To: **AmeriHealth Caritas Pennsylvania (PA) Primary Care Providers**

Date: **July 6, 2022**

Re: **Important change to Blood Lead Reference Value**

AmeriHealth Caritas Pennsylvania (PA) will follow the guidelines recently released by the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services (DHS) Medical Assistance (MA) Bulletin (MAB) 01-22-13, regarding an update to the Blood Lead Reference Value.

What's new?

- **The Blood Lead Reference Value for children is being updated from 5 μg/dL to 3.5 μg/dL.**

As a reminder, The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) and DHS have requirements for lead toxicity screening for all Medicaid-eligible children.

- All Medicaid-eligible children are considered at risk for lead toxicity and must receive blood lead level screening tests for lead poisoning.
- Primary care practitioners (PCPs) are required (regardless of responses to the lead screening questions) to ensure that children be screened for lead toxicity from 9 months to 18 months old and again from 2 years to 6 years old.
- Risk questions should be asked at every visit thereafter.

Refer to Pennsylvania's Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment (EPSDT) Program Periodicity Schedule for guidance, or visit at www.amerihealthcaritaspa.com → Providers → Resources → EPSDT.

AmeriHealth Caritas PA has contracted with Accredited Environmental Technologies (AET) and UPMC Pinnacle to provide ELI services to our members. Referral forms for both are available at www.amerihealthcaritaspa.com → Providers → Resources → EPSDT → EPSDT Forms and Administration → Elevated Lead Investigation Referral Form.

The complete MAB can be found on our website at www.amerihealthcaritaspa.com → Providers → Communications → DHS/Medical Assistance Bulletins.

If you have any questions about this notification, please contact your Provider Account Executive or Provider Services at **1-800-521-6007**.

www.amerihealthcaritaspa.com

8040 Carlson Road, Suite 500, Harrisburg, PA 17112
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