“Nothing is more important to the effectiveness of a laboratory than a specimen that has been appropriately selected, collected, labeled, and transported.”
We may seem fussy but . . .

we are highly regulated by federal agencies and personally committed to exceptional patient care.
Automation & barcodes are here to stay!
Consistent and uniform barcode placement mean:

- Optimum turn around time
- Accurate test identification
- Specific patient data
Without proper barcoding, our instruments get terribly confused!
So when it comes to specimen collection, labeling, identification, and transportation, we need your help!
Limit ONE label per tube

Above vacutainer label

Below cap

Edge of colored stripe visible

Left to right placement

Straight up and down
Labels

Limit
ONE
label per tube

Correct
Incorrect
LABELS

ABOVE vacutainer label

Correct  Incorrect
LABELS

BELOW cap

Correct  Incorrect

Stuck to cap
LABELS

EDGE of colored stripe should be visible

Leave “window” open

Correct

Incorrect

Label covers window
Labels

Left to right placement

- Test and Cerner # to the left
- Barcode to the right

Correct

Incorrect
LABELS

STRAIGHT up and down
Don’t forget . . .
this motley crew
needs to follow the
dress code →
The wrinkled look
The scarf
The turtleneck
The layered look
The wrap around
The cinched belt
Topsy Turvey
Upside down
Undressed !
Worst Dressed Tubes

- Wrinkled
- Turtleneck
- The Wrap Around
- Cinched Belt
- Twisted Shirt
- Flying Ace Scarf
- Topsy Turvy Label

Best Dressed Tube

- Place label directly under cap
- Barcode straight
- Hospital Gown Look is IN!
- Leave visible window to see blood
- Collector's USER ID
- NAME at the TOP
Quality In from the clinician to the laboratory Quality Out