

SPECIMEN LABEL INFORMATION & PLACEMENT

- St. Joseph Medical Center Tacoma, WA
- St. Clare Hospital Lakewood, WA
- St. Elizabeth Hospital Enumclaw, WA
- St. Francis Hospital Federal Way, WA
- St. Anthony Hospital Gig Harbor, WA
- PSC

PURPOSE

To describe the components included on the Cerner Specimen Label.

BACKGROUND

The labels generated through Cerner, the Laboratory Information System (LIS), provide key information about the patient, the sample requirements and the testing to perform. It is important to be familiar with the components of the Cerner Label so that you can maximize its use as a tool to assist you in proper patient identification, sample collection and sample handling.

LABEL COMPONENTS

The label provides you with important information about the patient and the tests to perform.

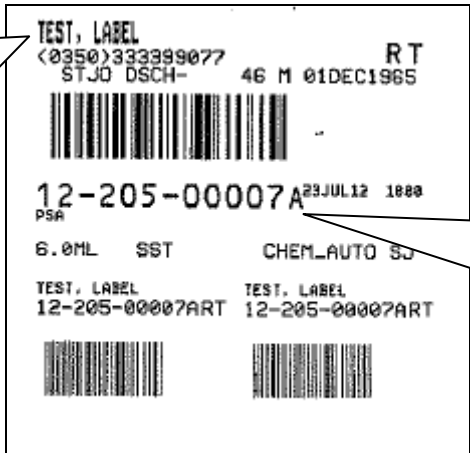
- The patient information is found at the top of the label and includes: the patient’s full name, medical record number, gender, age and date of birth (DOB). Use the label to verify proper patient identity.
- Under the accession number you will find pertinent information about the tests to draw and perform including: name of test(s), sample requirements, (i.e. type of tube and volume needed), special handling and where the test(s) will be performed.
- Each sample has a unique accession number that you will find immediately under the bar code. The accession number is assigned as a label is generated and consists of the Julian date (year and day of the year), a unique specimen number (called the accession number) and an alpha character (called the Container ID). The format of the entire accession number is (YY-DDD-#####-A). The accession number and container ID for the same patient may differ for each test based on a few different criteria:
 1. The sample type changes
 2. If additional tubes are needed for all the tests being performed on a particular color tube – this indicates that you need to draw more than one tube. It is based on volume needed for testing
 3. If there are special handling requirements
 4. The container class changes.
 5. The test is a send out test
 6. The section of the lab where testing is performed differs
 7. The priority of test to be performed

LABEL PLACEMENT

The labels are all designed to be placed on the tube so that the left edge of the label (the patient’s name) starts at the bottom of the cap on the tube. Place the label on top of the manufacturer’s label leaving an open window exposed. The labels must be placed on the tube so that they are straight and lay flat (no wrinkles) – this enables our instruments to successfully read the barcode and perform the necessary tests.

The following pages show you labels and highlight where you will find the pertinent information described above.

Patient identifiers all print at the top of the label. Patient Name on the top line (Line 1) followed by Medical Record Number on Line 2 and DOB on Line 3 on right. Note that patient location, gender and age also print on this ..



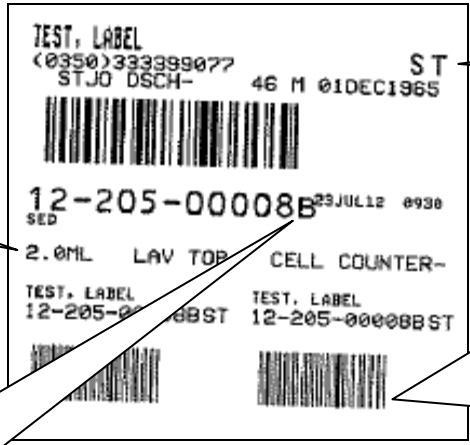
The Accession Number consists of the Julian Date followed by a five digit specimen number and a Container ID (alpha)

Test Names – Multiple tests can print on one label. They must all have same collection requirements and be performed at the same bench.



Collection Date and Time prints beside the accession number

Sample Requirements include volume needed, type of tube and testing location.

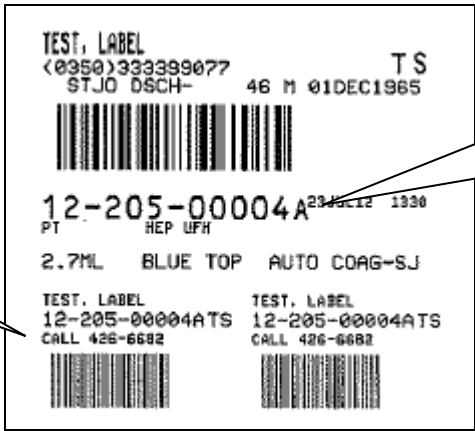


Draw **Priority** prints here

Container ID (A, B, etc) some labels use the same Accn # but differ by container IDs. This is an example of Container B. Container A label is above.

Aliquot Label can be used for pour off tubes, worksheets, logs, labeling slides or other samples. The aliquot label includes: patient name, accession number, test names, priority and any label comments.

Label Comments (if present) print here. Note that in this case a phone number was given for calling results.



Container ID (A, B, etc) some labels use the same Accn # but differ by container IDs. This is an example of Container A.

Age & Sex of patient

Location Code of the patient/provider



Special Handling Requirements are listed here. Refrigerate unless otherwise specified.



DOCUMENT APPROVAL Purpose of Document / Reason for Change:

8/9/12 – New header/format. Revised Purpose. Added Label Component section, minor other edits. Changed from 4 digit accn to 5. Added Container A/B examples. Changed Doc ID due to conflict. Was SPC0800.

Committee Approval Date	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Date: 8/9/12 <input type="checkbox"/> NA – revision of department-specific document which is used at only one facility	Medical Director Approval (Electronic Signature)	8/6/12 <i>Linda D. Burkhardt, M., D.</i>
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