

Specimen Labeling Requirements

Surgical Pathology

Ensure that each histology sample is labeled with **two** unique patient identifiers and specimen location

- Acceptable unique identifiers are medical record number (MRN) or birthdate

Specimen label should include:

- Patients full name
- Date of birth
- MRN
- Specimen location/source
- Date and time the specimen was collected, using 24 hour clock whenever possible

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. For example, 1 of 3

Non-Gyn Cytology

Ensure that each cytology sample is labeled with **two** unique identifiers.

- Acceptable unique identifiers are unique medical record number (MRN) or birthdate

Specimen label should include:

- Patients full name
- Date of birth
- MRN
- Specimen location/source
- Date and time the specimen was collected, using 24 hour clock whenever possible
- Indicate if cytology fixative has been added.

Blood Bank Testing

Specimen label should include:

- Patients last name, first name, and if available middle initial
- Date of birth
- Identification number-unique
 - Hospital medical records number (mrn) or in rare cases, date of birth, for inpatients. MRN is preferred.
 - Assigned patient identification number for outpatients, or birthdate if assigned number is unavailable.
 - Date of birth is acceptable for neonates.
 - Use a Blood Bank identification number band in trauma situations and whenever feasible for any outpatient or non-hospital transfusion.
- Date and time the specimen was collected. Use 24 hour clock whenever possible
- Initials of the person collecting the specimen
 - NOTE: The date and identifier of the phlebotomist must be documented at the time of collection. It is not acceptable to contact the collecting facility and ask for the information after the sample has left the patient.

When labeling tube for compatibility testing, **two** unique identifiers must be included on the tube

Outpatient or non-hospital transfusions may require a patient to be banded with the Typenex banding system. Please contact blood bank services at 574.251.1760 with questions.