

**DO NOT REMOVE OVERLAY**

See attached instructions for specimen collection and sending.

Allow blood to dry for a minimum of 3 hours using the overlay for support. Close the overlay when dry. Send within 24 hours of collection.

Do not send specimens in plastic bags.



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**INSTRUCTIONS FOR SPECIMEN COLLECTION AND SENDING**

**SUBMITTER RESPONSIBILITY**

- 1. Complete the form.
- 2. Collect an adequate quality specimen.
- 3. Send specimens promptly ie, within 24 hours.
- 4. List the health care provider who will care for the infant after discharge.

**SCREENING REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL NEWBORNS**

- 1. Initial screen should be collected prior to blood transfusion, regardless of age.
- 2. Collect sample at 24 - 30 hours of age, or before discharge or transfer.
- 3. Infants screened before 24 hours require a repeat screen within 7 days.
- 4. All premature and sick infants should be screened according to MDCH NICU guidelines.

**COMPLETION OF FORM**

- 1. Legibly print and complete all information required. **Do not use red ink.**
- 2. List submitter's return address.
- 3. List the provider or physician who will be following the infant for well care.
- 4. List the mother's correct address and phone number.

**COLLECTION OF THE BLOOD SPECIMEN**

- 1. Do not touch the filter paper circles before or after collection.
- 2. Select puncture site and cleanse with 70% isopropanol and allow heel to air dry.
- 3. Use a sterile, disposable incision device (2.5mm wide or less and 1.0mm deep or less) to perform a swift clean incision.
- 4. Wipe away the first drop of blood with sterile gauze.
- 5. Gently touch the filter paper against a large drop of blood and allow a sufficient quantity of blood to soak through to completely fill the preprinted circle. Blood must be applied to only one side of the filter paper and the circle should be fully saturated.
- 6. Do not use capillary tubes or other devices that contain EDTA or Heparin.
- 7. Apply one large drop of blood to each circle. Fill a minimum of 5 circles.
- 8. Protect specimens from accidental contact with liquids.
- 9. Allow blood specimen to air dry flat at room temperature for a minimum of 3 hours. Do not stack wet specimens. Do not expose specimens to heat or direct sunlight.



**SEND SPECIMENS TO:**

Newborn Screening Laboratory  
Michigan Dept. of Community Health  
3350 N. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.  
PO Box 33869  
Lansing, MI 48909-8189

**Program Phone Numbers**

Newborn Screening: (517) 335-9205  
Newborn Hearing: (517) 335-8955  
Hepatitis Program: (517) 335-8122

**To order Newborn Screening Cards or pre-addressed mailing envelopes call (517) 335-8687**

www.mi.gov/newbornscreening

SEND SPECIMENS WITHIN 24 HOURS OF COLLECTION BY COURIER