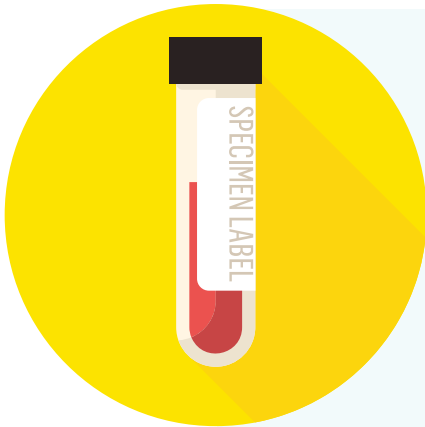


# Specimen Labeling Requirements



To ensure quality and accuracy in our testing, all specimens submitted to the North Oaks Department of Laboratories for processing **MUST BE PROPERLY LABELED** with a minimum of **TWO PATIENT IDENTIFIERS**. However, when more than two patient identifiers are submitted, the level of patient safety is improved. All collection information should also be provided to ensure specimen integrity.

## ACCEPTABLE PATIENT IDENTIFIERS ARE THE PATIENT'S:

- First and last name
- North Oaks Medical Record Number (if available)
- Social Security Number
- Date of birth.

## IN ADDITION, SPECIMEN LABEL MUST CONTAIN THE FOLLOWING:

- Time of collection
- Date of collection
- Collector's initials
- Facility name (if possible)
- Source, if other than blood.

To ensure optimal safety, best practice is to include as many patient identifiers as possible.

All specimens must be labeled **INDIVIDUALLY**. Any improperly labeled specimens will not be tested. The rejected specimens will need to be recollected and resubmitted for testing.

Note: Specimens collected for cultures also must be labeled with the source of the specimen (i.e., left arm, right leg). Please identify urine specimens as either Clean Catch (CCMS) or Catheterization (CATH).

