:** To be the Healthiest State in the Nation

May 23, 2017

Dear Colleague,

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has issued a Health Advisory regarding the use of Magellan Diagnostics' LeadCare® analyzers (LeadCare®, LeadCare® II, LeadCare® Ultra and LeadCare® Plus). This safety alert applies only to venous draws that are analyzed with the LeadCare® analyzers (see attached CDC Health Advisory). **Considering the safety alert, the Department recommends you to actively identify, contact, and retest children in your practice younger than 6 years (72 months) who had a venous blood lead test result of less than 10 micrograms per deciliter (µg/dL) analyzed using a Magellan Diagnostics' LeadCare® analyzer.**

Blood lead collection must be done properly to ensure an appropriate sample. Please refer to the guidance from the CDC on collecting and handling blood lead samples ([http://www.cdc.gov/nceh/lead/training/blood\\_lead\\_samples.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/nceh/lead/training/blood_lead_samples.htm)). Whenever possible, health care professionals should use laboratories that can achieve routine quality control of plus or minus 2 µg/dL for blood lead analysis (federal regulations allow laboratories that perform blood lead testing to operate with a total allowable error of plus or minus 4µg/dL).

As a reminder, healthcare providers **should screen** a child at 12 and 24 months of age or a child 3 to 6 years of age who has not previously been screened if the child meets **ONE** of the following criteria: living in a high-risk area defined by older housing in his or her zip code (see county maps <http://www.floridahealth.gov/environmental-health/lead-poisoning/county-map.html>) or near an industry where lead is processed, has parents whose work or hobbies involve lead, is a refugee or immigrant, is in foster care or adopted from outside the U.S., or exhibits delayed cognitive development. Healthcare providers **are required** to screen all Medicaid enrolled children at ages 12 and 24 months or between 24 and 72 months if not previously screened (Rule 64E-27.001, Florida Administrative Code [FAC]).

Lead Poisoning is listed as a reportable disease in the State of Florida under Rule 64D-3.029, FAC. All entities (laboratories, hospitals, or providers) that conduct blood lead analysis are required to report lead poisoning and all blood lead test results (regardless of the level) to the Florida Department of Health (DOH). For further information on reporting lead test results, or additional information on lead poisoning prevention, please contact the DOH, Bureau of Epidemiology, Lead Poisoning Prevention Program at 850-245-4401 or visit the DOH's Lead Poisoning Prevention Program website (<http://www.floridahealth.gov/environmental-health/lead-poisoning/index.html>) or the CDC <https://www.cdc.gov/nceh/lead/default.htm>.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Carina Blackmore".

Dr. Carina Blackmore  
State Epidemiologist  
Director, Division of Disease Control & Health Protection