

Beaumont

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Approved		Area	Laboratory- Chemistry
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Automated Chemistry Criteria for Unacceptable Specimens - Royal Oak

Document Type: Procedure

I. PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVE:

This procedure contains criteria for specimens that may be considered unacceptable.

II. PROCEDURE:

- A. If it is decided that a specimen is unacceptable, the floor or the physician should be notified, and arrangements made to draw another specimen.
- B. If the physician insists that the specimen be tested, perform the test, provided the volume is adequate to do so, and note on the report as to why the result may be unreliable.

III. REASONS FOR UNACCEPTABLE SPECIMENS:

- A. If an improperly or unlabeled specimen is received, see Clinical Pathology Procedure, [Correction of Information on Specimen Labels: Proper Handling of Unlabeled/ Mislabeled Specimens](#)
- B. **Problems related to patient preparation or condition.**

Problem	Test Affected	Corrective Action
Interfering Medication Parenteral Iron (e.g. Iron	Iron %Saturation is >100%	Comment will automatically populate.

Sucrose)		
Odd color serum	Variable	Consult with pathologist/clinical chemist about possible interference.

C. Problems related to sample collection, preservation or treatment.

Problem	Test Affected	Corrective Action
Inadequate volume	Any	Redraw
Large air bubbles	Blood Gases	Notify floor to redraw
Not iced specimen	Blood Gases Ammonia	Request redraw
Improper collection tube	Multiple tests	See Lab Test Directory (LTD) for test specific specimen requirements
Oxalate, EDTA	Ca, Mg, Enzymes Others possible	Redraw
Improper Urine Preservative	24 hour Urine Collection	Samples not collected as defined in the LTD must be recollected
Collection time frame missing or not specified	All clearance tests Urine amylase Other urine tests requiring 24 hour collection	Obtain actual collection time frame or recollect

D. Problems related to the sample itself.

Problem	Test Affected	Corrective Action
Hemolysis	Variable	Abbott Instrument manager populates comments to affected tests. Cancel tests as indicated.
Gross Lipemia, L index >200	Variable, but affects most tests	Ultracentrifuge specimen for all tests except: Cholesterol, HDL Cholesterol, Direct LDL Cholesterol and Triglycerides. Perform Cholesterol, HDL Cholesterol, Direct LDL Cholesterol and Triglycerides on unspun serum.
Icterus	Variable	Abbott Instrument manager populates necessary comment.
Refer to “Policy for the Determination of Hemolysis, Lipemia and Icterus” and the Hemolysis, Icterus, and Lipemia Interference attachments in Abbott Architect Chemistry System Analyzer Operation and Abbott Architect Immunoassay System Analyzer Operation for assay specific instructions.		

Approval Signatures

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Applicability

Royal Oak