	<p align="center">Document name: Dried Blood Specimen Collection Instruction Manual</p>	<p align="right">Eurofins Document Reference: 1-D-LB-CF -9062324 NTD Labs SOP ID: GEN-2-043 (Attachment R) Revision:2</p>
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Dried Blood Specimen Collection Instructions

Finger-Stick Collection Method



Eurofins
Clinical Diagnostics

Sample Collection
FirstTrimesterS

Dried Blood Collection Procedure

- 1 Prepare material needed for sample collection and place on a clean dry surface. Please note, collection supply dates, please confirm supplies are not expired prior to use.
 - NTD Prenatal Test Requisition Form
 - Alcohol
 - Sterile Gauze
 - Sterile lancet
 - 903™ Five Spot Collection Card
 - Pre-addressed, pre-paid business reply envelope
- 2 Complete the NTD Prenatal Screening Requisition Form ensuring all fields are completed accurately and legit patient's name appears on the specimen label exactly as it appears in the Patient Information section.
- 3 For first trimester screening, pregnancies are dated based on the CRL at the time of the nuchal translucency gestational age may sometimes vary from that estimated at the time of blood collection. Therefore, we recom be drawn at 10 weeks or later to prevent recalculation of gestational age resulting in the patient being too ear time of blood draw.
- 4 For second trimester AFP dried blood screening test, pregnancy is dated based on EDC, with gestational age 1f
- 5 Remove the specimen label, with patient name, from the requisition form and place it on the designated area Spot Collection Card.

Preparation and Site Selection is Vital to the Success of the Blood Collection Process

- 1 Choose either the 'Ring' or 'Middle' finger for the test because they are not as sensitive to pain as the index finger and bleed more easily.
- 2 Have patient wash hands thoroughly with warm soapy water while massaging the entire length of the finger for about 30 seconds to increase blood flow.
- 3 The incision should be made perpendicular to the finger print about 1/4 inch from the nail bed, at the point where the finger begins to curve (see Figure 1.). Avoid the tip of the finger because of increased sensitivity and less robust bleeding.

Dried Blood Collection Process Using the Finger-Stick Lancet

- 1 Have patient remain seated during the blood collection process. To increase blood flow, instruct patient to rub hands together for 10 seconds and then allow the hand with the selected finger to



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Dried Blood Collection Process Using the Finger-Stick Lancet *(continued)*

- 4 Firmly press the tip of lancet on the selected puncture site. Puncture using a sterile lancet. (Fig. 3)
- 5 Immediately wipe away the first small drop of blood with sterile gauze.
- 6 Lower the hand to increase blood flow and allow a second, larger drop of blood to form. Apply gentle continuous pressure if necessary below the puncture incision site but avoid excessive massaging. Keep the drop balanced on the finger as it forms. When the drop is large enough and appears ready to roll, touch the underside of the card to the blood drop so it soaks into one of the circles. (Fig. 4)
- 7 Continue to collect blood drops as above until all five circles have been spotted.
Note: USE ONE LARGE DROP OF BLOOD PER CIRCLE.
 - Do not overlay multiple drops.
 - Blood should saturate at least 75% of each circle on BOTH sides.
 - If more blood is needed, puncture another finger.
- 8 Following blood collection, gently press a dry sterile gauze pad on the incision site until bleeding stops, and then bandage the finger.
- 9 Allow blood spots to dry at room temperature for a minimum of 3 hours. Keep away from direct sunlight and heat.



Figure




Figure

Clean-Up Procedure

- 1 Lancets are designed to be used only once, please do not reuse.
- 2 Dispose of the used lancet, gauze, alcohol swabs and all other used materials.

Mall-In Procedure

- 1 After drying, close the protective flap on the 903™ Five Spot Blood Card and tuck under the front flap where been affixed.
- 2 Staple the 903™ Five Spot Blood Card to the requisition in the designated area.
- 3 Fold the requisition and place with the 903™ Five Spot Blood Card and any applicable insurance copies into transport envelope and seal.
- 4 Store the sealed specimens in a cool, dry place until transported.
- 5 Specimen Stability: Dried blood spots are stable at ambient temperature for 30 days.
- 6 Mail to Eurofins NTD using the pre-addressed, pre-paid business reply envelope.

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Collection of the Dried Blood Sample using a DIFF-SAFE device:

Warning: Use only Red-Top Vacutainer® tubes or tubes with NO additives. Purple-Top tubes or tubes with additives produce significant interference with testing.

1. Collect 2-4 cc whole blood into a Red-Top VACUTAINER® tube.

Note: Immediately transfer blood to the blood collection card using a syringe or DIFF-SAFE® blood dispenser before the blood has a chance to clot.

2. Holding the tube in upright position, INSERT the DIFF-SAFE cannula into the stopper.
3. INVERT the tube and position DIFF-SAFE on target surface (blood circle).
4. Gently PRESS tube downward until a drop forms at the tip of the DIFF-SAFE.
5. RELAX pressure as soon as the blood fills the circle and move to the next circle
6. Spot all 5 circles before the blood has a chance to clot.
7. Allow blood spots to dry at room temperature for a minimum of 3 hours. Keep away from direct sunlight and heat.
8. Store specimens in cool dry place until transported.

Special handling needs between time of collection and time received by laboratory

Allow blood spots to dry at room temperature for up to 3 hours in a horizontal position after collection. Keep away from direct sunlight and heat, and do not touch circles after blood application. After drying, place the Dried Blood Sample card in the transport envelope and seal. Store the sealed specimens in a cool, dry place until transported. Transport by regular postal mail or by FedEx.

Positive Patient Identification and Specimen Labeling

The phlebotomist is responsible for correctly identifying the patient using two unique patient identifiers that include the patient's complete first and last name, date of birth and/or medical record or hospital number.

Every patient must verbalize his/her name to the phlebotomist, if able to do so by asking "Would you please tell me (or spell) your name and birthdate. ". It is unacceptable for the phlebotomist to ask the patient to confirm his/her name that was verbalized by the phlebotomist.

The Specimen MUST be labeled with two forms of patient ID that match EXACTLY with the information on the test requisition. The test Requisition has peel off labels preprinted with the Test Requisition Number that may act as one form of ID. Please print the patient's full first and last names on the label exactly as they appear on the requisition and affix to the specimen. Please retain the requisition number in your records and use if inquiring about test results.

If using your own specimen labels please include two unique patient identifiers that include the patient's complete first and last name, date of birth and/or medical record or hospital number and/or the test requisition number. All information must match exactly on the test requisition form.

Enter the name of the person drawing the specimen on the test requisition to allow for traceability.

Revision: 2	Effective date: Aug 23, 2018	Page 2 of 2
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