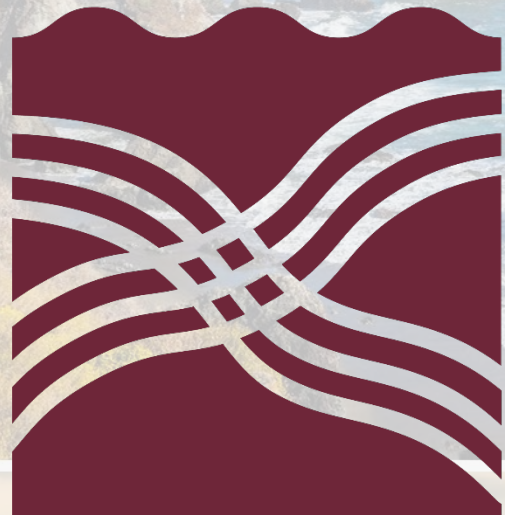


PARTNERSHIP



HEALTHPLAN
of CALIFORNIA
A Public Agency



Partnering for Pediatric Lead Prevention: A Point of Care Testing Initiative

Teresa Frankovich, MD, MPH
Associate Medical Director

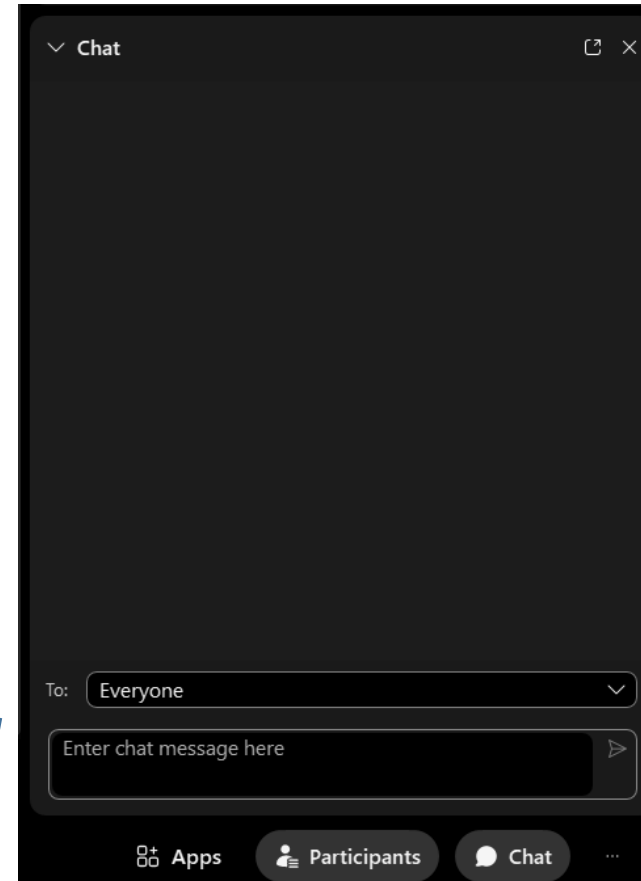
Chandler Ackerman
Project Coordinator I

March 7, 2024

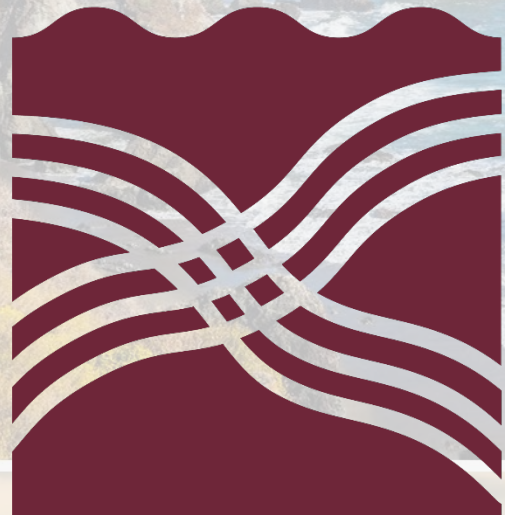
Webinar Instructions

Figure 1

- All attendees have been muted to eliminate any possible noise/interference/distraction.
- Please take a moment and open your chat box by clicking the chat icon found at the bottom right-hand corner of your screen and as shown in **Figure 1**.
- If you have any questions, please type your questions into the chat box, and they will be answered throughout the presentation.
- Be sure to select “Everyone” when sending a message.



