



FIRST TIME, EVERY TIME.

POOR QUALITY SPECIMENS DELAY DETECTION OF BLOOD DISORDERS IN NEWBORNS.

“It was very important to us that our baby’s first specimen was collected right the first time!”

-Parent of an infant with a disorder from the newborn screening panel



Tips on collecting a GOOD FIRST SPECIMEN:

1. Obtain one drop of blood after appropriate preparation and puncture
2. Dry form in a FLAT position for 3-4 hours
3. Mail within 24 hours of collection

SPOT CHECK: What does your spot look like?



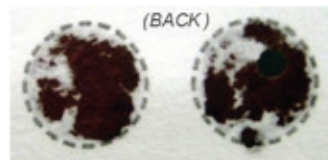
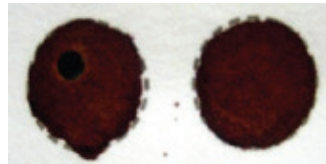
SATISFACTORY sample

Complete saturation and quantity. No abrasions.



UNSATISFACTORY samples

Incomplete saturation:



On back: clotted and layered

Quantity NOT sufficient:



Specimen abraded:



We need your help.

This is a draft educational tool that we plan to give to all hospitals. But, first, we’d like your input to help finalize it. Please let us know if this tool is helpful and if you have any suggestions for improvement. Send your feedback to newbornscreening@dhec.sc.gov.

Disclaimer: This tool is meant to be a helpful reminder on dried blood spot collection. Please refer to the *Newborn Screening Testing: Training the Trainer* workbook for policy and procedure.

