



ALVERNO LABORATORIES

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Owner: *Tiffany York*
Policy Area: *Support Services*
Applicability: *Alverno Core Laboratory*

DE - Two Patient Identifiers

Section: Core

Document Type: Procedure

PURPOSE:

Standardizing specimens that are sent from clients and/or hospitals that need ordering. The client/hospital must have two forms of identifying the patient in order to maintain patient security.

POLICY:

To provide standardization of verifying patient information by implementing two forms of identification in order to maintain patient safety and eliminate mislabeled specimens.

SUPPLIES:

- A. requisition from client and/or hospital
- B. labels located on requisition
- C. miscellaneous tubes

PROCEDURE:

- A. **Primary specimen containers are labeled by at least 2 patient identifiers. Examples of acceptable identifiers include but are not limited to:**
 - 1. Patient first and last name
 - 2. Date of birth
 - 3. Social security number
 - 4. Medical record number
 - 5. Requisition number (located on label pre-printed on requisition) or accession number.
- B. **Collecting Specimens:**
 - 1. Staff will label specimen at time of collection
 - 2. Staff will need to include two forms of patient identification on the specimen at this time.
 - 3. Computer generated labels if available, along with date/time and collectors initials.
 - 4. If computer labels are not available, handwrite patient's first name and last name, date of birth, date and time of collections and collectors initials.
 - 5. The exception for requiring two patient identifiers is Chain of Custody Drug Screens. When registering chain of custody drug screens refer to procedure DE- REGISTERING CHAIN OF CUSTODY DRUG SCREENS for instructions on correct information needed and registration process.
 - 6. Send specimen to laboratory for processing.

C. Two forms patient identification is not given

1. If two forms of patient is not given a specimen comment must be added.
2. Click on comment under specimen tab, hit F5 for canned comments
3. Canned comment [#2PA "Specimen accepted with only a single identifier. For patient safety and to meet accreditation requirements, proper identification requires the use of two unique patient identifiers." Must be added to order.

RELATED DOCUMENTS:

Problem Bucket Procedure

REVISIONS:

Date	Reason for Revision/Revised by:
6/28/2011	Keri Decanter – new format
12/23/13	Deleted adding a problem to notify client.

Hard copies of this document must be destroyed at end of shift.

Attachments:

No Attachments

Approval Signatures

Approver	Date
Sam Terese	11/3/2017
Dr. Elisabeth Shearon: Medical Director	11/3/2017
Nadine Ali	11/2/2017
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Applicability

Alverno Core Laboratory