

Laboratories at Adventist Healthcare Washington Adventist Hospital, Shady Grove Medical Center and Germantown Emergency Center

Date: May 20, 2016

## LABORATORY ALERT

## Subject: Purple Bags for Irreplaceable Specimens

The Laboratory is informing you of the following change:

Effective date:	June 23, 2016
Purpose:	Use of purple bags to prevent loss of irreplaceable specimens
General Information:	<ul> <li>As specimens are received into lab, separate irreplaceable specimens.</li> <li>Immediately place in designated purple bags (one specimen per bag).</li> <li>Specimen remains in a purple bag until send out process steps are completed and specimen is handed off to the courier or in house testing is performed.</li> </ul>

## **Examples of irreplaceable specimens:**

Body cavity fluids (synovial, pleural, peritoneal, ascites)

Cerebrospinal Fluid (CSF)

Cord blood

Fine needle biopsies/aspirations

Lavages, washings, or brushings

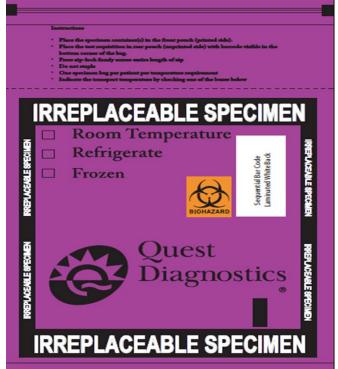
Meconium (for drug screening)

Products of Conception (for chromosome

analysis)

Stones

Tissue biopsy or bone marrows



Contacts:	Samson Khandagale SGMC 240-826-6642 WAH 301-891-5631
LBarrett/5.20.16	