

LABELING OF SPECIMEN

All specimens must be clearly labeled using indelible ink with the following:

- Name of patient
- National ID# and or date of birth
- Date and time of collection (time of collection is especially required for timed specimens eg. Iron studies, PT, D-dimer)
- Location
- Phlebotomist initials

Specimens must have at lease two unique identifiers

1. Name of patient

2. National ID # and / or date of birth

Kindly note that in the case of microbiology, cytology and histology specimens must be clearly identified. Eg. Right ear, urine or fluid.

REJECTION CRITERIA

ChemScreen Laboratory Services desire to work with its clients to produce the best, quality results.

It is therefore imperative that clients provide the best samples, comprehensively labeled and well taken.

Noting that the results obtained from the Laboratory are as good as the sample submitted to the Laboratory.

The following situations would therefore compromise testing and must be avoided. Repeat specimens would be required.

- i. Leaking specimens
- ii. Specimens with no name or illegible writing
- iii. Incorrect container, device or media used for test ordered
- iv. No requisition form provided or no test ordered on requisition form

- v. Damaged samples,
- vi. Insufficient sample (tubes not filled to required mark)
- vii. Specimen containing clots for coagulation and hematology
- viii. Samples incorrectly stored

STORAGE OF SPECIMENS

It is ideal to have all specimens reach the Laboratory as soon as possible. However in the event that this is not possible, **some** specimens may be stored overnight .

Kindly refer to Table 2. on page 11. for storage time and conditions of specimens based on the test requested.

24 hour urines shall be stored in cool places and brought to the laboratory as soon as completed the following morning.

SPECIMEN CONTAINERS

Clients using the services of ChemScreen Laboratory Services Inc. may obtain specimen collection vials from the Laboratory for their use under the condition that the containers are being returned to ChemScreen Laboratory Services Inc. only.

You may call the Laboratory and request the containers, where the courier would deliver, or they may be collected from the Laboratory. Patients guideline for the collection of specimens are also available from the laboratory.

SPECIMEN TRANSPORT TO THE LABORATORY

Clients are also welcome to bring their specimens to the laboratory.

Specimens should be transported at the correct temperatures and sealed tight to avoid leakage,

Forms must be separated from specimens.

The following specimens are considered irreplaceable and special emphasis is mentioned here to avoid error with such samples. These samples require diligence in collection and processing.

Number	Type of specimen
1.	Timed samples eg. PTH, cortisol.
2.	Samples collected in an acute situation, where the clinical status of the patient may have changed eg. Drug overdose, hypoglycaemic state.
3.	Samples for culture, where antibiotic therapy has been started eg. Blood culture, wound swab.
4.	Bone Marrow
5.	CSF
6.	Tissue
7.	Other body fluids (not blood)
8.	Samples where recollection presents a risk to patients