




	vi. Touch the drop of blood with a clean slide, three drops are collected for preparing the thick smear.
	vii. Touch another new drop of blood with the edge of a clean slide for preparing the thin smear.
	viii. Spread the drop of blood with the corner of another slide to make a circle or a square about 1 cm
	ix. Bring the edge of the slide carrying the second drop of blood to the surface of the first slide, wait until the blood spreads along the whole edge
	x. Holding it at an angle of about 45° push it forward with rapid but not too brisk movement
	xi. Write with a pencil the slide number on the thin film, Wait until the thick film is dry. The thin film is always used as a label to identify the patient.

Remember

- The blood should not be excessively stirred. Spread gently in circular or rectangular form with 3 to 6 movements.
- The circular thick film should be about 1 cm (1/5 inch) in diameter.
- Allow the thick film to dry with the slide in the flat, level position protected from flies, dust and extensive heat.
- Label the dry thin film with a soft lead pencil by writing in the thicker portion of the film the blood slide number and date of collection

The lancet, cotton swab should be disposed off.