



# Memorandum

To: Gold Coast Health Plan Primary Care Providers

From: Kimberly Timmerman, MHA, CPHQ, Senior Director of Quality Improvement

Re: **Provider Training Opportunity and Pediatric Lead Testing Toolkit**

Date: October 20, 2022

## **Provider Training Opportunity: Lead Poisoning Prevention in Children**

To support Gold Coast Health Plan's (GCHP) efforts to improve pediatric lead testing, we invite you to learn more about the impacts of lead exposure and best practices for prevention and intervention at an upcoming training, hosted by Anthem Blue Cross. Attendance at this event awards **one unit** of **continuing medical education (CME)**.

The WebEx training is scheduled for Tuesday, Nov. 1, 2022, at 5:30 pm. To register, [click here](#).

The guest speaker will be Dr. Jean Woo, a practicing pediatrician for more than 20 years and a public health medical officer at the Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Branch of the California Department of Public Health.

## **Pediatric Lead Testing Toolkit**

GCHP is also pleased to announce the creation of a provider toolkit for pediatric lead exposure testing. The state Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) considers beneficiaries of any government assistance program, including those who are GCHP members, to be at-risk for lead exposure and requires they be tested at 12 and 24 months of age, or before the age of 6 if they have not been tested.

This toolkit, which is meant to help you perform the recommended pediatric blood lead level testing, includes the following:

- A pediatric **lead screening refusal** form for documentation of a parent / guardian declining blood lead testing for their child.
  - Documentation in the medical record of a parent / guardian refusal for recommended pediatric blood lead testing is **required** by DHCS.
- A **tip sheet** including best practices and clinical guidelines for pediatric blood lead testing that you can place near your workspace.

- Member **education materials** highlighting the importance of pediatric blood lead testing. In the coming weeks, you will also be receiving a packet in the mail of other sample member education materials on this topic.

The Lead Screening Toolkit is available on [GCHP's website](#). If you would like printed materials from the toolkit, please email your request to the Quality Improvement Department at [QualityImprovement@goldchp.org](mailto:QualityImprovement@goldchp.org).

As a reminder, GCHP sends quarterly reports of all members who are due for pediatric blood lead testing to pediatric providers. You can use these lists to contact your patients who are due for this vital preventive screening.

Please share information about this toolkit and the upcoming Lead Poisoning Prevention Training with your clinical staff. We welcome any suggestions on this initiative. Comments may be directed to the Quality Improvement Department via email at [QualityImprovement@goldchp.org](mailto:QualityImprovement@goldchp.org).