



Laboratory Ordering & Specimen Labeling

Inpatient Stats

Nursing department should call the phlebotomy station at extension 31386 if a STAT is requested and needs to be drawn by the phlebotomist.

The Phlebotomist will:

- Use standard precautions when drawing blood specimens.
- NOT draw from a hospitalized patient lacking a wristband identification.
- NOT draw arterial specimens.
- Only perform heel sticks on newborns.
- NOT draw from the arm on the side of a mastectomy or from an arm that has received recent chemotherapy.
- NOT draw from a site above an IV.

STAT/Urgent/Routine Requests

In accordance with hospital policy, **STAT** designation must be reserved for tests where the patient condition would be compromised by a delay (i.e. heavy labor, bleeding, vital signs deteriorating, etc.) See "STAT List" located in the turn-around time chart for those tests which can be requested "STAT".

TIMED designation is used for blood-work that needs to be drawn "at a specific time of day".

Routine blood-work is drawn at designated pick-up times and will be "batched" with other work.

Outpatient Stats

- Office staff or phlebotomist will call the courier and inform them of a stat pickup.
- The courier will document the pick up using an electronic device.
- Phlebotomists will use a transfer list to document the request.

Criteria For Specimen Labeling (minimum requirements)

(Example: A label from the patients chart with collection date and time as well as initials of the person collecting the specimen)

- Patient's full name
- Patient's Date of Birth/Sex and/or Medical Record Number
- Patient location
- First initial and last name of the person collecting the sample (preferred – initials accepted)
- Collection Date and Time

Labeling Criteria For Requisitions

Note: Label should be a bar-coded label generated from Cerner

- Patient's full name
- Patient's Date of Birth/Sex, Patients Account Number and/or Medical Record Number
- Date of collection
- Time of collection
- Tests ordered
- Name and address of physician (if different from lab. performing test)
- Source of specimens (when applicable)
- Clinical information (when applicable)