



Cervical Smear Labelling

Pathlab are continuing to invest resources in ensuring specimen integrity throughout the reporting process. Primary specimen labelling is now our largest source of error within the reporting pathway.

We see a steady stream of mislabelled specimens.

The consequences of a labelling error not being detected or resolved can be disastrous.

I would like to remind everyone about our specimen labelling policies.

If there is any risk of confusion as to who a sample belongs to, all involved samples will be regarded as unsatisfactory and a repeat test will be required.

On occasion when a specimen is incompletely labelled and all other aspects of identification and tracking are intact, we may allow identification to be completed by the original requestor only.

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CLINICAL UPDATE