



**Dear Medical Provider,**

The Utah Lead Coalition (ULC) is a group of state and private partners working together to increase lead testing and to prevent lead exposure in Utah's children and pregnant women. Our website, [utahleadcoalition.org](http://utahleadcoalition.org), houses important documents that will help you in this important effort.

Utah does not currently require blood lead testing on all children unless they are insured by Medicaid or are enrolled in Head Start. It is a national recommendation that all children 6 months to 6 yrs. or age and all pregnant women get screened through a lead exposure questionnaire and be tested if they are found to be at risk. The ULC, however, recommends testing all children routinely at their 1 and 2 year old checkups or up to age 6 years if never tested.

As of August 24, 2017, the Injury Reporting Rule (Utah Code R386-703) was revised stating “**cases of elevated blood lead levels include all persons with blood lead concentrations equal to or greater than 5 micrograms per deciliter**”. In October of 2021, however the CDC lowered this level to greater than or equal to 3.5 micrograms per deciliter.

Even small amounts of lead in the body can result in lower IQ scores and academic performance. Lead poisoning also leads to behavior problems including inattention, hyperactivity, impulsivity, aggression as well as damage to most organ systems in the body. Lead can cross the placenta of a pregnant woman after 12 weeks of gestation potentially damaging a baby's developing nervous system before it is born. It is important to use questionnaires to screen children and pregnant women for lead exposure, however, since most lead poisoning is silent except at higher levels, the only way to know if someone has been exposed is through a blood test.

In Utah, all blood lead levels are required to be reported to the Utah Dept. of Health Environmental Epidemiology Program (UDOH/EEP) within 90 days regardless of lead level or age of patient. If your office uses an outside clinical lab to conduct your blood lead analysis, the clinical lab will report directly to the UDOH/EEP. If your office uses point of care testing (i.e. LeadCare II machine), it is your responsibility to report your test results to the UDOH/EEP. Along with lead value in µg/dL and source (venous or capillary), please include where test was performed, full name of patient, parents or guardian name, gender, birthdate, address, phone number, ethnicity, and race. Spreadsheets are preferred.

**Report All Blood Lead Results to:**

**Email:** [EPICDEPFAX@Utah.gov](mailto:EPICDEPFAX@Utah.gov)

**Fax:** 801-538-9923

**Mail and State Contact:**

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Thanks for your efforts,

Claudia Fruin, MD, FAAP chair/founder of the Utah Lead Coalition