PARTNERSHIP



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Partnering for Pediatric Lead Prevention: A Point of Care Testing Initiative

Teresa Frankovich, MD, MPH
Associate Medical Director

Chandler Ackerman
Project Coordinator I

March 7, 2024

Partnership Mission, Vision, and Focus



Partnership began in Solano County in 1994 and now provides care to over 900,000 members across 24 Northern California counties.

- **Mission:** To help our members, and the communities we serve, be healthy.
- **Vision:** To be the most highly regarded managed care plan in California.
- **Focus:**
 - Quality in everything we do
 - Operational excellence
 - Financial stewardship

Questions and Submissions

Please submit the application and supporting documentation to:
leadPOC@partnershiphp.org
before March 31st, 2024.

General questions may be submitted to this mailbox as well.

Why Test for Lead?

- **No Level of Lead in the Body is Known to be Safe**



California Statutes and Regulations for Providers Caring for Children 6 Months to 6 Years of Age¹



ANTICIPATORY GUIDANCE

At each periodic assessment from 6 months to 6 years. Under California state laws and regulations, all health care providers are required to inform all parents and guardians about:

- The risks and effects of childhood lead exposure.
- The requirement that children enrolled in Medi-Cal receive blood lead tests.
- The requirement that children not enrolled in Medi-Cal who are at high risk of lead exposure receive blood lead tests.

¹ [Health and Safety Code, sections 105285-105286; California Code of Regulations, Title 17, Sections 37000 to 37100](#)

California Statutes and Regulations for Providers Caring for Children 6 Months to 6 Years of Age¹



BLOOD LEAD TEST

- All children in publicly supported programs such as Medi-Cal, Women, Infants and Children (WIC), and CHDP at both 12 months and 24 months of age.
- Perform a “catch up” test for children age 24 months to 6 years in a publicly supported program who were not tested at 12 and 24 months.

¹ Health and Safety Code, sections 105285-105286; California Code of Regulations, Title 17, Sections 37000 to 37100

California Statutes and Regulations for Providers Caring for Children 6 Months to 6 Years of Age¹



ASSESS

- If child is not in a publicly supported program:
Ask: "Does your child live in, or spend a lot of time in, a place built before 1978 that has peeling or chipped paint or that has been recently remodeled?" **Blood lead test if the answer to the question is "yes" or "don't know."**

¹ Health and Safety Code, sections 105285-105286; California Code of Regulations, Title 17, Sections 37000 to 37100

New QIP Clinical Measure for 2024

Members turning 2 years of age in the measurement year with (at least) 1 lead screening in their lifetime*

* Point of Care program will use this metric as well

Questions?



leadPOC@partnershiphp.org

Identifying and Sharing 2024 Best Practices

MEASURE BEST PRACTICES

The 2024 Measure Best Practices documents are resources for the Primary Care Provider Quality Improvement Program (PCP QIP) measure set, which aligns closely with the Managed Care Accountability Set (MCAS) measures for which Partnership HealthPlan of California is held accountable by the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS). Each Measure Best Practice document includes Partnership tools and resources, guidelines to facilitate optimal member care, opportunities for patient education, outreach, and equity, data and coding resources, and helpful links to improve measure performance.

Breast Cancer Screening

Cervical Cancer Screening

Child & Adolescent Well Care

Childhood Immunizations Status

Colorectal Cancer Screening

Controlling Blood Pressure

Comprehensive Diabetes Care: HbA1c - Good Control

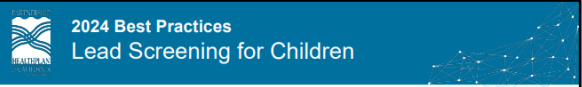
Comprehensive Diabetes Care: Retinal Eye Exam

Immunizations for Adolescents

Lead Screening for Children

Unit of Service Dental Flouride Varnish

Well Child Visits 15 Months



2024 Best Practices
Lead Screening for Children

Partnership Tools and Programs:

