

Big Sandy Area C.A.P., Inc. - HEAD START
Program Policies and Procedures

SUBJECT:

Lead Assessment

POLICY:

All children will be assessed for lead poisoning within 90 calendar days of enrollment

- *This policy relates to [Head Start Performance Standards 45 CFR Part 1302.42](#)*

PROCEDURE:

1. The EPSDT (Early Periodic Screening Diagnosis & Treatment) schedule recommends that children should receive a lead screening at 9 and 24 months of age and up to 72 months of age if they did not receive a screening earlier. During the intake/enrollment process prior to entry into the classroom, staff will inform the parent/guardian of the program's health requirements and determine if the child is up-to-date on the recommended schedule. (See determining Child's Health Status Policy)
2. Staff will assist parent/guardian to complete The Preventive Health Questionnaire that includes the Written Lead Assessment. All questions are to be completed. All children will complete this form yearly. The hard copy will be filed in the Child's Health Folder and recorded on COPA Medical Record.
3. A referral will be made to the local health department or the child's physician for follow-up at their discretion if:
 - a. Child has not previously had a lead blood screening.
 - b. The parent answers YES to any question on the Lead Risk Assessment other than "the child has had a lead screening."
 - c. Screening results indicate a blood level of 3.5 ug/dl and above.
4. Program staff /Family Advocate will assist the parent /guardian in making and keeping appointments or arranging with transportation assistance.

5. All Results will be entered on the COPA Medical Record under Lead Screening:

- The Preventive Health questionnaire will serve as our program's "Written Lead Assessment". For the 1st year child, the lead assessment will be entered in the Lead Section on the Medical Record as the 12 mo. For retuning children, it will be identified as the 6 mo. This will be marked as an assessment on COPA.
- The blood lead screening will be entered in the Lead section of the child's Medical Record. Staff will enter the result as 24 mo. for the 1st year child, and 18mo for the second year child, if updated. This will be marked as a screening.
- If there are more than 2 assessment/screenings, staff will use another age in mo. that hasn't been used to add information.

6. The Family Advocates will follow-up and track lead assessments and lead blood screening results using the same procedure used for other screening and exams. (See Tracking –Follow-Up policy)

Approved by Policy Council: December 2022