

UW Medicine - Pathology

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Specimen Rejection Policy

Adopted Date: 07/30/10 Revision Date:
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PURPOSE

To define the criteria for the rejection of specimens received by laboratories in Anatomic Pathology.

DEFINITIONS

Unlabeled Specimen:

- Specimen with no patient identifiers (i.e. patient name, patient medical record number)

Mislabeled Specimen:

- Specimen that has not been labeled with two patient identifiers.
- Specimen labeled with a patient name and/or medical record number that differ from those on the accompanying laboratory request form.
- Specimen labeled with a wrong name and/or medical record number / date of birth.

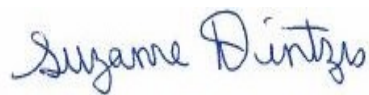
POLICY

All specimens must be properly labeled to ensure patient safety and prevent errors in diagnosis and treatment. Anatomic Pathology laboratories will not accept unlabeled and/or mislabeled specimens. See UWMC APOP policy 65-4, Labeling Requirements for Laboratory Specimens and Handling of Mislabeled Specimen or HMC APOP 65.1, Laboratory Specimen, Mislabeled (depending on originating institution) for further details.

REFERENCE

- UWMC APOP Policy 65-4: Labeling Requirements for Laboratory Specimens and Handling of Mislabeled Specimens
<https://uwmc.uwmedicine.org/sites/PoliciesProcedures/apop/Pages/65-4.aspx>
- UWMC APOP 85-29: Use of 2 Patient Identifiers
<https://uwmc.uwmedicine.org/sites/PoliciesProcedures/apop/Pages/85-29.aspx>
- HMC APOP 65.1: Laboratory Specimens, Mislabeled
<https://hmc.uwmedicine.org/PolicyProcedure/Pages/LABORATORYSPECIMENS.MISLABEL/ED651.aspx>

UWMC Pathology Chief of Service:
(Signature and Date)

 6/4/13

Suzanne Dintzis, MD, PhD

HMC Pathology Chief of Service:
(Signature and Date)

 6/4/13

Stephen Schmechel, MD, PhD

Written by:
(Signature and Date)

Kim Simmons 07/30/2010

Revised by:
(Signature and Date)

Maureen Griffo