

Kansas Newborn Screening Collection Kit Reminders & FAQs

⇒ Kits should be stored vertically in plastic, in a cool dry place. They should never be stored loosely in a drawer or in a patient chart where they can be abraded. Improper storage could affect unsatisfactory specimen rates.



⇒ Never let *anything* touch the calibrated spots on the filter paper. Contaminated spots can affect unsatisfactory specimen rates.

⇒ Specimen submission forms are *legal documents* and cannot be amended once they are received by the Kansas Health and Environment Laboratory (KHEL).

If you make a mistake, cross it out with a single line, write the correct information, and initial & date the change above/below the space. If it still looks illegible, please use a new card.

⇒ Race/Ethnicity: do not guess the baby's race or ethnicity. Select all options that apply to the best of your knowledge, including "unknown" when you aren't sure. Choose "other" and fill in when you know the race/ethnicity but it is not an option on the form.

⇒ Have someone double check the demographics for correctness, completeness, and legibility.

FAQ

Q: Should I use gestational age at birth, or adjusted gestational age?

A: Regardless of whether the specimen is an initial or repeat specimen, the reported gestational age should always be the gestational age at birth. DO NOT write an adjusted gestational age for repeat specimens.

Q: When should NICU be selected?

A: Regardless of the NICU level, select "Y" if the infant is not in a Well Baby nursery. This provides clarification for contact purposes for the follow up team and provides context for certain borderline results. Further clarification of interventions can then be marked for Transfused and TPN.

Q: Should we put our lab fax number or unit fax number for the Submitting Birthing Facility?

A: Our lab recommends putting your facility's lab fax number. That way if there are any questions our team can contact them.