

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) October 2021 Reduction of the Lead Reference Level

During the final days of October 2021, the CDC announced a new lead reference level for children. In response to the recommendation from the Lead Exposure Prevention and Advisory Committee (LEPAC), the reference level for infants and children was **lowered from 5 micrograms per deciliter to 3.5 micrograms**. The reference level was last adjusted in 2012, when it was halved: from 10 µg/dL to 5 µg/dL.

Providers should follow CDC guidelines, found here:

<https://www.cdc.gov/nceh/lead/advisory/acclpp/actions-blls.htm>,

*and be reminded that all lead tests **must be REPORTED**.*