

Labeling of Laboratory Specimens

Routine Specimens

1. Print all labels with the following information:
 - Patient's full name (last name followed by a comma, legal first name, and, if available, middle initial)
 - Date of birth, Social Security Number (SSN) or Medical Record Number
 - Name of ordered test(s) - if not preprinted on label
 - Date and time the specimen was collected (use 24-hour clock time expression whenever possible)
 - Identification of the person obtaining the specimen (usually printed initials or employees ID number)
1. Attach barcode label or specimen identification number from the requisition to the back or bottom of the container.



Cytology Specimens

Label each cytology specimen container with the control number sticker from the cytology requisition. Write the full patient name on the line provided on the specimen container in pen.

Histology Specimens

Label each specimen container with full patient name. If multiple portions of tissue from the same source are submitted, each must receive a numerical designation to reflect its distinct identity within the specimen series. For outpatient specimens, a numbered sticker from the surgical requisition can be used with patient name for identification.

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NAME	<u>Smith, Mary Q.</u>
SPECIMEN	<u>Liver Biopsy</u>
DATE	<u>04/30/10 #1 of 3</u>