- In 2023, Partnership invited providers to apply for a [LeadCare II Point of Care testing device](#) which allows clinic staff to collect and run specimens on site. Participants in the program are provided with a device and are eligible to own it after 12 months, if the clinic is successful in meeting lead testing targets. This program will be offered again in 2024. Providers will be notified when the new application period opens.
- Attend or view Partnership's [Improving Measure Outcomes training on Preventative Care for 0-2 Year Olds](#) for more information about blood lead testing.
- Partnership members can access transportation for non-emergency medical services for assistance in traveling to and from appointments. Members can access services by calling [Partnership Transportation Services](#) at (866) 828-2303 Monday – Friday 7 a.m. – 7 p.m. PST.

Member Care:

- All children enrolled in Medi-Cal must receive lead prevention education at well-child visits from 6 months through 6 years of age. This education must be documented. Add this to EMR templates for each well child visit.
- All children on Medi-Cal must be tested for lead exposure at 12 and 24 months. Abnormal lead results require documentation of follow-up. Include blood lead testing completion and coding steps in EMR templates for 12-month and 24-month well child visits, at minimum, but practices are encouraged to add prompts to [each](#) well child visit from 12 months to 6 years in order to identify and test any children missing age-appropriate lead testing.
- To catch children whose blood lead test is not complete after 24 months old, utilize "flag" alerts in the EMR / EHR system or pre-visit planning tools so that each staff member can identify and communicate to caregivers, at every member encounter, that their child is due for screening services and offer testing that day.
- Utilize Partnership-provided quarterly lists (and/or internally produced) lists of patients behind on testing, to guide outreach to families
- Create standing orders for internal staff so that capillary specimens can be collected when the patient is roomed
- Train staff to use affirmative language when talking with parents about lead testing rather than asking parents if they would like their child tested

2024 PCP QIP Technical Specifications

- Measure Description
- Exclusions
- PCP QIP Full Points, Partial Points, Relative Improvement Definitions
- Notes for eReports and PQD

QIP eReports Portal

- 2024 Detailed PCP QIP Technical Specifications
- Measure Reports
- Diagnosis Code Crosswalk Report

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2024 Best Practices: General

- Place prompts for lead testing in your EMR (12-72 month WCC)
- Create standing orders for office staff to lead test
- Use Partnership provided lists of patients needing testing to flag chart and to reach out to patients who are behind
- Provide education internally to all providers and clinic staff serving children on the need for testing and communicate best practices
- Consider testing **all** children for lead, not just Medi-Cal enrolled so the office process is the same for all children


2024 Best Practices
Lead Screening for Children

Partnership Tools and Programs:

- In 2023, Partnership invited providers to apply for a [LeadCare II Point of Care testing device](#) which allows clinic staff to collect and run specimens on site. Participants in the program are provided with a device and are eligible to own it after 12 months, if the clinic is successful in meeting lead testing targets. This program will be offered again in 2024. Providers will be notified when the new application period opens.
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Data and Coding:

- Submit claims and encounter data within 90 days of service.
- Code point of care tests as part of encounter/claims submission.
- Compare EHR or lab requisition forms with HEDIS code to ensure lab order is in alignment with measure.

Helpful Links:

[2024 PCP QIP Technical Specifications](#)

- Measure Description
- Exclusions
- PCP QIP Full Points, Partial Points, Relative Improvement Definitions
- Notes for eReports and PQD

[QIP eReports Portal](#)

- 2024 Detailed PCP QIP Technical Specifications
- Measure Reports
- Diagnosis Code Crosswalk Report

