

## Alert!:

# This box contains Iowa Newborn Screening Program (INSP) New Dried Bloodspot Collection Cards.

## What is New?

1. **New Manufacturing Vendor:** The INSP has selected Eastern Business Forms as the new vendor for the collection card. This change aims to improve the absorption times for blood collection, facilitating easier and more efficient sample collection.

1. **Transition to 7-Spot Card:** The program is moving to a 7-spot collection card, which has already been successfully adopted by states like South Carolina. Notably, South Carolina experienced a 42% decrease in unsatisfactory rates after implementing the 7-spot card. With the use of more blood to complete the testing panel due to the expansion of disorders screened, there is less room for error in the previous 5-spot card. Many children were requiring at least one repeat screen drawn to obtain valid test results. A complete valid 7-spot collection card will require less blood than a 5-spot collection card that is deemed unsatisfactory and requires a recollection of another 5-spot card.

3. **Inclusion of Race and Ethnicity:** The new collection card will feature checkboxes for race and ethnicity. This addition is crucial for tracking population trends and ensuring equitable care for underserved populations. Babies' gender and ethnicity may not match their physical appearance or that of the guardians. Please ask the guardian what race and ethnicity should be marked. More than one selection can be made for race.

4. **Updated language on the instructions on the back of the form:** Collection, drying, and shipping instructions have been updated to include the newest information available.

## Still have 5-spot cards?

Continue to use 5-spot cards until your inventory is depleted, or until January 1st, 2025 whichever is sooner.

## Will this change interactions with the SHL new LIMS (OpenELIS) for those that are using electronic messaging?

- No! SHL is not making any changes to existing interfaces at this time. We will be revisiting the topic of updating the interfaces after the implementation of OpenELIS.
- Some partners have already been sending race information across their current interface, even though it has not been an included requirement for the current collection card, this is will make the transition minimal for them.
- For those locations that use electronic messaging but do not have Race and Ethnicity as available fields should manually check the boxes on the card. Newborn client service staff will be able to add the race and ethnicity to the babies record when entering the orders.

### **Has** a completed interface with OpenELIS for newborn screen

- Must handwrite in a minimum of guardian's last name, infant's date of birth, collector initials, and makes selections for race and ethnicity.
- Please check with your hospitals administration as some locations have elected to include other requirements
- Must submit the electronic order with all other fields completed. The IA barcode number is now the new order number

### **Does not have** a completed OpenELIS interface for newborn screens

- Must handwrite in **ALL** fields on the collection card.
- We encourage the use a second person verify before submission of cards to ensure that all fields are complete.

## FAQs:

**Q:** What if the first puncture site quits bleeding before all 7 spots can be complete?

**A:** A second puncture can be made on the other side of the heel of the other foot. Do not puncture a site more than once.

**Q:** Do preemie babies also need to complete all 7 spots?

**A:** Always attempt to fill in the card completely as possible. If we have sufficient blood to complete initial testing the screen will not be deemed as poor quality.

**Q:** Does the blood spot circle in the perforated section need special treatment?

**A:** NO. This perforation is for internal lab testing when we have to send for confirmational testing.

**Q:** Can blood be put outside of the pre-printed circles?

**A:** Yes. If you need to put a blood spot outside of the pre-printed circles you may do so. Blood spots should not run into another spot