Memo

To: Physician Offices, Hospitals, Community Clinics and Health Departments

From: Scott J Zimmerman, DrPH, MPH, HCLD(ABB)
       Director, North Carolina State Laboratory of Public Health

Date: May 17, 2017

Re: CDC Health Alert Network CDCHAN-00403, Potential for Falsely Low Blood Lead Test Results from LeadCare Analyzers

Attached please find the CDCHAN-00403 document for your review.

Please be advised that the North Carolina State Laboratory of Public Health performs lead testing using Inductively Coupled Plasma – Mass Spectrometry (ICP-MS) for all samples, capillary and venous. Providers who have sent venous samples to NCSLPH will not need to re-test patients. Only providers who have used LeadCare® analyzers (LeadCare, LeadCare II, LeadCare Ultra and LeadCare Plus) with a venous blood specimens will need to re-test patients. CDC also recommends that healthcare providers re-test currently pregnant or lactating women who had a venous blood lead test performed using a Magellan Diagnostics’ LeadCare® analyzer.

CDC recommends that healthcare providers re-test patients who:
1) are younger than 6 years (72 months) of age at the time of the alert (May 17, 2017) AND
2) had a venous blood lead test result of less than 10 micrograms per deciliter (µg/dL) analyzed using a Magellan Diagnostics’ LeadCare® analyzer at an onsite (e.g., healthcare facility) or at an offsite laboratory.

For any questions or concerns please contact Kate Mason, Hemachemistry Supervisor at NCSLPH. 919-807-8878 or kate.mason@dhhs.nc.gov

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