

# Neonatal screening

## Blood specimen collection and handling procedure



1. Necessary equipment: sterile lancet with tip approximately 2.0 mm, sterile alcohol prep, sterile gauze pads, soft cloth, blood collection form, gloves.



2. Complete all information. Do not contaminate filter paper circles by allowing the circles to come into contact with spillage or by touching before or after blood collection. Keep "submitter copy" if applicable.



3. Hatched area (/////)) indicates safe areas for puncture site.



4. Warm site with soft cloth, moistened with warm water up to 41°C, for three to five min.



5. Cleanse site with alcohol prep. Wipe dry with sterile gauze pad.





6. Puncture heel. Wipe away first blood drop with sterile gauze pad. Allow another large blood drop to form.



7. Lightly touch filter paper to large blood drop. Allow blood to soak through and completely fill circle with single application of large blood drop. (To enhance blood flow, very gentle intermittent pressure may be applied to the area surrounding the puncture site). Apply blood to one side of filter paper only.



8. Fill remaining circles in the same manner as step 7, with successive blood drops. If blood flow is diminished, repeat steps 5 through 7. Care of skin puncture site should be consistent with your institution's procedures.



9. Dry blood spots on a dry, clean, flat, non-absorbent surface for a minimum of 4 h.



10. Mail completed form to testing laboratory within 24 h of collection.

[www.gelifesciences.com/whatman](http://www.gelifesciences.com/whatman)

GE Healthcare UK Limited  
Amersham Place  
Little Chalfont  
Buckinghamshire, HP7 9NA, UK



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Björkgatan 30  
751 84 Uppsala  
Sweden

GE Healthcare Europe, GmbH  
Munzinger Strasse 5, D-79111 Freiburg  
Germany

GE Healthcare Bio-Sciences Corp.  
800 Centennial Avenue  
Piscataway, NJ 08855-1327  
USA

GE Healthcare Japan Corporation  
Sanken Bldg., 3-25-1, Hyakunincho  
Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo 169-0073  
Japan