

# Update: Section 5.3.2 Hematological Assessment

JANUARY 8, 2025

## 5.3.2.1 Exceptions to Required Hematological Measurements

There are two exceptions to obtaining and recording hematologic data from participants per the hemoglobin schedule. The categories of exception remain the same.

1. Refusal based on religious belief.
2. If blood drawing could cause harm to the applicant because of medical conditions documented by a physician. Fragile bones disease has been added to the list of medical conditions.

A new option was added to this section. WIC staff may defer a participant hemoglobin measurement when it is determined that the health and safety of others (WIC clinic personnel) are at risk. When deferring the measurement in this situation, document the plan to obtain referral data ([Section 5.3.2: Hematologic Assessment](#)).

## Considerations for this deferral option

- These situations should be handled on a case-by-case basis with the assistance of the WIC Coordinator or Public Health Supervisor and should be extremely rare.
- If it is determined that it is appropriate to defer measurements due to health and safety concerns, follow the deferral procedures as outlined in [Implementation of WIC APRA Waivers](#). Document the plan to obtain referral data.
- [Hemoglobin Screening - Talking Points](#) provides tips and ideas for working with families who are resistant to the hemoglobin screening.

## Reference – Complete Listing of Hyperlinks

### [Section 5.3.2 Hematological Assessment](#)

([https://www.health.state.mn.us/docs/people/wic/localagency/program/mom/chsctns/ch5/sctn5\\_3\\_2.pdf](https://www.health.state.mn.us/docs/people/wic/localagency/program/mom/chsctns/ch5/sctn5_3_2.pdf))

### [Hemoglobin Screening - Talking Points](#)

(<https://www.health.state.mn.us/docs/people/wic/localagency/hemoglobintp.pdf>)

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