Birth of Baby → Collect specimen 24-48 hours after birth

Specimen Collection
Materials
• NBS card
• Powder-free gloves
• Alcohol wipes
• Lancet 1.0mm deep 2.5mm long
• Heel warming device
• Sterile gauze pad

Process
• Warm baby’s foot
• Clean puncture site with alcohol wipe
• Puncture medial or lateral plantar surface of foot
• Wipe away first drop of blood
• Fill all five circles on collection card

Specimen Recollection
• NBS Laboratory notifies submitter
• Submitter is responsible for recollection
• Recollection should occur as soon as possible, no longer than 7 days after notification

Training
• Notify person who collected the unsatisfactory specimen
• Review reason(s) for rejection
• Offer training opportunities

Specimen Card
Include the following key information:
• Mother’s name
• Name of baby’s primary care physician
• Birth date and time
• Collection date and time
• Birth weight
• Gestational age

Review of Specimen Collection
Collect another specimen if there is...
• Blood clots
• Incomplete Saturation
• Multiple layers of dried blood
• Plasma separated from RBCs
• Contamination
• Damage to filter paper
• Blood on tan cover

Specimen Recollection as soon as possible

WSLH NBS Laboratory

Unsatisfactory Specimen → Specimen Accepted for Testing

Specimen accessioning and evaluation

Arrive at WSLH within 3 days or less after collection

Ship to WSLH within 24 hours after collection

Package and Ship Specimen
• Replace cover slip over card
• Place card in shipping envelope
• Do not place in sealed container
• Never batch samples
• Never hold blood card for hearing or CCHD data

Wait 3 hours for specimen to dry

Quality Indicators
1. Specimen collection time
2. Time of collection to receipt at WSLH
3. Unsatisfactory Specimens
4. Specimens missing critical information