

SPECIMEN REJECTION CRITERIA

Specimens will be rejected when the results are compromised due to improper container or anticoagulant, inadequate amount, improper timing, transport or storage or the presence of interfering substances. The following is a PARTIAL guideline to assess the appropriateness of laboratory specimens. Complete specimen requirement criteria includes, but is not limited to this list.

LAB SECTION	CRITERIA
General	Improper label (unlabeled or mislabeled), Wrong container (anticoagulant or solution), Improper blood/anticoagulant ratio, Delay in transport or improper storage affecting results, Inappropriate timing of collection, Interfering substances, Dietary limitations, Container leakage resulting in compromised specimens or slides improperly labeled (unlabeled or mislabeled) or broken beyond repair
Blood Bank	Improper label (unlabeled or mislabeled), Hemolysis, Patient not arm banded
Chemistry	Improper label (unlabeled or mislabeled), Hemolysis (some procedures), Improper anticoagulant or ratio, Delay in transport or improper storage affecting results, Inappropriate timing of collection, Improper container used for collection or Container leakage resulting in compromised specimen.
Coagulation	Improper label (unlabeled or mislabeled), Improper anticoagulant or improperly filled, Hemolysis, Clotted specimen, Delay in transport or Improper storage affecting results.
Cytogenetics	See General Section
Cytology	Unlabeled ThinPrep Pap vial; Unlabeled non-gynecological cytology specimen; Unlabeled slide in a labeled slide container; Leaking specimen container if label has been rendered unreadable or if no specimen can be safely recovered (from the BioHazard bag); Slide broken beyond repair.
Flow Cytometry/ Molecular Diagnostics	See General Section
Hematology	Improper label (unlabeled or mislabeled), Clotted specimen, Improper anticoagulant or ratio, Hemolysis, Delay in transport or Improper storage affecting results.
Histopathology	Improper label (unlabeled or mislabeled) or Tissue not in formalin.
Microbiology	Improper label (unlabeled or mislabeled), Time delay between collection and receipt of specimen, Inappropriate timing of collection, Improper transport container or transport conditions, Interfering substances, Inappropriate specimen type, Expectoated sputum with oropharyngeal contamination or Container leakage resulting in compromised specimen.
Send Outs	See General Section
Urinalysis	Improper label (unlabeled or mislabeled), Delay in transport, Container leakage resulting in compromised specimen, Improper storage affecting results or Interfering substances.