

## We've seen an uptick in unsatisfactory blood spot specimens during COVID-19.

### Remember these Newborn Screen Collection tips:

- ⇒ Do not rush— take your time.
- ⇒ A satisfactory specimen prevents the family from another visit.
- ⇒ Redraw if necessary.
- ⇒ Quantity insufficient and uneven saturation are most common.
- ⇒ A large single drop — hold and release fleshy side of heel to fill capillaries.
- ⇒ Have someone double-check your spots before submitting.
- ⇒ Dry 3 – 4 hours with coverlet pulled back from spots.
- ⇒ Fill out demographics completely, correctly, and legibly.

#### We're here to help!

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### Drying Specimens

#### Do



- Horizontal on the edge of a flat surface
- Coverlet pulled back
- Nothing touching spots



- Horizontal on a drying rack
- Coverlet pulled back
- Nothing touching spots

Here's an option for midwives or lab personnel on the go:



#### Don't



- Coverlet touching spots
- Filter paper touching table or other cards
- Filter paper hanging/falling vertically