# CHILDHOOD **ADVISORY** WORKGROUP Research and Policy

**MEETING** 

January 20, 2022

# Introductions in the chat

- Name
- Organization

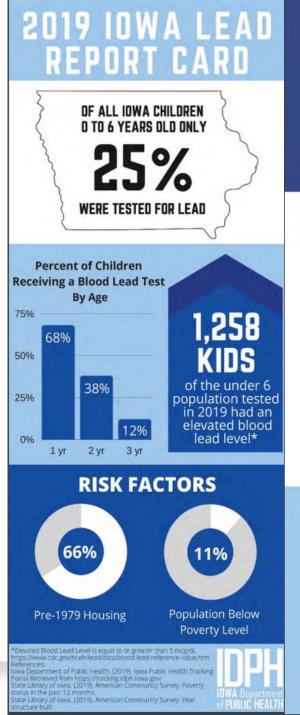
### Meeting Agenda

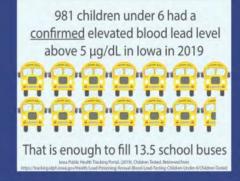
Time	Topic
1:00pm – 1:05pm	Introductions
1:05pm – 1:25pm	CHEEC Presentation – Lead in Drinking Water Assessment Tool
1:25pm – 1:30pm	CHEEC time for questions
1:30pm – 1:45pm	SHL Presentation – Guidance on Blood Lead Sample Submission and Analysis
1:45pm – 1:50pm	SHL time for questions
1:50pm – 2:05pm	2020 County Lead Report Card Discussion
2:05pm – 2:25pm	Reference Value update, LeadCare II recall survey results, other things impacting BLT
2:25pm – 2:30pm	Wrap up



#### 2020 County Lead Report Cards – We need your feedback!

- Are you using them?
  - If so, what can we do to improve them?
  - If not, why? (difficult to find, formatting, forget they are there)
- Is there any information you feel we should add?
  - Testing reminders
- Is there a better way to format these for easier printing?





#### **HEALTH IMPACTS**



Damage to brain & nervous system



Slowed growth & development



Hearing & speech problems



Learning & behavior problems

#### CHILDHOOD LEAD POISONING IS



IF YOU DON'T TEST, YOU DON'T DIAGNOSE.

IF YOU DON'T DIAGNOSE, YOU CAN'T INTERVENE.

## Updates

- Impact of LeadCare II Test Kit Recall
- Updated CDC Blood Lead Reference Value (3.5 μg/dL)



#### Recall of LeadCare® Blood Lead Tests Due to Risk of Falsely Low Results





- FDA Class I Recall Highest level due to serious injury
- Magellan Diagnostics LeadCare II, LeadCare Plus, and LeadCare Ultra Blood Lead Tests Kits
- All test kits distributed from October 27, 2020 – August 12, 2021

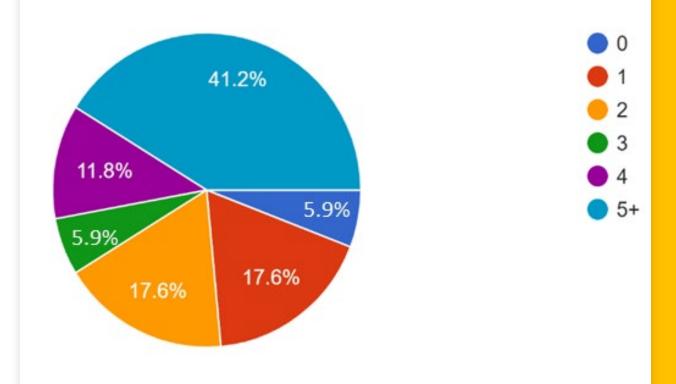
- Product distribution has been paused until further notice
- Replacement product is currently unavailable
- It is unknown when replacement product will be available

