Specimen Labels



Proper Placement is Important

Inappropriately placed patient labels on tubes have an impact on patient safety and the timely processing of results.

Upon arrival at the lab, an Aspirus Epic patient barcode label is placed below the patient's name on the original label. The duplicate name display is a safety measure for ensuring patient labeling accuracy.

The tubes are then placed into special racks on an automation line of analyzers. The line auto-scans the Epic label at various points for information including what tests to perform and evaluates the specimen viability.

How You Can Help





1. <u>Lay bottom of label over manufacturer's, just above the colored bar, flat and lengthwise.</u> The colored bar identifies the tube color after cap has been removed at the lab.

Patient's name should be next to the cap (but not on it).

- 2. Wrap label around tube, leaving an open "window" for a viewable specimen from the cap to the bottom of the tube and the colored bar is visible. The analyzers need this "window" to evaluate specimens for viability factors such as hemolysis and volume.
- Leat. Fires

3. If your label is too long for the tube, <u>leave the end straight beyond</u> the edge for easy tear-off at the lab. *Patient's name should be near the cap.*

Do not wrap the extra around the bottom of the tube.

Extra layers of label material cause the tube not to fit into the rack for the automation line.

Examples of Inappropriately Labeled Tubes - What Not to Do



"Flagged"



Covering bottom of tube



Covering cap



Spiraled, multiple tubes