

REMINDER



URGENT UPDATE – SPECIMEN LABELING

TO: Pee Dee Pathology Clients

DATE: February 2, 2010

FROM: Dennison B. Robey, M.D., Medical Director
Martha Branton, Marketing / Client Services

RE: Labeling Protocol for Biopsy and Pap Specimen Containers

According to CAP (College of American Pathology) guidelines, all specimens received by a laboratory must have two patient identifiers on the specimen container. Along with the patient's first and last name, either their date of birth, chart number or social security must be included on the specimen container. The patient information on the container must match the information on the requisition accompanying the specimen. Biopsy containers must include the specimen source, in addition, to the two patient identifiers.

Specimen containers received without the patient's name and one other identifier must be returned to the office for correction, therefore affecting the timeliness of the final diagnosis.

Due to limited space on specimen containers for the patient's name and source, we have printed labels to facilitate the specimen preparation process.

If you have questions or would like additional labels, please contact Martha Branton at 843-229-0817 or the laboratory staff at 843-664-4314.

Improper:
Specimen has "1"
identifier on the
label



Proper:
Specimen has "2"
identifiers on the
label

