

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH



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Acting Commissioner

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Governor
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Lt. Governor

Environmental Health Section

Circular Letter #: 2016-02

Date: January 14, 2016

To: Hospitals and Clinics
Pediatricians
Community Health Centers

From: Francesca Provenzano, MPH, CHES, RS
Epidemiologist 4
Lead and Healthy Homes Program

Re: Childhood blood lead reporting requirements, and appropriate use of LeadCare systems manufactured by Magellan Diagnostics

After consulting the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) *2013 Guidelines for Measuring Lead in Blood Using Point of Care Instruments*, and corresponding with the scientist that informed these guidelines, the Connecticut Department of Public Health (CT DPH) Lead and Healthy Homes Program has determined that LeadCare systems manufactured by Magellan Diagnostics (i.e. Leadcare, LeadCareII, LeadCare Ultra/Plus) are not an acceptable analytical method for confirmatory venous blood lead results.

The LeadCare systems use a *moderate complexity* analytical method called Anodic Stripping Voltammetry (ASV). The CDC states that only *high complexity* analytical methods can be used for confirmatory purposes. Given this information, pediatricians and other medical care providers should ensure that confirmatory venous blood lead tests are being sent to laboratories that utilize high complexity analytical methods. Acceptable high complexity analytical methods for confirmatory venous blood lead results include Graphite Furnace Atomic Absorption Spectrometry (GFAAS) and Inductively Coupled Plasma Mass Spectrometry (ICP-MS).

Venous blood lead samples analyzed on LeadCare systems are not acceptable venous results, and therefore should not be submitted to the CT DPH for disease reporting purposes.



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If you have any questions on this policy, please contact Denise Ortiz at (860) 509-7340 or Denise.Ortiz2@ct.gov.

Thank you for joining us in the fight against childhood lead poisoning in Connecticut and your compliance with blood lead test reporting requirements.

cc: Suzanne Blancaflor, M.S., M.P.H., Chief, Environmental Health Section
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