PREPARING BLOOD SMEARS

The following two pictures illustrate the correct way to make a blood smear. The positioning and angle of the slides is CRITICAL. *If your smear does not end,* i.e. the blood goes all the way to the end of the slide, *increase the angle* of your spreader slide. *If the smear is too short,* decrease the angle of the spreader slide. Grip the spreader slide as close to the end as possible and apply equal pressure across. Unequal pressure will result in a partial smear.

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**Fig. 13 - How to prepare a blood smear.**