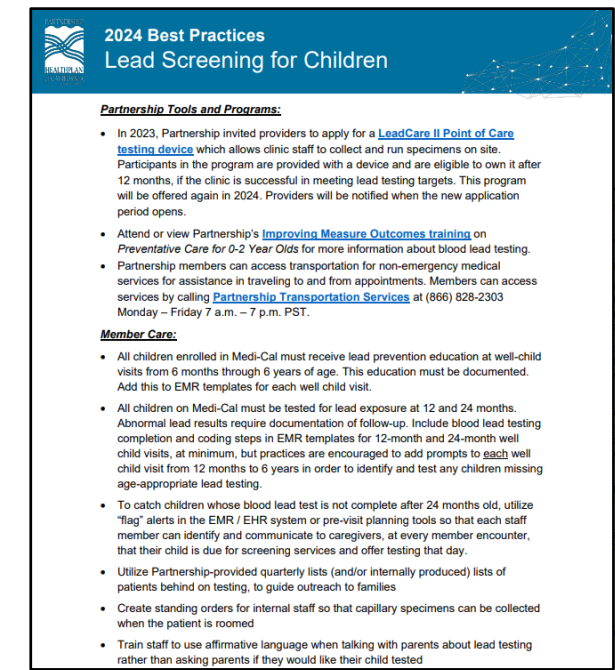
2024 Best Practices: Visit

- **Before the visit:**

- Scrub charts and identify who is due for testing.

- **During the visit:**

- Use affirmative language ex. “Felix is here for his 1 year check up so it is important we test him for exposure to lead today.”
- Obtain blood sample in the exam room at the beginning of the visit.
- Consider obtaining a point-of-care testing machine and running specimen during visit.



**2024 Best Practices
Lead Screening for Children**

Partnership Tools and Programs:

- In 2023, Partnership invited providers to apply for a [LeadCare II Point of Care testing device](#) which allows clinic staff to collect and run specimens on site. Participants in the program are provided with a device and are eligible to own it after 12 months, if the clinic is successful in meeting lead testing targets. This program will be offered again in 2024. Providers will be notified when the new application period opens.
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On-Site Specimen Collection

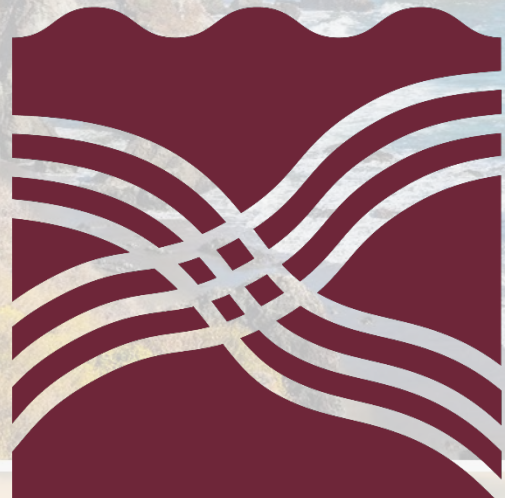
- POC testing in clinic
- Specimen collection in clinic but run on POC machine in local PH Lab
- Specimen collection in clinic but run at Santa Clara PH Lab
- Specimen collection in office but run in commercial lab

Questions?



leadPOC@partnershiphp.org

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Point of Care Testing Initiative

Dr. Frankovich, Associate Medical Director
Chandler Ackerman, Project Coordinator
March 7, 2024

Program Specifics

Primary care provider sites will be selected to receive the following:

- A LeadCare II Point-of-Care Blood Lead testing machine which includes a test kit (48 tests).
 - Additional test kits will need to be purchased by the Clinic .
- Assistance with office set up.
- Training for office staff on specimen collection and use of the LeadCare II testing equipment (provided by the manufacturer).

Eligibility

The LeadCare II POC program is open to Primary Care Providers in the Partnership network who meet the following criteria:

- Serve a pediatric patient population which includes members 0-3 years of age.
- Do not currently have access to point of care testing **OR** have purchased a LeadCare II device in the 2024 calendar year and are requesting reimbursement for that purchase (please include documentation of purchase with submission).
- Have a current CLIA certificate of waiver for other POC testing and are able to add LeadCare II to their CLIA waived testing panel **OR** are willing to apply for a CLIA certificate of waiver.

Program Particulars

- Clinics will contract with Partnership for one year.
- POC devices will become the property of the clinic at the end of one year if successful in implementing testing.
- **Clinics are required to bill Partnership for testing.**
 - Partnership will use claims data to obtain testing numbers in place of reporting.
- Clinics will be required to report testing results to the state as outlined.
- Clinics will be required to have CLIA certificate for waived testing and adhere to CLIA rules/regulation.

