

A Guide to Selecting Dried Blood Spot Kits

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The Partnership for Supply Chain Management

Purpose of the document

This document has been developed to assist PFSCM clients in selecting the Dried Blood Spot (DBS) kits that best suit their needs. The DBS kits are to be used for HIV early infant diagnosis (EID) and HIV viral load testing. The kits have been standardized through the collaborative work of USAID, FHI 360, and the US Center for Disease Control. There are 12 kits to choose from, with differences based on: the age of the individual, capillary or capillary and venous blood, Whatman or TFN card, and 20 or 50 tests.

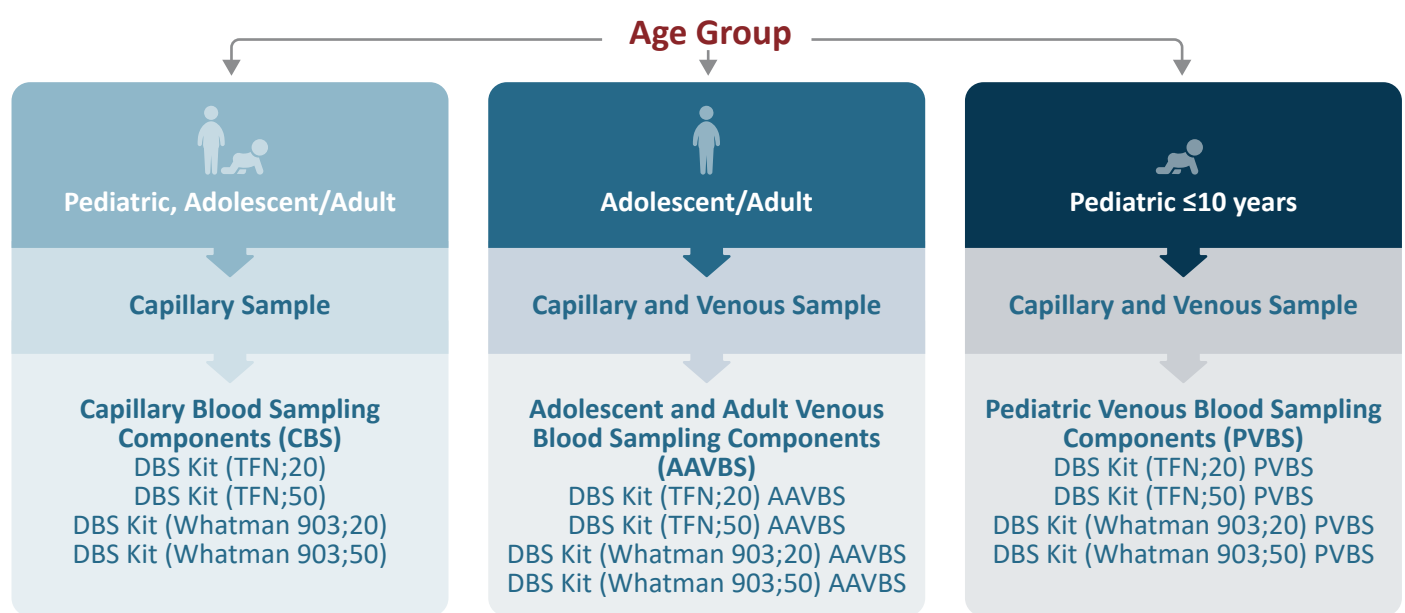
Individual age-related kit components

Most components (e.g. lancet, drying rack, Instructions for Use (IFU), etc.) of all of the kits are the same. The differences in the kit components for pediatric versus adult/adolescent kits are related to the needle and volume of the vacutainer for venous blood collection. The components for pediatric venous collection include a 23G winged blood collection needle which is 0.75" (1.9 cm) long, 12" (30 cm) long tubing, and a 2 mL vacutainer. The kit components for an adult include a 21G (1" to 1.5" or 2.5 cm to 3.8 cm) needle with a safety shield and a 4 mL vacutainer.

How to make a decision on which DBS kit to select

- Determine the age group that the DBS kits will be used for: **Pediatric, Adolescent, or Adult**
- Select the blood sample type: **Capillary or Capillary and Venous**
- Select the desired card type: **TFN or Whatman 903**
- Select the tests/kit: **20 or 50**

The flow chart below summarizes the kit options.



DBS kit options and components

➔ Each Bundle A is within bundle B. Bundles A, B, and C are in a box with a reclosable, tuck-in lid.

