

**Bulletin Number:** MSA 16-24

**Distribution:** Local Health Departments, Medicaid Health Plans

**Issued:** August 1, 2016

**Subject:** Blood Lead Poisoning Environmental Investigations

**Effective:** September 1, 2016

**Programs Affected:** Medicaid, Healthy Michigan Plan, MIChild

This bulletin aligns Medicaid's policy for coverage of environmental investigations related to blood lead poisoning with the Michigan Medicaid State Plan. Effective September 1, 2016, in compliance with Section 1905 of the Social Security Act, Medicaid will cover the on-site investigation of a beneficiary's home or primary residence to determine the source of lead poisoning. A beneficiary's home is defined as their legal address. The beneficiary's primary residence is a place other than their legal address where the beneficiary spends a significant amount of time. To be eligible for the service, the beneficiary must be under the age of 21 and have a confirmed elevated blood lead level of 5 mcg/dL or greater.

Environmental investigations must be performed by assessors certified by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) Healthy Homes Program. The home or primary residence to be investigated must meet one of the following criteria:

- The home or primary residence was built before 1978.
- A home or primary residence built after 1978 when identification of other possible sources of lead exposure such as a job, hobby, environmental, home remedies, or cultural practices that use lead are associated with the property in question.

For additional information regarding blood lead, including a detailed chart listing possible means of lead exposure, providers should refer to the Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment Chapter of the Michigan Medicaid Provider Manual. The Medicaid Provider Manual is available on the MDHHS website at [www.michigan.gov/medicaidproviders](http://www.michigan.gov/medicaidproviders) >> Policy and Forms >> Medicaid Provider Manual.

When an environmental investigation of the home finds no sources of lead or insufficient evidence to justify the beneficiary's elevated blood lead level, a second site may be investigated (e.g., home of a family member, relative, or other informal child care where a child often visits). When billing for the second site, local health departments must report the TS modifier with the procedure code on the claim. A maximum of two sites may be investigated.

If more than one child in the home or primary residence has blood lead poisoning, the local health department must select one child's Medicaid ID Number and report a single environmental investigation visit. Reimbursement is limited to the time and activities provided by certified assessors during the on-site investigation. For procedure codes, modifiers, and other information, providers should refer to the Medicaid Code and Rate Reference Tool in the Community Health Automated Medicaid Processing System (CHAMPS) or the local health department database on the MDHHS website at [www.michigan.gov/medicaidproviders](http://www.michigan.gov/medicaidproviders) >> Billing and Reimbursement >> Provider Specific Information >> Local Health Department.

Medicaid does not reimburse for any of the following:

- Investigations or testing of public buildings (e.g., schools, community centers, etc.)
- Substances sent to a laboratory for analysis (e.g., water, paint, etc.)
- Follow-up investigations to determine if lead hazard control interventions were performed satisfactorily
- Lead abatement services

### **Manual Maintenance**

Retain this bulletin until the information is incorporated into the Michigan Medicaid Provider Manual.

### **Questions**

Any questions regarding this bulletin should be directed to Provider Inquiry, Department of Health and Human Services, P.O. Box 30731, Lansing, Michigan 48909-8231, or e-mail at [ProviderSupport@michigan.gov](mailto:ProviderSupport@michigan.gov). When you submit an e-mail be sure to include your name, affiliation, and phone number so you may be contacted if necessary. Providers may phone toll-free 1-800-292-2550.

### **Approved**



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Medical Services Administration