



## SPECIMENS

### Specimen Labeling

Asante Health System's policy states that all specimens received for testing must be correctly and adequately labeled at the time of collection, to assure positive identification. Specimens must have **two** person-specific identifiers on the patient label. **We use the patient's legal first and last name and date of birth.** Specimens are considered mislabeled when there is a mismatch between the person-specific identifiers on the specimen and information accompanying the specimen (e.g., computer system, requisition form, additional paperwork). Specimens received without two patient-specific identifiers will be subject to rejection. Your office will be notified immediately upon receipt of improperly labeled specimens.

### Specimen Rejection

Specimens are subject to rejection if they are not labeled with **two** person-specific identifiers at the time of collection or if the requisition does not match the specimens.

All tests are unique in their specimen requirements. To avoid specimen rejection or delayed turnaround times, please check the "Specimen Requirements" field for each test ordered in our test catalog.

You will be notified of rejected or problem specimens upon receipt.

### Common Reasons for Specimen Rejection

- Hemolyzed and Lipemic Samples
- Incorrect specimen type (plasma, serum, whole blood, etc.)
- Incorrect specimen volume (quantity not sufficient)
- Missing patient information
- Mislabeled specimen
- Incorrect specimen container (wrong tube, swab, transport media, etc.)
- Incorrect temperature (ambient, refrigerated, frozen)
- Incorrect processing (samples not centrifuged, aliquoted, etc.)

### Specimen Volume

Preferred volume has been established to optimize testing and allows us to quickly process and test specimen containers. Many of our testing processes are fully automated and our preferred volume allows for the quickest turnaround times. Please check the "Specimen Minimum Volume" field for each test ordered in our test catalog.

We will make every possible effort to successfully test your patient's specimen. Our staff will discuss any problems with you to get the best possible outcome for your patient.

## **Veterinary (Animal) Specimens**

We accept animal specimens for testing.