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Lead Testing Policies for Children Not Enrolled in Medicaid

Rita,

I have created a survey chart that looks at state lead testing policies for children not enrolled in Medicaid. As we discussed earlier, Medicaid has its own policies that I need to get clarification on.

In regards to state policies, 19 jurisdictions have mandatory lead testing laws for children outside of the Medicaid program. These policies come in three major categories: universal testing, targeted testing requirements, and hybrid testing. For example, Connecticut has a universal testing requirement that mandates testing for all children between 9 and 35 months.¹ In contrast, Missouri has a targeted testing requirement that focuses efforts on children at high-risk to lead exposure. The Missouri law mandates annual testing between 6-72 months for children who live or spend more than 10 hours per week in high-risk areas.² Hybrid policies have a universal baseline-testing requirement but also mandate more extensive testing for children deemed to be at higher risk. For example, New York requires testing for all children at or around the age of 1 year and again at or around 2 years of age.³ However, New York also mandates additional testing between the ages of 6-72 months for children found to be at high-risk for lead exposure.⁴

My research revealed that seven jurisdictions have universal testing requirements, seven states have targeted testing requirements, and five have hybrid policies.

<u>Universal</u>	<u>Targeted</u>	<u>Hybrid</u>
Connecticut District of Columbia Iowa Louisiana Maine Rhode Island Vermont	California Illinois Michigan Missouri Ohio Virginia West Virginia	Delaware Massachusetts Maryland New Jersey New York

The contours of each of the policies' varies based on several important variables. The variables that I included are the age range for testing, the existence of waivers from the testing requirement, and testing requirements linked to enrollment in daycare or school. In regards to waivers, there are four general types: religious waivers, general parental objection, low-risk

waivers, and medical risk waivers. Low risk waivers allow the health department⁵ or the primary care provider⁶ to exempt a covered child from testing if they deem the child to be at low risk for lead poisoning. Only California has an explicit medical risk waiver that exempts a child from the testing requirement if “the risk of screening is a greater risk to the child’s health than the risk of lead poisoning.”⁷

The accompanying survey chart evaluates each state policy based on these variables. It also provides links to the statutes and regulations of each jurisdiction, when they are publically available in electronic format.

I will continue to look into the Medicaid requirements and will provide you with updates prior to your board meeting. If you have any questions about the survey chart or this research, please contact me.

Sincerely,

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¹ [CONN. GEN. STAT. § 19a-111g](#)

² [CONN. GEN. STAT. § 19a-111g](#)

³ [NY COMP. CODES R. & REGS. TIT. 10, § 67-1.2](#)

⁴ [NY COMP. CODES R. & REGS. TIT. 10, § 67-1.2](#)

⁵ [IOWA ADMIN CODE r. 641-67.2](#)

⁶ [ME. REV. STAT. TIT. 22, § 1317-D](#)

⁷ [CAL CODE REGS. TIT. 17, §§ 37020, 37100](#)