June 15, 2000

CHDP Program Letter No. 00-05
CLPP Program Letter No. 00-05

TO: CHILD HEALTH AND DISABILITY PREVENTION (CHDP) PROGRAM DIRECTORS AND DEPUTY DIRECTORS, LEAD COORDINATORS, CHILDHOOD LEAD POISONING PREVENTION PROGRAMS AND CMS BRANCH STAFF

SUBJECT: REGARDING CHDP PROVIDER INFORMATION NOTICE NO. 00-03 ON SCREENING CHILDREN FOR LEAD POISONING

Enclosed is CHDP Program Provider Information Notice No. 00-03, which informs providers of the revisions in CHDP policy and procedures for screening children for lead poisoning. The background information leading to these changes, including the current Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention (CLPP) Branch Screening Policy, is discussed. Reminders about billing and reimbursement for blood lead testing and referral of children with elevated blood lead levels are also included.

Since all children receiving health care services through CHDP are considered high risk for lead poisoning, use of the personal risk assessment questionnaire is no longer required in this population. Instead, screening efforts should be directed to assuring that these children receive blood lead testing at 12 and 24 months. Blood lead levels should also be measured between 12 and 24 months if testing was not done at 12 months and between 24 months and 72 months in children who were not previously tested or who missed the 24 month test.

Local CHDP Programs will play a key role in informing health care providers about the new lead screening requirements. CHDP programs should work closely with their local CLPP programs, to inform providers of the importance of blood lead screening. Updated contact information for CLPP programs can be obtained by calling (510) 622-5000. A current list of CLPP programs and lead coordinators is also included as an enclosure with the Provider Information Notice.
Please distribute the Provider Information Notice and CLPP program enclosure, without any revisions, to providers in your local program area and complete and return the enclosed "Report of Distribution".

If you have any questions, please contact your CHDP Regional Nurse Consultant.

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Enclosures