

Required Screening for Anemia

Screening for anemia is a required part of a complete assessment. Screening for anemia is required to determine nutrition risk, and to target nutrition education and referrals. Oregon was cited for not screening for anemia, so the [hemoglobin screening policy](#) has been changed.



There are 4 ways to screen for anemia:

1. Collect a blood sample from the participant using the guidelines in [Policy 626](#);
2. Use a hemoglobin value from a medical provider that was taken within the last 90 days;
3. Document in the medical notes that there is a medical reason why you can't screen for anemia (e.g. hemophilia); or,
4. **New Requirement:** Set up a plan to get the information at the next visit, by either collecting a blood sample in the WIC clinic or having the caregiver bring back information from a medical provider.

How can you reduce refusals when you ask to do a blood test?

Nobody likes having their blood taken, but most people would rather have their blood taken than bother with getting the information back to the clinic later. Here are some ways to ask permission that give options, and still result in doing a blood test.



- “We need to screen for anemia today. That means we take a drop of blood from your finger to check the iron level. Would you rather do the test on your right hand or your left?”
- “We screen all the babies on WIC for anemia. Has the doctor checked baby’s blood for iron yet? If not, we can do a quick check with a little drop of blood from either his toe or his heel. Which would work better for you?”
- “One of health screenings that WIC does for free is to check for anemia. Every year we do a quick blood test to see your child’s iron level. I can do the test on whichever finger works best for you while he sits on your lap.”
- Other ideas?

NEW Requirement: What should you do if they refuse to have the screening done?

1. Explore the reasons for the refusal.
 - a. If they have a recent hemoglobin value, that can be used.
 - b. If they have a medical reason, document that in medical notes.
2. Explain the importance of gathering this information as part of the WIC health screening.
 - a. Hopefully, they will allow the screening at this point.
3. If they still refuse, identify a plan to get the information later.
 - a. Schedule for a blood check at the next appointment; **OR**
 - b. Arrange for them to get the info from their health care provider and return it to the clinic.
4. Document the reason for the refusal and the plan in the Medical notes field.

The screenshot displays a software interface for a child's record. At the top, the 'Selection' tab is active, showing fields for WIC ID (00280180-02), Name (Seaside, Sasha Baker CHD-Baker-A), DOB (11/01/2014), WIC Cat (CHILD, 24-60 MONTHS OLD), and Tr.Type (C). Below this, the 'Medical Data' section is expanded to show 'Anthropometry' and 'Biochemical Info'.

The 'Anthropometry' table has the following data:

Collection Date	Weight			Weight For Age	Length/Height			Length/Ht For Age	Wt For Length	BMI	BMI %	Birth Data	Medical Notes	
	E/M	LBS	OZ		E/M	Inch	1/8							R/S
10/01/2018	ENGLISH	37	0	70.00	ENGLISH	43	0	STANDING	97.00		14.07	11.00		
05/06/2018	ENGLISH	35	0	70.00	ENGLISH	40	0	STANDING	84.00					

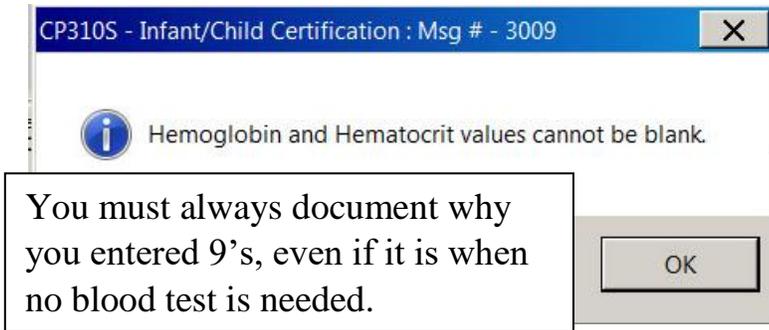
The 'Biochemical Info' table has the following data:

Collection Date	Hemoglobin	Hematocrit	Blood Lead Level
10/01/2018	.00	.00	0.0
05/06/2018	.00	37.00	0.0

The 'Current Age' field is set to 47 months. A 'Notes' dialog box is open, titled 'GW010S - Notes', with the text: 'Infant/Child Anthropometry Notes' and 'Mother will bring hemoglobin values from the HCP at next visit. Gave copy of form.' An orange arrow labeled 'Double click' points to the 'Medical Notes' column in the anthropometry table.

5. Make sure the participant knows what they need to do.
 - a. Consider using the state-provided [Request to Collect Hemoglobin Blood Test Values](#) form to help with this.

6. If you get this pop-up, you can fill the hemoglobin field with 9's.



Biochemical Info			
Collection Date	Hemoglobin	Hematocrit	Blood Lead Level
10/01/2018	99.99	.00	0.0
05/06/2018	.00	37.00	0.0

7. Follow-up at the next visit and do the screening if needed.

- You may need to add a note in *Progress Notes* so staff see that a follow-up is needed.
- When you get the new hemoglobin value, insert a new row and put in the actual value and the date it was collected.

What should you do if the hemoglobin level is low?

If you do a screening, and the hemoglobin is more than one point below normal, you must do 2 things.

First – re-do the blood test to make sure there was no error.

Example: Normal is 11.1.

10.0 is more than 1.0 lower than normal.

Biochemical Info			
Collection Date	Hemoglobin	Hematocrit	Blood Lead Level
10/01/2018	10.00	.00	0.0
05/06/2018	.00	37.00	0.0

Second – if the second value is still more than one point below normal:

- Go to a *Risk Factor* screen and change the risk level from *Medium* to *High*.

2. Provide counseling on high iron foods and increasing iron absorption.
3. Give the participant the hemoglobin value that WIC found, then refer the participant to their health care provider for follow-up.
4. Schedule them to see your agency's WIC nutritionist within 1-2 months.

Selection

WIC ID: 00280180-02 Name: Seaside, Sasha Baker CHD-Baker-A DOB: 11/01/2014 WIC Cat.: CHILD, 24-60 MONTHS OLD Tr.Type: C

Medical Data **Health History** Diet Assessment NE Plan Progress Notes Food Package Assignment

Assigned Risk Factors		Risk Factors Not Assigned	
Code	Description	Code	Description
201	LOW HEMATOCRIT/LOW HEMOGLOBIN	103	UNDERWEIGHT OR AT-RISK OF (INFANTS AND CHILDREN)
501	PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE	113	OVERWEIGHT (2-5 YEARS OLD)
		114	AT RISK OF OVERWEIGHT (2-5 YEARS OLD)
		121	SHORT STATURE OR AT RISK OF SHORT STATURE
		134	FAILURE TO THRIVE
		211	ELEVATED BLOOD LEAD LEVELS
		341	NUTRIENT DEFICIENCY DISEASES
		342	GASTRO-INTESTINAL DISORDERS
		343	DIABETES MELLITUS
		344	THYROID DISORDERS

Summary

Priority: 3 Risk Level: HIGH

Questionnaire **Risk Factors**

Enrollment Family Summary Screen

CP310S - Infant/Child Certification : Msg # - 3286

 Warning! the client's risk level has been altered to the high level.

OK