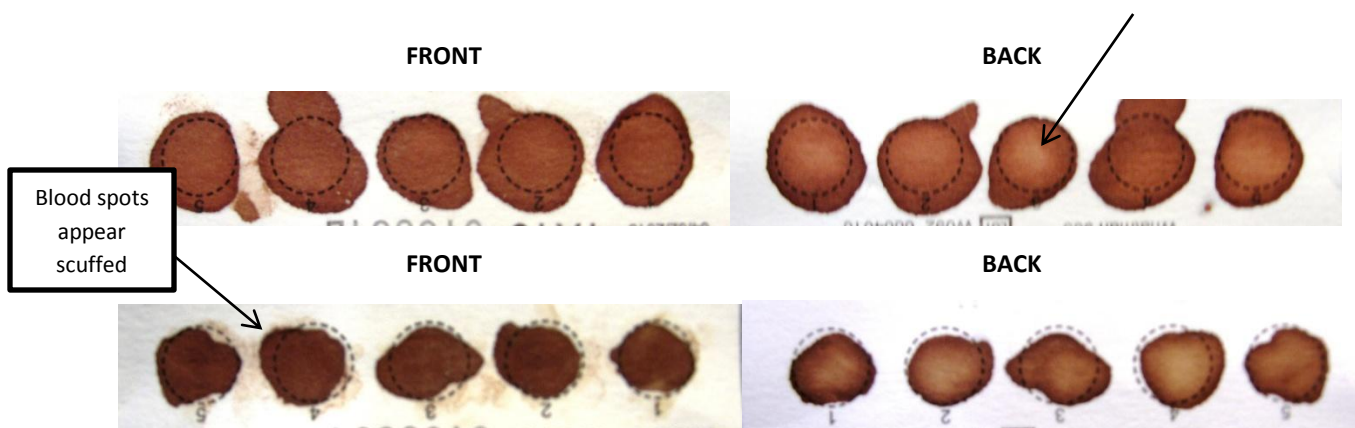


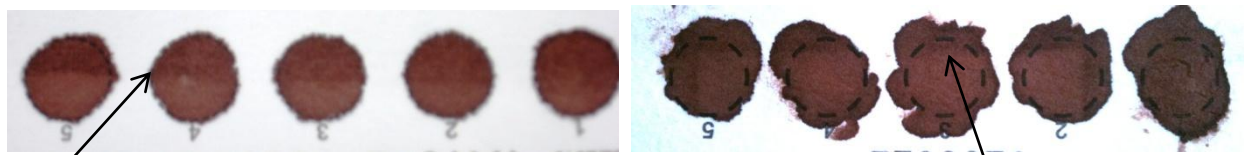
## SPECIMEN APPEARED CONTAMINATED OR DISCOLORED

Possible causes of specimens with uneven coloring as in the examples below:

- Not allowing the alcohol to dry completely before collection.
- Not wiping away the first drop of blood before collection
- Excessive pressing and squeezing of the area around the puncture site
- Rough contact of the heel with the filter paper. Direct contact between the heel and the paper should be minimized.



The specimens below display a distinct unevenness in color which likely results from improper drying. (e.g. placed on the edge of a countertop to dry, or something was laid on top of it or under it during the drying process:



This below specimens all appear to be contaminated by some sort of liquid. When possible, the NBS laboratory will report to submitters if there is evidence that the specimen was damaged (by weather) during transport to the laboratory.

