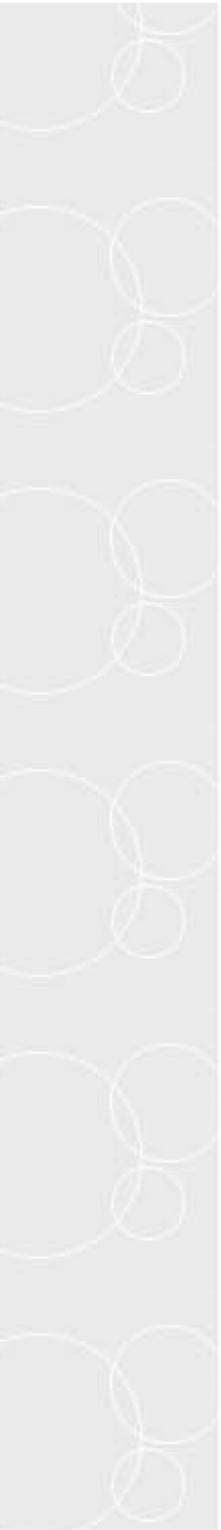


COLLECTION PROCEDURE

Specimen collection

1. To prevent specimen contamination, do not touch any part of the filter paper circles before, during or after collection.
2. Hold infant's foot below heart level (to increase blood flow to site).
3. Apply a soft cloth (moistened with warm water) or heel warmer to infants heel for three to five minutes. Heat pack or warm cloth should not exceed 42 degree Celsius (107.6 F)
4. Identify the landmark for the puncture site. Puncture site should be on the medial or lateral portion of the plantar surface of the heel. Please avoid previous puncture sites or bruised area. Puncture site should be made within the shaded areas as illustrated in this picture
5. Wipe site with a sterile alcohol swab (allow the heel to dry –failure to allow alcohol to dry may dilute the specimen and affect test results)
6. Puncture the heel using a sterile lancet. Then wipe off the first drop of blood with sterile gauze the gently and progressively squeeze the lower leg and ankle using a "tennis racket" grip to fill all four circles (avoid milking or squeezing the puncture site).
7. Lightly touch the 2nd drop of blood to the center of the filter paper circle. Allow the blood to soak through and completely fill the circle.
8. After the specimen is collected, elevate the infant's foot. Using a sterile gauze pad apply pressure to the puncture site until the bleeding has stopped.
9. Dispose of all used items in a bio hazard container





10. Air-dry the blood spot thoroughly at room temperature for at least four hours in a horizontal position

- ✦ Keep specimen away from direct heat or sunlight
- ✦ Do not place specimen in envelope until completely dry
- ✦ Cover with end-flap
- ✦ Double check that patient information sections has been completely filled out before mailing
- ✦ Mail specimen as soon as possible after it is thoroughly dry and mail within 24 hours of collection
- ✦ **Do not batch specimens**