

Newborn Screening

Sample Collection and Handling Procedure

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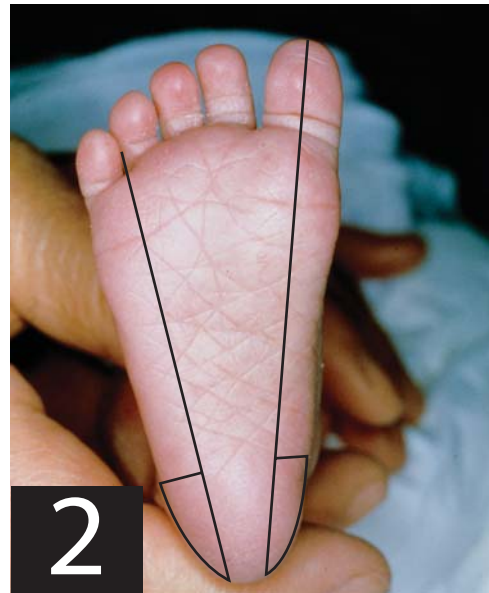


Before collecting the sample, the following materials must be gathered:

- Sterile lancet with tip less than 2.4mm long
- Sterile 70% alcohol pads
- Sterile gauze pads
- Warm moist towel or compress
- Fully completed, in-date filter paper blood collection form
- Sterile gloves

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All fields on the form must be completed. Take steps to ensure that the filter paper is not touched or contaminated in any way during this process. If a submitter's copy is present, remove it and keep it for your records.



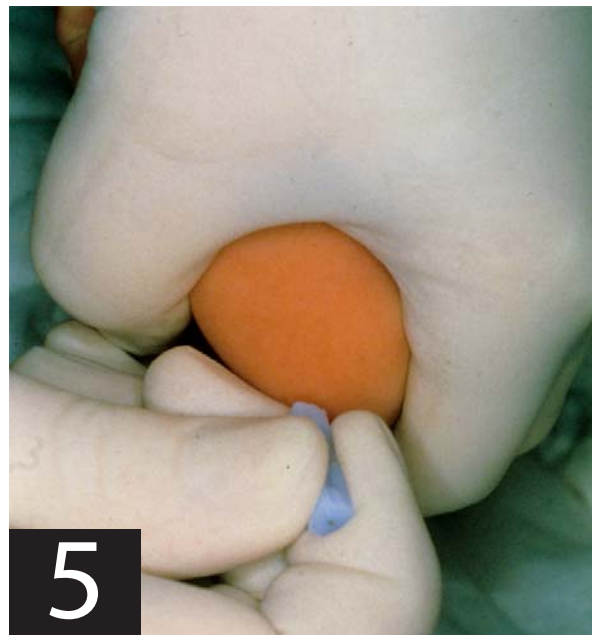
Areas on the side of the heel containing hatch marks are acceptable puncture sites.



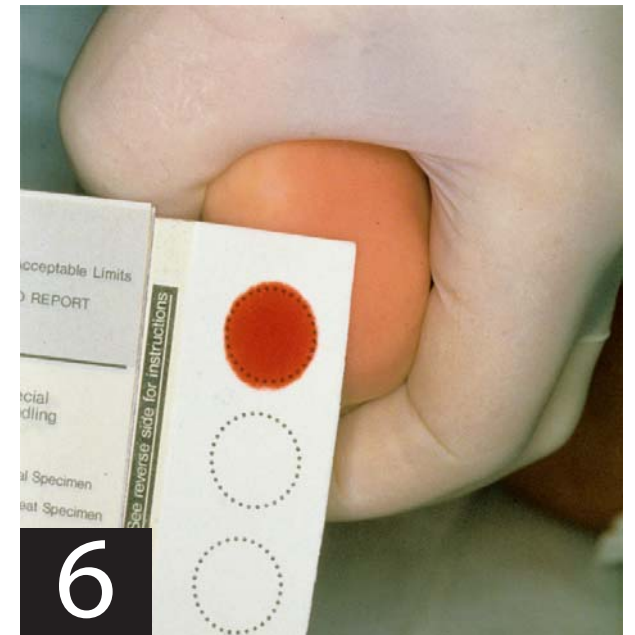
Warm puncture site for 3-5 minutes with a warm, moist towel no hotter than 42°C.



Cleanse the puncture site with a sterile alcohol pad and allow to air dry.



Puncture skin and wipe away the first drop of blood. Allow a second large drop to form.



Lightly touch the filter paper to the second drop of blood. Allow the blood to soak through and fill the preprinted circle. DO NOT APPLY MORE THAN ONE DROP TO A CIRCLE. Fill all remaining circles in this manner. If blood flow is diminished, repeat steps 3-6 with sterile equipment.

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Allow the specimen to dry in a horizontal position for at least three hours, away from direct contact with surfaces, heat, and sunlight.



Send the specimen to the appropriate location no more than 24 hours after collection.

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