Two Patient Specimen IDs Required for Testing

**WHAT’S NEW?**

**After January 1, 2014**

- Specimens without at least two patient identifiers will not be accepted for laboratory testing.
- When specimens without proper identification are received at the laboratory, your office will be called to schedule a recollect with your patient and a new specimen correctly labeled with identifying information will need to be submitted.

**HOW TO**

- Always label specimens at the time of collection and in the presence of the patient.
- A minimum of two unique patient identifiers are required on each specimen label and laboratory requisition/order.

**TWO PATIENT IDs REQUIRED:**

1. Patient’s full legal name; first and last.
2. Your choice of any of the following:
   - Date of birth
   - Laboratory requisition/order number
   - Medical record number

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**Standard Requisition**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LAST NAME</th>
<th>FIRST</th>
<th>MI</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SEX</td>
<td>DOB</td>
<td>SSN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PATIENT PHONE</td>
<td>CHART # / PID #</td>
<td>□ GENETIC OPT OUT</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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WHY?
Improving the accuracy of patient identification is one of the National Patient Safety Goals implemented by The Joint Commission and the College of American Pathologists.

Correct patient identification is critical to timely and appropriate patient care in all areas of health care.

Unique patient identifiers are essential for accurate patient diagnosis and treatment as well as billing, insurance and record keeping.

As many patients have the same, or similar, names, labeling laboratory specimens with two patient identifiers is necessary to identify your patients uniquely across the continuum of care and multiple processes.

QUESTIONS?
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