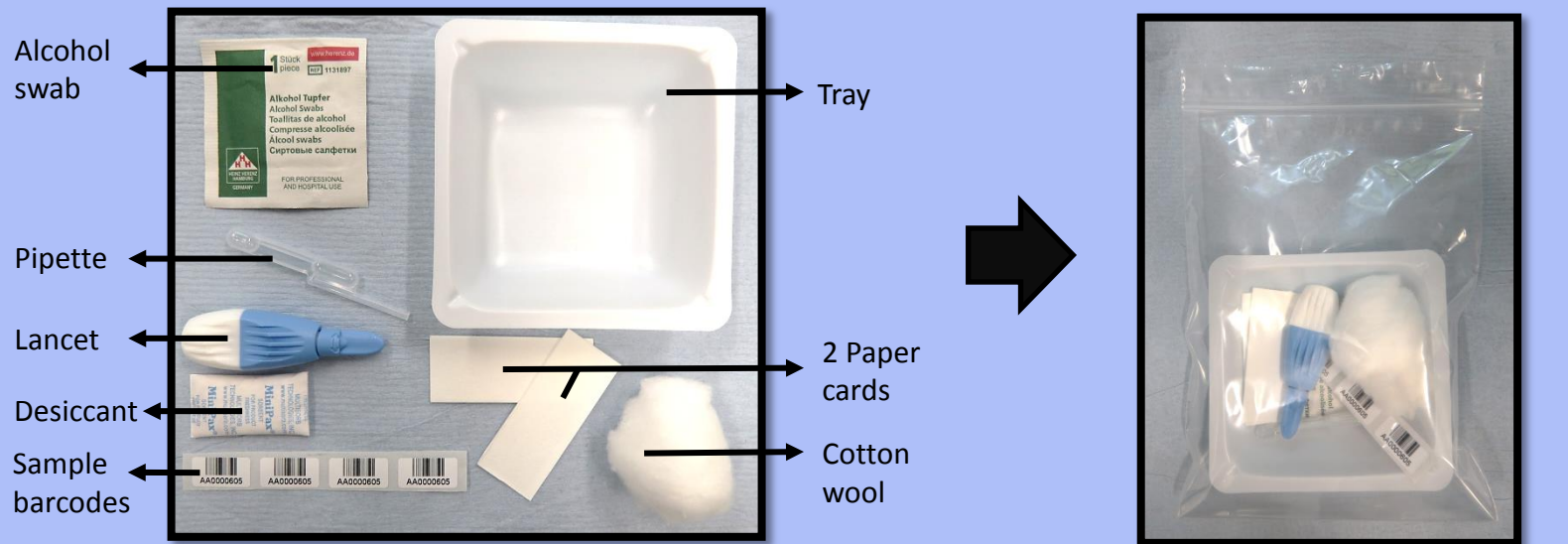


## HOW TO PREPARE A BLOOD SPOT COLLECTION KIT:



Under sterile conditions, collect the 8 items detailed above.

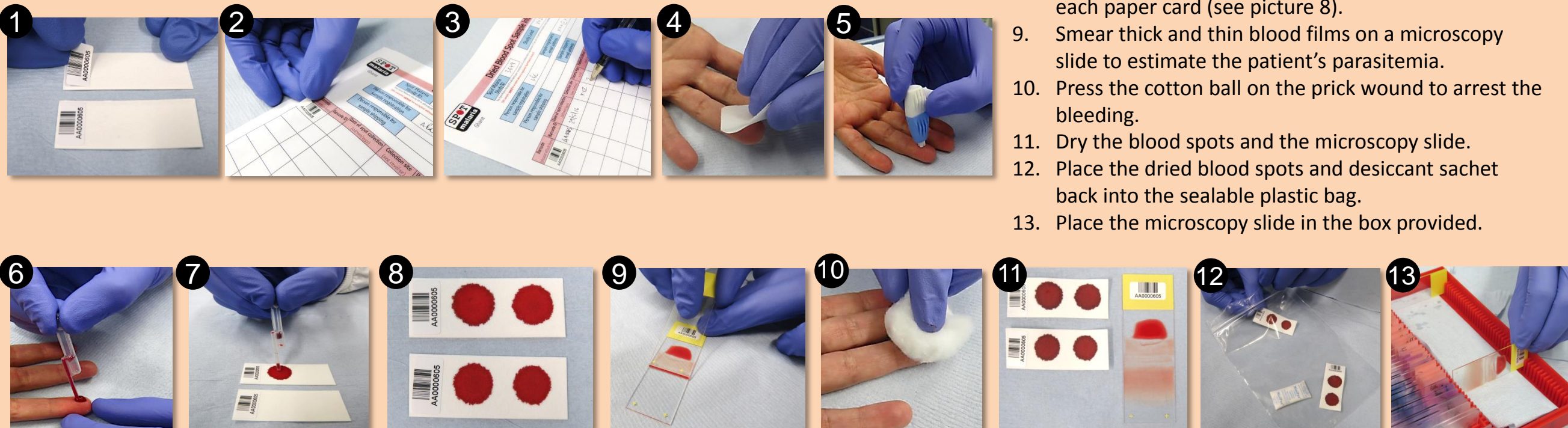
Place the items in the plastic tray and insert the tray into the sealable bag provided.