Application Submissions

- Accepted on a rolling basis **March 1, 2024 – March 31, 2024**, or until all devices have been awarded.
- Notification should be expected within 2-3 weeks of submission.
- The clinic and Partnership HealthPlan of California will sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).
- Delivery of device will be directed to the clinic.
- Recorded training is available through the vendor online.
- On-site training (preferred) and/or live virtual training can be scheduled after delivery of the LeadCare II POC kit.

Application Submissions

PROGRAM APPLICATION: LeadCare II Point of Care Testing Device

Name of Applicant Organization: _____

Name/Email of Chief Medical Officer: _____

Name/Title/Email of Contact Person for this Application: _____

Eligibility: The LeadCare II POC program is open to primary care providers in the Partnership network who meet the following criteria:

- Serve a pediatric patient population which includes members 0-3 years of age
- Do not currently have access to point of care testing or have purchased a LeadCare II device within the past 4 months and are requesting reimbursement for that purchase (please attach documentation of purchase).
- Have a current CLIA certificate of waiver for other POC testing and are able to add LeadCare II to their CLIA waived testing panel OR are willing to apply for a CLIA certificate of waiver

Note:

- Please list sites for which a LeadCare II device is being requested (see table below).
- If your site has just been established in the past year, please describe the size of the pediatric population 0-3 years that you expect to serve.
- Practice sites serving a minimum of 100 enrolled members 0-3 years of age with lead testing performance measures below the Medicaid National Benchmark (63.99% in 2022), will be prioritized.

Sites for which a LeadCare II Device is being requested:

Site Location/Name	Contact person and contact information (phone/email)	Number of PHC assigned Children aged 0-3	Current method of collecting lead samples, if any (ex. to sending member to lab for testing, collecting capillary specimen on site and sending to commercial or public health lab)

Please respond to the following questions:

1. Do you have LeadCare II testing equipment currently on site? If so, please explain why additional equipment is needed. Please note, Partnership will not provide funds to replace older but functioning equipment.

2. Identify key individuals who will oversee the program (clinical and operational leads), titles and contact information. Please briefly describe their background.

3. Describe the planned office practice flow for testing (from identifying patients who need testing to collecting and running the specimens).

4. Do you have access to Public Health Lab Testing in your county (are you able to submit capillary specimens to your PH Lab to be run)? If yes, please explain why you are requesting a change to this practice.

5. Do you have electronic capabilities to report lead testing results to CDPH?

6. If more than one of your sites will be sharing use of the LeadCare II (one site will be sending specimens to another to be run), please list site(s) that would be using the equipment and a detailed plan to share use between sites. Please also include the number of PHC enrolled children 0-3 at the additional site(s).

7. If your organization has previously used a LeadCare II machine for lead testing, describe any challenges you may have had, and how you responded to these challenges.

8. If you are requesting more than one POC testing device, please tell us why more than one is needed and where the machines would be placed.

Next Steps:

1. Please read Introduction letter and complete application
2. Submit application no later than 03/31/2024 to leadPOC@partnershiphp.org
3. Please include your organization's name and "Lead POC Application" in the subject line.
4. Expect notification within 2-3 weeks after submission.

I attest that the above is a true and complete representation of our current services and needs. By signing below, we formally request Partnership support in obtaining Lead Care point of care devices. Our PCP site is committed to following through on the compliance, certification and reporting requirements as specified by the Department of Public Health.

Name of Parent Organization: _____
CEO Name and email contact : _____
CEO Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Program Timeline

March 1st

Applications open

March 31

Applications close

Beginning
of June

Order is placed for
all Providers

March 7

LeadCare II POC
webinar kick off

April – May

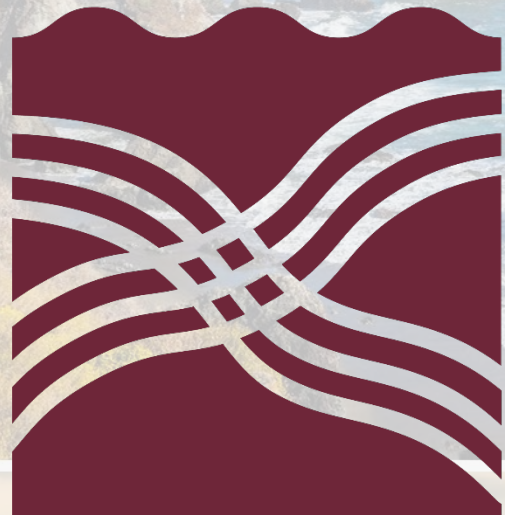
Approval of
applications &
MOU's being
finalized

