

Specimen Labeling:

To assure positive identification and optimum patient specimen integrity, all specimen submitted to NPL must be labeled accurately and appropriately. Two unique identifiers are required for proper specimen identification.

NPL may refuse to accept specimens that are not appropriately labeled with 2 unique identifiers. In addition, we reserve the right to discard any unlabeled specimen received at our production center.

There are specific mandatory blood bank labeling requirements for those sites that NPL performs type and crossmatch testing for. These requirements are available in the test catalog.

If multiple specimen types are being submitted for different types of testing, label the specimen transport tubes with the specific specimen type. For example, for a creatinine clearance indicate which sample is the serum and which sample is the urine

Specimen Rejection/Test Cancellation:

NPL reserves the right to refuse specimens if they have been improperly collected, labeled or transported. The following represent some reasons for specimen rejection/test cancellation:

Insufficient volume (including leaked in transit and gross external contamination)

Improperly labeled specimen (no label, mismatched information, lacking 2 identifiers)

Improper specimen transport (expired or incorrect tubes or transport medium, incorrect storage temperature)

Inappropriate specimen type (hemolyzed, clotted)

Multiple specimen types with source not indicated (serum vs urine)