

Jefferson Health Plans EverWell
Jefferson Health Plans CHIP



Lead and Developmental Screenings in Children Quick Reference Guide

This guide highlights key information and offers potential solutions to support improved patient outcomes for two important pediatric measures: lead screening in children and developmental screening in the first three years of life.

Measure	Description
Lead screening in children	The percentage of patients who had one or more lead poisoning tests on or before their second birthday.
Developmental screening in the first three years of life (DEV)	<p>The percentage of patients 0-3 years of age who were screened for risk of developmental, behavioral, and social delays using a standardized screening tool in the first three years of life.</p> <p>This measure includes three age-specific indicators assessing whether children are screened by their first, second, or third birthday.</p>

New partnership with Kirby Memorial Health Center

We now partner with Kirby Memorial Health Center to process lead screenings for Medicaid and CHIP members. Kirby is a fully equipped, state-of-the-art laboratory that provides blood lead testing for many EPSDT programs throughout Pennsylvania.

A variety of collection supplies are available, free of charge, through Kirby for capillary specimen collection. Order forms, supplies, and sample collection instructions are available at kirbyhealthcenter.org/clinical-laboratory.

For supply or collection questions, please contact their Client Services Department at **1-888-841-6699**.

Code	Definition	Frequency
96110	Developmental screening with scoring and documentation per standardized instrument.	Limited to a frequency of 3 units per date of service for children and young adults up to 21 years of age.
83655	Lead screening	12 and 24 months of age and as clinically indicated.

Note: Lead screening and developmental screening measures are both in our Quality Care Plus (QCP) Provider Incentive Program, so you can earn additional incentive dollars for performing well in these measures.

Best practices

- **Opt-out language:** Encourage staff to say, "Your child is due for screening today," instead of asking if the parent wants the child to be screened. This language has shown to improve compliance rates.
- **Document everything:** Record the screening date, tool used, results, and follow-up in the medical record.
- **Counseling:** Discuss milestones, lead exposure prevention, and provide CDC milestone checklists to parents.
- **Care gap use:** Leverage health plan care gap reports for identifying and reaching out to parents with children due for screenings.
- **Health plan support:** Allow health plan staff to help with scheduling when parents/guardians provide consent. Verify screening dates and reschedule if needed.
- **Communication options:** Use text, online scheduling, or automated calls to reach members.
- **Use cancellation waitlists:** Place members with approaching screening compliance dates on a priority call back list so they can be offered openings when a cancellation occurs, or consider creating a separate lab schedule for lead screening if staffing and space permits.
- **Ask about home screenings:** Ask members if they would be interested in completing their lead screening at home, free of charge with our vendor, Healthy Measures. If so, please send an email with the member's details to gipreferrals@jeffersonhealthplans.com.
As a reminder:
 - In-home appointment availability may vary by geographic location.
 - Members must be agreeable to the in-home screening prior to referral.
 - Only refer patients with due dates that are more than 30 days away to allow adequate time to schedule.
- **Work smarter, not harder:** Close multiple care gaps at once. Complete well visits, developmental screening, and lead screening at the same visit!

Important clarification for the developmental screening measure

Any child who turned 1, 2, or 3 during the measurement year is included in the DEV measure denominator.

- The child is compliant if a developmental screening is completed within the 12 months prior to their birthday.
- Expectation: Children ages 0-3 should have developmental screenings each year.

Example: If a child turned 2 in June 2025, a developmental screening should be completed between July 2024 and June 2025, and another developmental screening should be completed at some point during the next twelve months before the child turns 3.