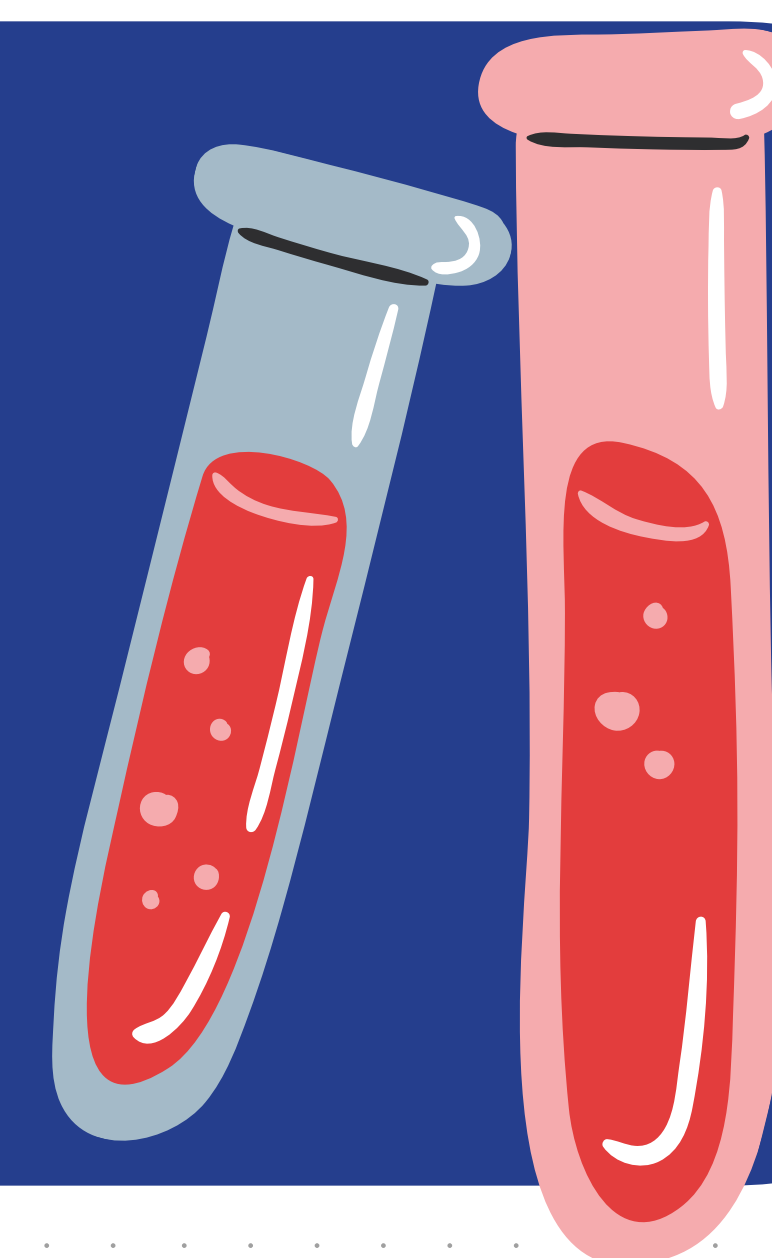


Best Practices for Capillary Blood Testing in Children



Prepare a Clean Testing Area

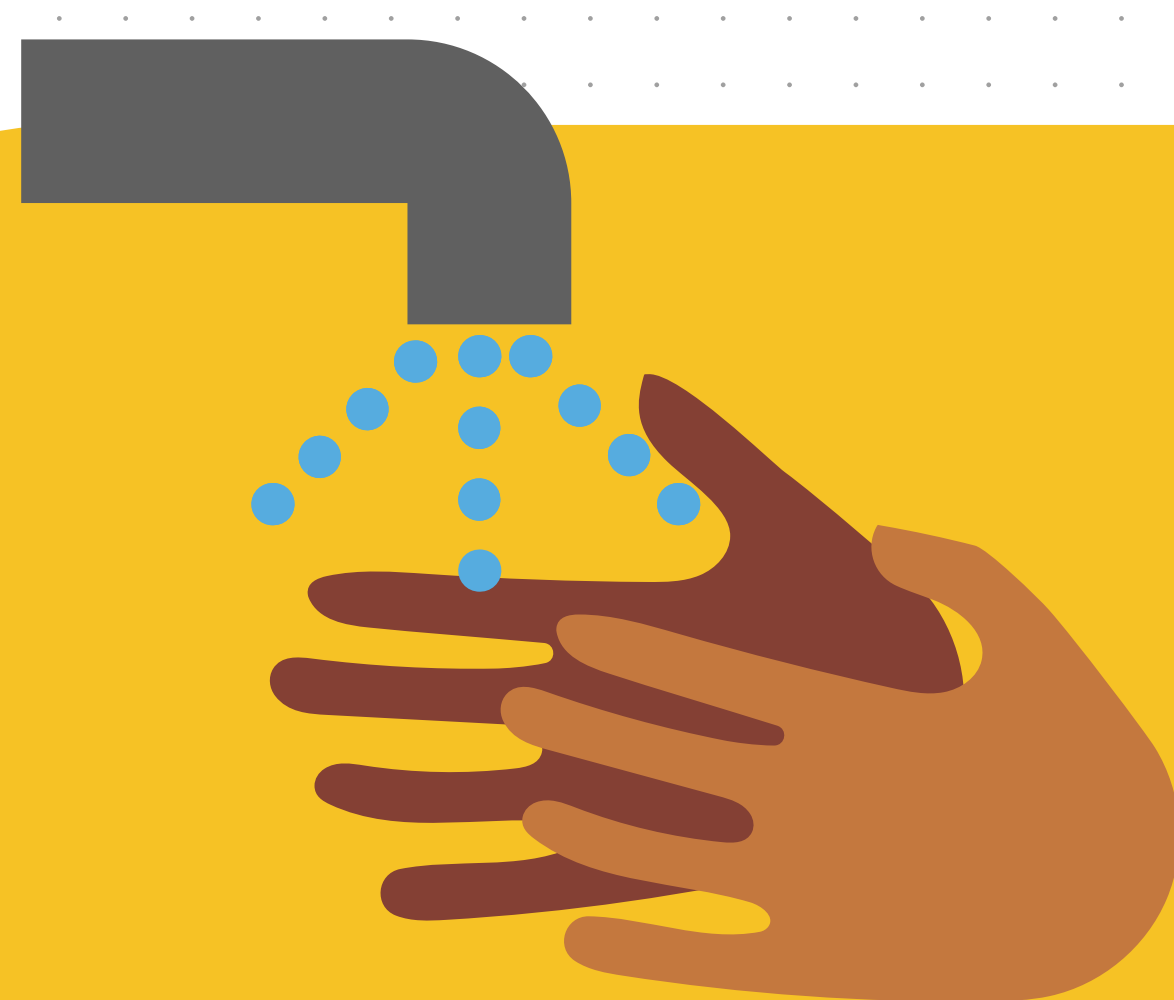
- Clean and disinfect the testing surface before beginning.
- Keep all testing supplies in their original, sealed packaging until immediately before use.
- If supplies must be out on the table, keep them covered until they are needed.

Use Appropriate “Lead-Free” Supplies

- “Sterile” does not guarantee “lead-free.”
- Use products labeled lead-free, metals-free, or pre-screened for trace metals.
- If possible, confirm with the manufacturer whether products are tested for lead contamination and the highest allowable level of lead in their manufacturing standards.
- Ask your supply coordinator/purchaser to verify the status of collection materials.
- IDOH may provide certain approved materials (e.g., filter cards, some lancets).

Avoid Materials Known to Introduce Contamination

- Do NOT use paper towels – esp. recycled paper towels – because they may contain trace metals.



Prepare the Child's Hands

- Have the child wash hands thoroughly with soap and water.
- If available, use soaps and hand wipes designed to specifically remove lead.
- Dry hands by shaking them in the air—or gently patting with a clean, lead-free material (not with paper towels).



Indiana
Department
of
Health



Lead & Healthy Homes Division
in.gov/health/leadsafe
317-233-1296