



Specimen Collection Labels

Reliable Specimen Collection Labels Ensure Accurate Results

Misidentification of specimens is a common preventable medical error that often leads to unnecessary sample redraws, retesting and additional treatments¹ at an estimated cost of \$200 million to \$400 million USD per year.² Preventable specimen collection errors not only put patient care at risk and increase costs but represent a drain on resources.

The labels chosen to identify specimens are critical in preventing specimen collection errors from the time the sample is collected through the laboratory testing and reporting of results. While this may seem simple, there are hundreds of direct thermal label materials in the market and not all of them are engineered to perform well in this application. Another key consideration is accurate identification and timely processing of STAT specimens. This is typically a manual process where a red marker is used to mark the label.

Zebra Specimen Collection Labels

Zebra offers solutions that work with your Laboratory Information System (LIS) in a variety of material types to meet your application. We even offer labels that automate STAT indication by enabling the print of red on demand with your Zebra mobile and desktop printers providing a flexible, efficient and accurate alternative to using red markers.

Material	Description
Z-Perform 2000D* Z-Select 2000D**	Direct thermal paper label with an all-temp acrylic adhesive
8000D Lab*	Direct thermal paper label with a permanent acrylic adhesive specifically designed to adhere to small, curved surfaces
PolyPro 4000D	Direct thermal matte polypropylene label with an all-temp acrylic adhesive; waterproof
IQ Color 2000D	Direct thermal paper label with a permanent acrylic adhesive. Invisible red ink on the left edge of the label can be activated to automate indication of STAT processing

Zebra labeling solutions support the CLSI AUTO12-A standard

The Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute (CLSI) developed AUTO12-A standards to prevent specimens in clinical laboratories from being mislabeled. AUTO12-A standards specify label sizes and locations and formats for data required to be human-readable, such as a patient's name. The standards also specify how to truncate long patient names, location and size of barcodes on labels, orientation of labels on specimen tubes and other requirements. Zebra labels are available in the label sizes listed in this standard to fit the data required and have been tested to ensure image durability and reliable securement to ensure specimens remain identifiable until lab testing has been completed.

Sources

1. Paul N. Valenstein, MD; Stephen S. Raab, MD; Molly K. Walsh, PhD, "Identification Errors Involving Clinical Laboratories: A College of American Pathologists Q-Probes Study of Patient and Specimen Identification Errors at 120 Institutions," Archives of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine: Vol. 130, No. 8, pp. 1106-1113.
2. Benefiting from Bedside Specimen Labeling," white paper, Zebra Technologies, 2016.

*Not available in EMEA
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