

Avera McKennan Regional Laboratory Required Labeling for Blood Bank Testing

Tests for which Blood Bank labeling requirements apply:

ABO & Rh Type	Antibody screen
Antibody Identification	Direct Antiglobulin Testing (DAT)
OB Panels	Type & Screen and/or Type & Crossmatch

Specimen Labeling Requirements:

The following information is determined to be **MANDATORY** to allow a 3-point positive patient identification for all blood bank specimens and requisitions:

- Patient Full name (Last Name, First Name, & MI if known)
- Patient Date of Birth
- Social Security Number or facility permanent identification number (refer to specifics listed below)
- Date/Time Specimen Collected
- Phlebotomist initials

Unique Patient Identification Number – Social Security Number:

For Avera McKennan Regional Laboratory outreach blood bank testing, the patient's social security number is considered the unique patient identification number. The utilization of this number allows a complete blood bank patient historical verification on previous testing that has been performed on this patient within the Avera McKennan system. This historical verification assists with identifying potential specimen collection and testing errors. Without the social security number, this quality verification can not be performed.

In the event that the patient refuses to provide a valid social security number or due to patient status does not have a social security number, an alternative originating facility unique patient identifier must be assigned. This unique patient identification number must be present on both the specimen tube submitted for testing and on the requisition. Use of an identifier other than the SSN will NOT permit historical blood bank patient verification on previous testing.

Special Hand Labeling Requirement for Transfusion-Related Testing (Type & Screen, Type & Crossmatch, and/or Crossmatch only testing):

- Blood bank specimens drawn for the possibility of transfusion of blood products must be **hand labeled**.
- Specimens labeled with only a computer generated specimen label **will not be accepted for testing**.
 - o The specimen submitted will be discarded and the patient will need to be redrawn and labeled appropriately for testing.

Note: A computer generated label may also be on the specimen tube; but duplicate hand labeling must be completed as required.

Non-Transfusion Related Testing:

Computer generated specimen labels may be used for labeling blood bank specimens that are not submitted for transfusion-related testing. This testing includes: OB Panel, DAT, ABO and RH Type (ordered as non-transfusion related testing). Computer labels **must include** all required information as identified above. Information not on the computer label may be hand-written on the specimen.

Special Note:

All labeling on the specimen tube(s) must be identical to the patient information on the requisition. If discrepancies exist, testing will not be performed until the client has been contacted and the discrepancy resolved. Specimen labeling or requisition discrepancies that do not allow positive patient identification (<3 point positive ID and discrepancy is not straightforward omission or clerical/transcription error) will require that the specimen be discarded and testing will not be performed. Examples of obvious omission/clerical errors include: inverting letter in names – Nielsen/Neilsen; common suffix misspelling – Nielsen/Nielson; date of birth or ID number 1 digit variance – 555-000-1234/554-000-1234; digits inversed 555-000-1234/555-000-1243; shortened name – Barbara/Barb or Thomas/Tom