

SAMPLE SPOT CHECK

Valid specimen:



Allow a sufficient quantity of blood to soak through to completely fill the preprinted circle on the filter paper. Fill all required circles with blood. Do not layer successive drops of blood or apply blood more than once in the same collection circle. Avoid touching or smearing spots.

Invalid specimen:



Specimen quantity insufficient for testing.

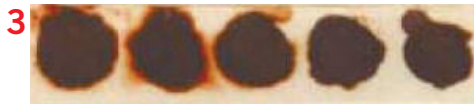
Possible causes:

- Removing filter paper before blood has completely filled circle or before blood has soaked through to second side.
- Applying blood to filter paper with a capillary tube.
- Touching filter paper before or after blood specimen collection with gloved or ungloved hands, hand lotion, etc.
- Allowing filter paper to come in contact with gloved or ungloved hands or substances such as hand lotion or powder, either before or after blood specimen collection.



Specimen appears scratched or abraded.

- Applying blood with a capillary tube or other device.



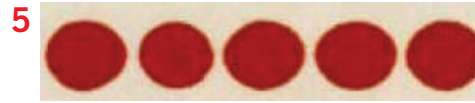
Specimen appears diluted, discolored or contaminated.

- Squeezing or "milking" of area surrounding the puncture site.
- Allowing filter paper to come in contact with gloved or ungloved hands or substances such as alcohol, formula, antiseptic solutions, water, hand lotion or powder, etc., either before or after blood specimen collection.
- Exposing blood spots to direct heat.



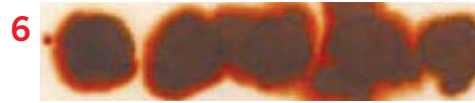
Specimen appears supersaturated.

- Applying excess blood to filter paper, usually with a device.
- Applying blood to both sides of filter paper.



Specimen not dry before mailing.

- Mailing specimen before drying for a minimum of four hours.



Specimen exhibits serum rings.

- Not wiping alcohol from puncture site before making skin puncture.
- Allowing filter paper to come in contact with alcohol, hand lotion, etc.
- Squeezing area surrounding puncture site excessively.
- Drying specimen improperly.
- Applying blood to filter paper with a capillary tube.



Specimen appears clotted or layered.

- Touching the same circle on filter paper to blood drop several times.
- Filling circle on both sides of filter paper.

Newborn Screening Limitations

Due to biologic variability of newborns and differences in detection rates for the various disorders in the newborn period, Newborn Screening will not identify all newborns with these conditions. While a positive screening result identifies newborns at an increased risk to justify a diagnostic work-up, a negative screening result does not rule out the possibility of a disorder. Healthcare providers should remain vigilant for any signs or symptoms of these disorders in their patients. The screening process is best coordinated with a physician. The screening services and materials are not a substitute for medical advice, diagnosis or treatment.



Giving babies the best start in life!



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1st STEP Newborn Screening Test
First Step

**COLLECTION
INSTRUCTIONS
&
SAMPLE
SPOT CHECK**

