

Patient Safety

This is at the heart of laboratory practice and sample acceptance, rejection and correct labelling is of paramount importance to the analytical process. The majority of errors in testing occur at the pre-analytical stage at the point where the samples are taken and labelled. In order for the laboratory to uphold its commitment to producing high quality test results and returning them to service users in a timely manner, the latter must ensure that a valid and correctly labelled sample is provided. The laboratories have produced a number of policies (see below) to guide service users in the provision of a valid sample and these are available on the Trust website.

Policies:

- Sample Acceptance and Rejection Policy (available on the handbook)
- Patient Identification- Policy for the correct identification of patients (available on Trust intranet)
- Specimen Transport Policy (available on handbook)