

## Specimen Acceptability Criteria

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All specimens will be evaluated for acceptability. Specimens determined to be unacceptable for testing may be rejected and the test and charges cancelled. Health care providers and Outreach Clients will be notified when specimens are unacceptable for testing.

- A. Specimens will be unacceptable for testing and the tests and charges canceled under the following conditions:
- Improper Specimen Identification
    - Unlabeled, incompletely labeled, or mislabeled specimens
    - Name on specimen does not match name on requisition or electronic order
    - Multiple patient specimens/labels received in one transport bag (questionable identification)
  - Leaking specimens affecting quality to the extent that testing cannot be performed
  - Broken container
  - Specimens received with an attached needle or sharps device
  - Incorrect specimen submitted for test requested
  - Insufficient Volume (QNS)
  - Improper specimen transport temperature
  - Age of the specimen (test dependent)
  - Hemolysis (test dependent)
  - Specimens received with no written or electronic order (including specimens received with cancelled orders)
  - Transfusion Medicine:
    - Specimens that lack full legible signature and correct collection time & date.
    - All improperly labeled and improperly collected specimens.
  - Specimens received with unclear or incorrect orders
  - Manual or Electronic requisitions or specimens received with missing information:
    - ICD diagnosis code or narrative description (ex: Outreach manual requisitions)
    - Provider Signature on manual requisition or script
    - Relevant Clinical History
    - Test order
    - Signed Advance Beneficiary Notice (ABN) when necessary
- B. Unacceptable specimens that are deemed to be irreplaceable may be evaluated for specimen release approval by a Pathology Resident.

**Irreplaceable Specimens:** Specimens that are considered to be critical to patient care, but recollection is not possible.

Examples include but are not limited to:

Sterile Body Fluids:

- Amniotic
- Bile
- CAPD
- Cerebrospinal Fluid (CSF)
- Dialysate
- Epididymis
- Joint
- Knee
- Pericardial
- Peritoneal
- Pleural
- Seminal
- Synovial
- Supernate hepatocyte
- Supernate Islet
- Thoracentesis
- Vitreous

All specimens collected via invasive or surgical procedures

- Bronchoalveolar Lavage (BAL)
- Biopsy
- Bone marrow
- Bronch brush
- Bronch wash
- Cornea
- Eye
- Fine Needle Aspirate
- Sinus
- Tissue
- Bile duct brushing
- Nipple secretion
- Bladder Washings
- Ureter Renal
- Pelvic Washings
- Peritoneal Washing

Timed specimen collections (i.e. 24 urine collections, timed cortisol collections)

Stool specimens

Sweat Chloride specimens