



State of New Jersey
Department of Human Services
Division of Medical Assistance & Health Services

MEDICAID ALERT

MA-99-10

October 1999

TO: Certified Nurse Practitioners/Clinical Nurse Specialists
Hospitals -- Chief Executive Officers
(Please route to the Pediatric Outpatient Department)
Federally Qualified Health Centers
Physicians
Independent Clinics

SUBJECT: Screening for Lead Exposure and Toxicity

EFFECTIVE: Immediately

BACKGROUND: One of the New Jersey regional water utilities is reporting increased lead levels in household water. This is related to an increase in corrosion of the pipes in old water systems secondary to the heat and drought experienced this summer.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this Alert is to remind providers that screening for lead exposure and toxicity is already a mandated component of the scheduled periodic health screenings (well child visits) for children between ages of six (6) and twelve (12) months, at two (2) years of age, and annually to six (6) years of age. In view of the above mentioned increased risk of lead in household water, it is very important at this time to ensure that all young children are properly screened.

If you have any questions concerning this Medicaid Alert, please do not hesitate to contact the DMAHS Child Health Unit, Office of Health Services Administration (609) 588-2718.

RETAIN THIS MEDICAID ALERT CHRONOLOGICALLY BEHIND THE MEDICAID ALERTS TAB (GREEN TAB MARKED "4")