Questions?



leadPOC@partnershiphp.org

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Billing for Blood Lead Testing

Kyli Sinner, Claims Resolution Coordinator
March 7, 2024

2023 Statistics

Partnership received 19,767 claims from 01/01/2023 – 12/31/2023 for Blood Lead Testing totaling \$122,954.98 in payment. Out of the claims received 625 claims were denied with a total denied allowed amount of \$6,147.00.

Top denials:

Claim Count	Denial Reason	Denied Allowed Amount
262	Service is an exact duplicate of a prior claim	\$2,554.85
137	Member was not eligible on date of service	\$1,306.59
72	Unauthorized Service – No RAF on file	\$759.73
71	Other Insurance – Bill Primary Carrier	\$725.34
25	Invalid modifier for procedure	\$255.23

Note: The majority of the “Invalid modifier for this procedure” denials are for services billed with modifier UD & TT. These are not valid modifiers for Blood Lead Testing.

Billing Requirements

Screening

- Blood Lead

Demographic

- Test at 12 & 24 months + lead related anticipatory guidance at each well visit 6-72 months

Billing Code for Testing

- 83655

Acceptable Modifiers

83655 is payable without a Modifier. If a modifier is utilized the only valid modifiers are listed below:

- 26 • Professional component (Split Billing)
- TC • Technical Component
- QW • CLIA waived tests; indicates that the provider is performing testing for the procedure with the use of a specific test kit from manufacturers identified by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS).
- 90 • Used when service is performed by an outside laboratory but billed by another provider. Only specified providers may use this modifier
- 99 • Used when two or more modifiers are necessary to define the procedure. The multiple modifiers used must be explained in the Remarks field (Box 80)/Additional Claim Information field (Box 19) of the claim.

Note: When billing for both the professional and technical service components, a modifier is neither required nor allowed.



Contact Us

Business Hours

Monday-Friday
8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Claims Customer Service

(800) 863-4133
(707) 863-4130

Claims Resolution Coordinators

(855) 798-8761
(530) 999-6868

Partnership Website

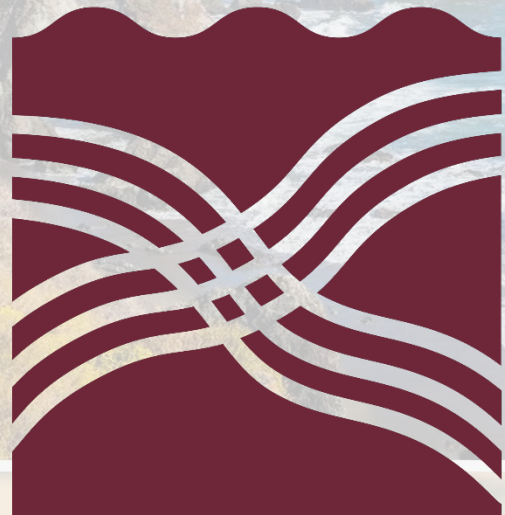
www.partnershiphp.org



Questions?



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PCP QIP Lead Screening in Children

Athena Beltran-Nampraseut, Program Manager II
Amber Newell, Program Manager I
March 7, 2024

PCP QIP – Lead Screening in Children (Core Clinical Measure)

Measure Description:

Percentage of members 2 years of age who had one of more capillary or venous blood lead test for lead poisoning by their second birthday.

Denominator:

Number of members who turned 2 years of age in the measurement year.

Numerator:

Number of members in the eligible population who had at least one lead capillary or venous lead blood test on or before their second birthday.



