

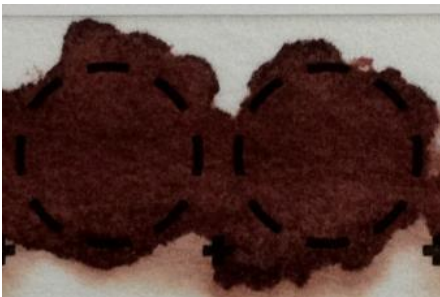
Unsatisfactory Specimen: Super Saturated

Background: Excessive blood volume on the filter paper may cause test results to be inaccurate. A repeat specimen will be required. This can lead to critical delays in identifying serious health issues for the infant.

Tips to Avoid a Super Saturated Sample:

- Use proper lancet size (standardized device making 1 mm deep by 2.5 mm long incision) and wipe away first drop of blood.
- Avoid using capillary tubes for specimen collection. If medically necessary, avoid devices containing heparin or EDTA.
- Allow a large blood drop to form and lightly touch the drop to the filter paper. Allow the drop to soak through and completely fill the area within the circle. Very little blood, if any, should soak outside of the circle.
- Do not apply blood on both sides of the filter paper.
- Avoid applying additional blood to a circle that is not filled.

Super Saturated unsatisfactory specimen:



Satisfactory Specimen Image:



Both the front and back of the specimen card should look like the image above. Note the circles are filled and the even saturation of a single blood drop applied to each circle.