## HOW TO COLLECT BLOOD SPOTS:

Carefully remove the tray (with its contents) from the bag and place it on a clean surface. **Save the bag for later in the protocol.**

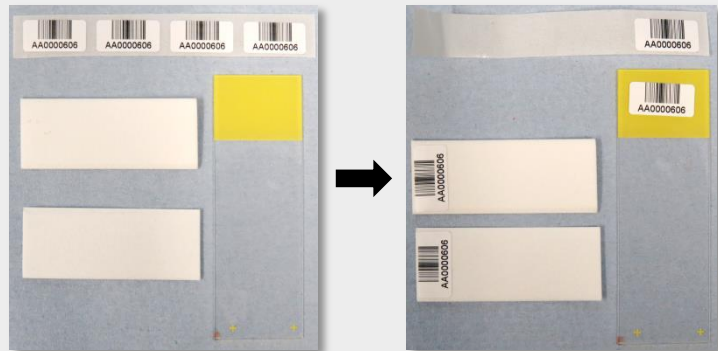
1. Stick one barcode to each paper card (2 paper cards per patient, see picture 1).
2. Stick a third barcode on the sample information sheet in the box provided.
3. Fill out the required patient sample details on the sheet.
4. Sterilise the patient's fingertip using the alcohol swab.
5. Prick the fingertip using the lancet (see picture 5).
6. Carefully collect the blood drops into the pipette, avoiding air bubbles as much as possible (see troubleshooting tips).
7. Squeeze the pipette bulb and slowly release the blood drops onto the paper to make a spot. Make sure that each drop spreads well before the next one leaves the pipette tip.
8. **Collect FOUR blood spots from each patient**, two on each paper card (see picture 8).
9. Smear thick and thin blood films on a microscopy slide to estimate the patient's parasitemia.
10. Press the cotton ball on the prick wound to arrest the bleeding.
11. Dry the blood spots and the microscopy slide.
12. Place the dried blood spots and desiccant sachet back into the sealable plastic bag.
13. Place the microscopy slide in the box provided.

## PICTURE GUIDE FOR BLOOD SPOT COLLECTION:

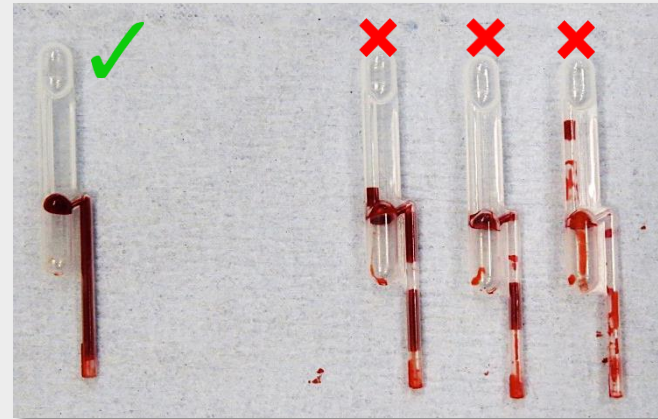


## Place barcode stickers along the shorter edge

Barcode stickers should be placed across the shorter, left edge of the paper cards and the microscopy slides.



## Avoid air bubbles when collecting blood with the pipette



Pipette filled correctly

Pipette filled incorrectly

## Dried blood spots should be the same size and volume



Good, consistent blood spots

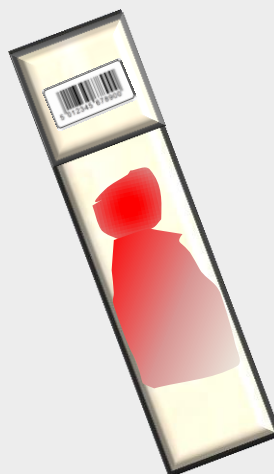


Spots of different size or shape are not ideal

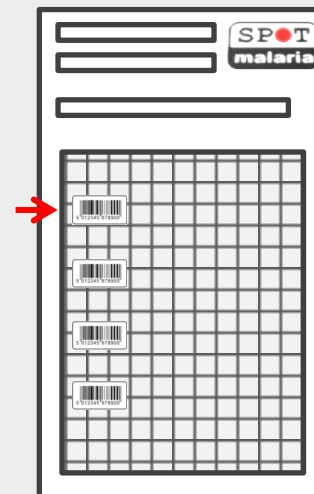
## Make sure to submit the following for each patient



Sealed bag with **4 dried blood spots** (collected on 2 paper cards) and a desiccant sachet



Barcoded patient blood smear



Barcoded, complete row in the sample information sheet