GEMS
GLOBAL EVALUATION OF MICROBICIDE SENSITIVITY

Dried Blood Spot (DBS) Preparation from Venipuncture Collected Blood

For Drug Resistance Testing in PrEP Seroconverters

PREPARE DBS MATERIALS

1 Review Procedures

Upon confirmation of HIV infection with PrEP client, review procedures for DBS collection. If client agrees, continue.

2 Complete Data Collection Form

Complete the data or lab requisition form to collect client demographic and adherence data.

3 Attach barcodes

Affix one bar-code labeled sticker to each of the two DBS cards, data collection form, blood tube, and client's medical file.

Collect at least 1 mL venous blood in an EDTA tube as per standard operating procedures and universal blood collection precautions and then, proceed to steps below.

DBS PROCEDURES

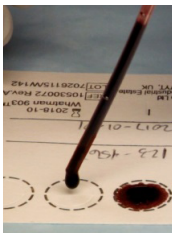
4 Invert Blood

Gently invert the blood collection tube 2 to 4 times and then open the stopper carefully.

5 Aspirate with Pipette

Draw whole venous blood to the line closest to the bulb on a transfer pipette, avoiding air bubbles (approximately 50 µl).

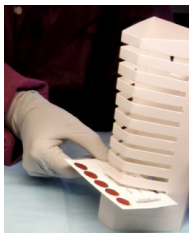
6 Transfer to DBS Cards



Transfer 1-2 drops of blood to the center of each of the 5 circles (on both cards) without touching the filer paper directly. Fully saturate the circles.

DBS STORAGE AND SHIPMENT

7 Store on Drying Rack



Store DBS card in an individual slot on the drying rack with blood spots facing up and dry the DBS card at room temperature overnight, or for a minimum of 3 hours.

8 Protect Samples

Insert the dried card into the sealable plastic bag with the desiccant and humidifier indicator.

9 Ship to Laboratory

Insert the sealed plastic DBS bag and the data collection form in the envelope provided and mail the envelope immediately, or within 3 days.

Visit the GEMS Website for more information about PrEP and Drug Resistance: http://gems.pitt.edu

AUGUST 2017

USAID FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

PEPFAR U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief

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