

Specimen Submission Identification Requirements

We want to ensure the proper identification of each specimen received at the lab. This requirement assures positive identifications and optimum integrity of patient specimens from time of collection until testing is completed and results reported. SSM SLUCare Physician Group Toxicology Laboratory follows the College of American Pathologists (CAP) **GEN 40700** requirement that all specimen containers are labeled by at least 2 identifiers. The practice of using two patient identifiers is essential in improving the reliability of the patient identification process. Following these requirements safeguards that the results will be admissible in court. These guidelines are also supported by the Missouri State Highway Patrol Forensic Laboratory *Forensic Evidence Handbook* (Page 30, Section III). Please ensure the sample collectors are using two patient identifiers, per specimen, upon collection. We greatly appreciate your cooperation and thank you for choosing our Toxicology Laboratory for your toxicology needs. Please reach out to the tox lab at 314-615-0822 or SLUToxicology@ssmhealth.com with any questions or concerns.

Our specimen submission requirements include:

- 1) The patient's full name written exactly as it appears on the test requisition (**e.g., Doe, Jane**)
- 2) The second patient identifier may be one of the following:
 - a. Date of birth (month/day/year)
 - b. Medical case number (MRN)
 - c. Agency case number

Also required on the specimen containers:

- 1) Date and time of collection, with the initials of the individual performing the collection.
- 2) Indicate the type of specimen in each collection device (**e.g., blood, urine, serum**)

****Each specimen must have a securely affixed label with the information mentioned above: If the label is handwritten, use smudge-proof pen and write legibly.***