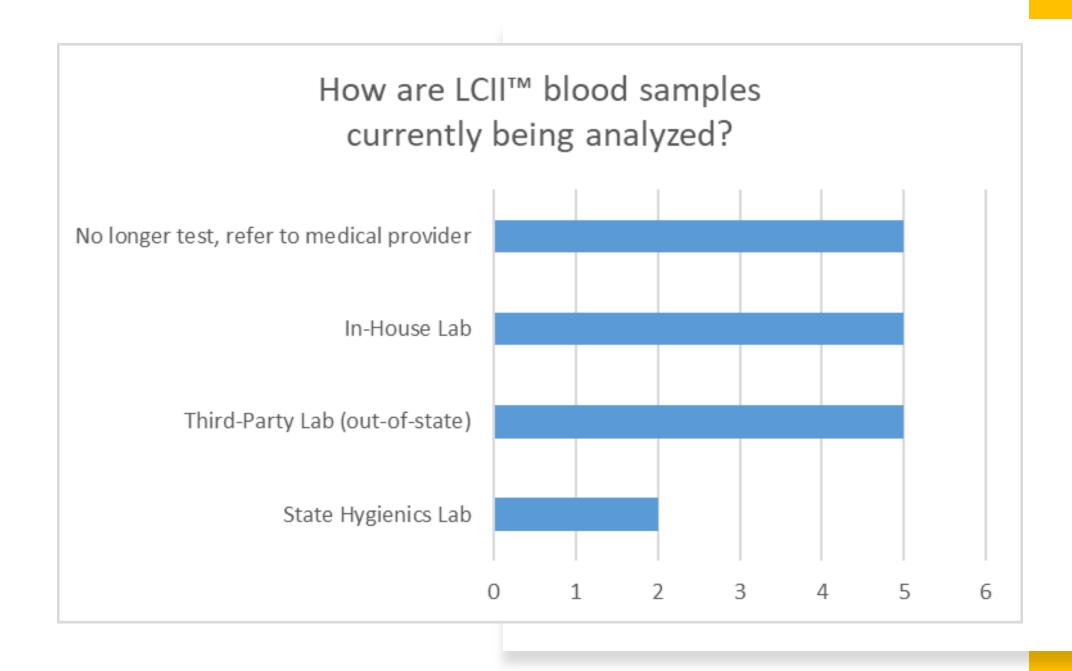


#### IDPH Survey on Impact of FDA Recall on LeadCare® Test Kits

- November 2021
- 87 Lead Care II users surveyed
- 17 Responses
- 14 Counties
  - 9 Rural (<50K)
  - 5 Metropolitan (>50K)

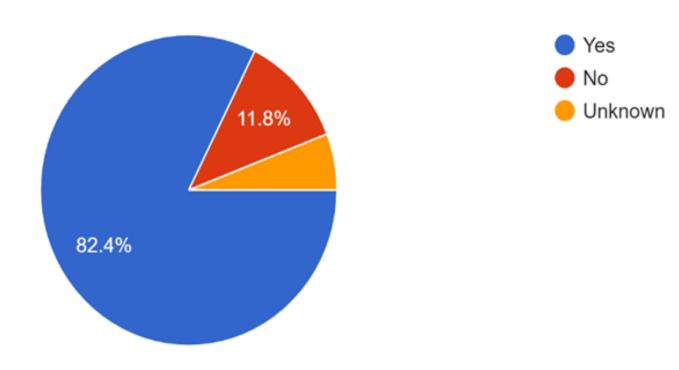
Number of individual providers in clinic/practice conducting blood lead tests



