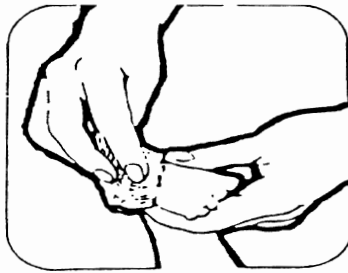


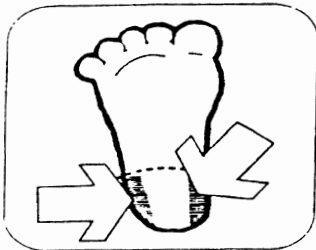
# NEWBORN SCREENING SPECIMEN COLLECTION

## COLLECTION TECHNIQUE

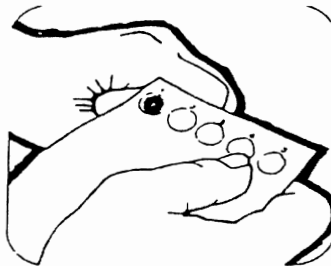


1. Cleanse infant's heel with 70% isopropyl alcohol (use only rubbing alcohol).
2. Allow heel to air dry.

4. Gently wipe off first drop of blood with sterile gauze. (Initial drop contains tissue fluids which may dilute sample).
5. Wait for spontaneous free flow of blood.
6. Apply gentle pressure with thumb and ease intermittently as drops of blood form.



The puncture should be made within the shaded area in the drawing above.



7. Touch printed side of filter paper card to the blood drop and fill each printed circle with a SINGLE application of blood. Observe the saturation of each printed circle from reverse side as the blood flows through the filter paper insuring complete saturation. Spotting should be done only from the printed side.
8. Allow blood specimen to air dry thoroughly, on level non-absorbent open surface, such as a plastic-coated test tube rack for 2-6 hrs. (DO NOT STACK OR HEAT)
9. Insure that collection form is completely filled out and place dried specimen in envelope provided. Place specimen envelope in preaddressed envelope and mail within 24 hr.



3. Using lancet, perform puncture as illustrated.

### WEARING GLOVES

## PROBLEM AREAS

- Failing to wipe off alcohol residue may dilute the specimen and adversely affect test results.
- Puncturing the heel on posterior curvature causes blood to flow away from puncture, making proper collection difficult. **DO NOT LANCE ON PREVIOUS PUNCTURE.**
- Milking or squeezing the puncture may cause hemolysis and admixture of tissue fluids with specimen.
- Layering successive drops of blood (Example A below) can cause uneven saturation. If blood flow diminishes to incompletely fill circles, **REPEAT** sampling technique 1. thru 8. Note Example B below for unacceptable specimen with inadequate blood.
- Scratching the filter paper surface when applying blood from capillary tubes may adversely affect test results. Capillary tubes may be a source of contamination.
- Touching blood spots after collection on filter paper can cause contamination. Do not allow water, feeding formulas, antiseptic solutions, etc. to come into contact with the sample.
- Mailing specimens while still damp usually results in improper filter paper saturation causing unsatisfactory results.



ACCEPTABLE SPECIMEN



A



B

UNACCEPTABLE SPECIMEN

Invalid Results May Occur on:

- a. Specimens collected prior to 24 hrs. after protein intake.
- b. Specimens collected prior to 48 hrs. of age.
- c. Infants of low birth weight or having transfusions.

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