# BLOOD SPOT CHECK

## ACCEPTABLE SPECIMEN

- No foreign substances have contaminated the filter paper.
- The blood fills all printed circles and is applied evenly on one side of the filter paper only, free of layering and clots.
- The specimen dried in a horizontal position for at least three hours, away from direct contact with surfaces, heat, and sunlight.
- The specimen is sent to the appropriate location no more than 24 hours after collection.

## UNACCEPTABLE SPECIMENS

### No Blood

- Failure to obtain any blood

### Quantity of blood insufficient

- Filter paper circle incompletely filled or not saturated
- Blood applied to filter paper with needle or capillary tube
- Contamination of surface of filter paper circle

### Scratched or abraded blood spots

- Blood applied improperly with capillary tube or by other means

### Wet or discolored blood spots

- Specimen not properly dried before mailing

### Supersaturated blood spots

- Excess blood applied to the filter paper, usually with capillary tube or needle
- Blood applied to both sides of the filter paper

### Diluted blood spots

- Puncture site squeezed or “milked” to expel blood
- Exposure of blood spots to direct heat
- Contamination of filter paper before or after blood collection by gloved or ungloved hands or by substances such as alcohol, feeding or antiseptic solutions, hand lotion or powder

### Clotted or layered blood spots

- Touching the same filter paper circle to a blood drop several times
- Filling the circle from both sides of the filter paper

### Serum rings evident in blood spots

- Alcohol not allowed to dry completely before skin puncture is made
- Allowing filter paper to come in contact with alcohol, water, hand lotion, etc.
- Squeezing the area around the puncture site excessively
- Drying the specimen improperly
- Applying blood to filter paper with a capillary tube