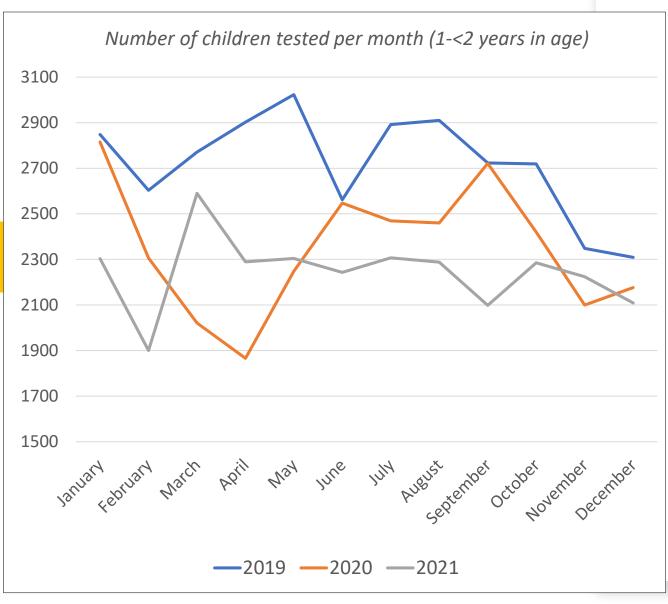


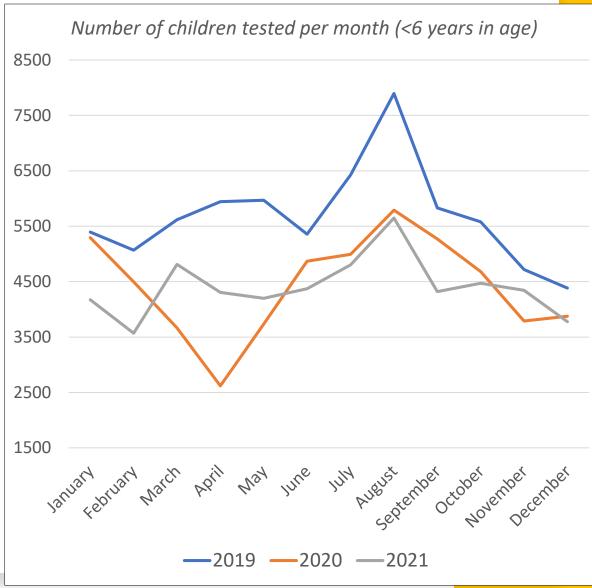
Since the July 2021 recall has the clinic/practice experienced a decline in the number of tests performed using LeadCare devices?

17 responses



#### Impact of COVID-19 and Test Kit Recall on Blood Lead Testing







#### **Recommendations for Providers & Clinicians**

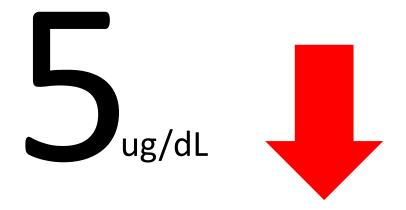
- 1. Continue to schedule and perform required blood lead tests for patients
- 2. Discontinue using all test kit lots identified as part of the recall
- 3. Prioritize testing for children:
  - With clinical concerns or developmental problems related to lead exposure,
  - Populations at higher risk of elevated blood lead levels,
  - Pregnant or breastfeeding women, or
  - Recent immigrant or refugee children.

#### Recommendations for Public Health Professionals

- 1. Work with healthcare providers in their jurisdictions to ensure patients receive their required blood lead tests.
- 2. Make providers aware that:
  - Delaying testing or not testing misses lead exposed kids needing treatment or services
  - State and public health laboratories may be able to help with additional demands for higher complexity testing
  - New Iowa blood lead testing and screening guidelines are in place. Search: IDPH>Childhood Lead>Blood Lead Testing



#### CDC Updated Blood Lead Reference Value (BLRV) in October 2021



3.5<sub>ug/dL</sub>

#### BLRV is:

- A measure for identifying children with higher levels of lead in their blood compared to most children (2.5% of children tested)
- A policy guide to identify children needing follow-up actions
- Not a health-based standard or a toxicity threshold
- A means for prioritizing communities with the most need for primary prevention of exposure
- A tool to measure the effectiveness of prevention efforts



#### IDPH Guidance for Implementation

#### **Four Primary Actions for ALL Blood Lead Levels**

- 1. Inform family of blood lead result and what it means for their child.
- 2. Provide information to the family regarding the health effects of lead poisoning.
- 3. Educate the family on the importance of hygiene (washing of hands & face regularly), proper nutrition, and housekeeping (minimizing dust & dirt).
- 4. Schedule initial and follow up blood lead tests.



## IDPH Guidance for Implementation - Online Resources

Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program – All Resources Page

https://idph.iowa.gov/Environmental-Health-Services/Childhood-Lead-Poisoning-Prevention/resources

- Updated Screening Tool and Blood Lead Testing Recommendations for Children 12 and 24 Months of Age
  - 6 languages (English, Spanish, French, Swahili, Laotian, and Arabic)
- Guidelines for Treatment and Follow Up on Childhood Blood Lead Levels
- 2019 Iowa County Lead Report Cards
- Education & Outreach Materials
- Childhood Lead Program Video Training Modules & Educational Videos

# Thank you!

- Keep an eye out in your email for the next CLAW meeting!
- Upcoming meetings:
  - Blood Lead Testing Subgroup: February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2022
  - Housing Subgroup: February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2022