Measure Report: Lead Screening in Children

QIP - eReports Log Out

QIP Member Reports

Select a measure: **Lead Screening Children 2024** Select a PCP:

Select a Measure...
 Child and Adolescent Well Care 2024
 Advance Directive/POLST Submission 2024
 Attestation Submission 2024
 Breast Cancer Screening 2024
 Cervical Cancer Screening 2024
 Childhood Immunization Status CIS 10 2024
 Colorectal Cancer Screening 2024
 Controlling High Blood Pressure 2024
 Diabetes - HbA1C Good Control 2024
 Diabetes - Retinal Eye exam 2024
 Immunization for Adolescents 2024
 Well Child First 15 Months 2024
Lead Screening Children 2024

and Display Report Clear

Measure: **539** [Export Data Sources](#)

Refresh

QIP Result	CIN	Member First Name	Member Last Name	Member Phone	Gender	DOB	Age	Date of Capillary or Venous Blood Test	PCP	NewMember	Details
Denominator										N	Details
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- Once logged into eReports, click on “QIP Measure Report”
- Click on the “Select a Measure” drop down menu and select Lead Screening in Children
- Click on “Select A PCP” for a drop down menu to select just one site, multiple sites or all sites
- The measure report will populate with all members in your denominator and numerator for that measure

Questions?



Questions and Submissions

Please submit the application and supporting documentation to:
leadPOC@partnershiphp.org
before March 31st, 2024.

General questions may be submitted to this mailbox as well.

Partnering for Pediatric Lead Prevention Announcement

https://www.partnershiphp.org/Providers/Quality/Documents/Performance%20Improvement%202024/Provider_PO_C%20Announcement_03.01.24%20FBrevised.pdf

2024 Best Practices

<https://www.partnershiphp.org/Providers/Quality/Pages/Measure-Best-Practices.aspx>

2024 PCP QIP Technical Specifications

<https://www.partnershiphp.org/Providers/Quality/Pages/PCP-QIP-2022.aspx>

Thank You ...

**... FOR YOUR EFFORTS IN
LEAD PREVENTION!**



Upcoming Trainings

Improving Measure Outcomes Webinar Series: February - April 2024

Target Audience: Clinicians, practice managers, quality improvement teams, and staff who are responsible for participating and leading quality improvement efforts within their organization.

The **Improving Measure Outcomes Webinar Series** allows Quality Improvement teams to make knowledge actionable, improving quality service and clinical outcomes around specific measures of care.

These learning sessions will cover Partnership's Primary Care Provider Quality Incentive Program measures. Content will focus on direct application on best practices including eliminating health disparities with examples from quality improvement teams who are doing the work. CME/CEs are available.

Sessions will be offered during the lunch hour and will be approximately 60 minutes in length. CME/CEs will be offered for live attendance.

Planned 2024 sessions include:

- March 27, 2024 - Diabetes Management

- April 10, 2024 - Women's Cancer Screenings
- April 24, 2024 - Women's Sexual and Reproductive Health

Registration: http://www.partnershiphp.org/Providers/Quality/Pages/Quality_Events.aspx

Contact: improvementacademy@partnershiphp.org





Upcoming Trainings

ABCs of Quality Improvement

Wednesday, March 20 - 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. - **IN PERSON**

The McConnell Foundation

800 Shasta View Drive, Redding

Breakfast and lunch provided

The ABCs of Quality Improvement is a one-day in person training designed to teach you the basic principles of quality improvement.

The course is designed for clinicians, practice managers, quality improvement team members, and staff who are responsible for participating and leading quality improvement efforts within their organization. Excellent refresher course for repeat attendees or skill-builder for new quality professionals.



- CME/CEs available.
- Register: www.partnershiphp.org/Providers/Quality/Pages/Quality_Events.aspx
- Contact: cackerman@partnershiphp.org





Upcoming Trainings

ABCs of Quality Improvement

Wednesday, May 1 - 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. - **IN PERSON**

Enloe Conference Center

1528 Esplanade - Chico

Breakfast and lunch included for attendees

The ABCs of Quality Improvement (QI) is a one day in person training designed to teach you the basic principles of quality improvement.

***The course is designed for** clinicians, practice managers, quality improvement team members, and staff who are responsible for participating and leading quality improvement efforts within their organization. Excellent refresher course for repeat attendees or skill-builder for new quality professionals.*

CME/CEs available.

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Contact: cackerman@partnershiphp.org