USAID kit name	GHSC - QA Specification	PFSCM SKU	Age Groups	Tests/kit	Blood draw	Bundle A, see footnote 1	Bundle B, see footnote 2				Bundle C, see footnote 3	
DBS Kit (TFN; 20)	QA.APP.KIT. DBS-101.02	105704	All ages	20	Capillary	Perforated TFN DBS card						See footnote 3
DBS Kit (TNF; 50)	QA.APP.KIT. DBS-103.02	105744	All ages	50	Capillary	Perforated TFN DBS card						
DBS Kit (Whatman 903; 20)	QA.APP.KIT. DBS-105.02	105724	All ages	20	Capillary	Perforated Whatman 903 DBS card						
DBS Kit (Whatman 903; 50)	QA.APP.KIT. DBS-107.02	105726	All ages	50	Capillary	Perforated Whatman 903 DBS card						
DBS Kit (TNF; 20) with AAVBS Components	QA.APP.KIT. DBS-102.02	105730	Adolescents, Adults	20	Capillary and/or Venous	Perforated TFN DBS card	Blood collection needle with safety shield, 21G	Vacuum blood collection tube, K2EDTA, 4 mL	Holder for the needle	Tourniquet		
DBS Kit (TNF; 50) with AAVBS Components	QA.APP.KIT. DBS-104.02	105762	Adolescents, Adults	50	Capillary and/or Venous	Perforated TFN DBS card	Blood collection needle with safety shield, 21G	Vacuum blood collection tube, K2EDTA, 4 mL	Holder for the needle	Tourniquet		
DBS Kit (Whatman 903; 20) with AAVBS Components	QA.APP.KIT. DBS-106.02	105746	Adolescents, Adults	20	Capillary and/or Venous	Perforated Whatman 903 DBS card	Blood collection needle with safety shield, 21G	Vacuum blood collection tube, K2EDTA, 4 mL	Holder for the needle	Tourniquet		
DBS Kit (Whatman 903; 50) with AAVBS Components	QA.APP.KIT. DBS-108.02	105722	Adolescents, Adults	50	Capillary and/or Venous	Perforated Whatman 903 DBS card	Blood collection needle with safety shield, 21G	Vacuum blood collection tube, K2EDTA, 4 mL	Holder for the needle	Tourniquet		
DBS Kit (TNF; 20) with PVBS Components	QA.APP.KIT. DBS-109.02	105708	Pediatrics 0–10 years	20	Capillary and/or Venous	Perforated TFN DBS card	Winged blood collection needle, 23G	Vacuum blood collection tube, K2EDTA, 2 mL volume	Holder for the needle	Tourniquet		
DBS Kit (TNF; 50) with PVBS Components	QA.APP.KIT. DBS-110.02	105710	Pediatrics 0–10 years	50	Capillary and/or Venous	Perforated TFN DBS card	Winged blood collection needle, 23G	Vacuum blood collection tube, K2EDTA, 2 mL volume	Holder for the needle	Tourniquet		
DBS Kit (Whatman 903; 20) with PVBS Components	QA.APP.KIT. DBS-111.02	105720	Pediatrics 0–10 years	20	Capillary and/or Venous	Perforated Whatman 903 DBS card	Winged blood collection needle, 23G	Vacuum blood collection tube, K2EDTA, 2 mL volume	Holder for the needle	Tourniquet		
DBS Kit (Whatman 903; 50) with PVBS Components	QA.APP.KIT. DBS-112.02	105718	Pediatrics 0–10 years	50	Capillary and/or Venous	Perforated Whatman 903 DBS card	Winged blood collection needle, 23G	Vacuum blood collection tube, K2EDTA, 2 mL volume	Holder for the needle	Tourniquet		

➔ Adult, Pediatric age ranges as described by USAID document: DBS Kit Specifications 09 SEP-2023.

FOOTNOTE 1: all Bundle A include the following components	FOOTNOTE 2: all Bundle B include the following components	FOOTNOTE 3: all Bundle C include the following components
Glassine envelope or paper	Medium, powder-free examination gloves – medium size	Drying rack
1 g sachets of silica gel with methyl violet indicator vacuum packed	Lancet retractable, 2 mm long x 1.5 mm wide blade	DBS instructions for use
Humidity indicator card (spots for 20%, 30%, 40%), vacuum packed	Gauze swab, 8 ply (50x50 mm)	
Resealable, gas-impermeable bag (120x100 mm)	Alcohol swab	
White, self-adhesive, freezer label (~10x5 cm)	Adhesive bandage	
Plastic, graduated capillary tubes, K2EDTA coated		

