

# Specimen Integrity | Avoid Canceled Tests

## Specimen Labeling

### VERIFY LABEL



### CORRECT LABELING



- ✓ Patient name oriented towards top
- ✓ Placed under cap
- ✓ Flat and smooth
- ✓ Barcode straight

### INCORRECT LABELING STOPS the automation system, causing delays

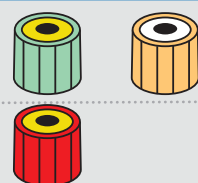


- ✗ Wrinkled
- ✗ Too low
- ✗ Bunched

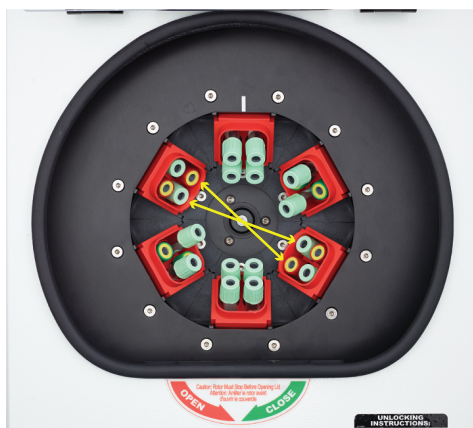
## Centrifuge Gel Tubes

Centrifuge immediately after draw

Centrifuge after fully clotted  
Minimum 1/2 hour



### Drucker 755



### Drucker 642



- ✓ Opposing tube carriers/tubes must be identical
- ✓ Opposing tube carriers must be empty or loaded with an equal number of equally weighted samples
- ✓ If spinning an odd number of tubes, use a water-filled tube mated with the unpaired one

## Properly Spun Tube

- ✓ Centrifuge before refrigerating
- ✓ Inspect tubes for proper separation
- ✓ DO NOT recentrifuge



Plasma

Gel

Red blood cells

## Common Errors



### Unspun Tube

- Gel on bottom
- No separation of red blood cells from plasma

Spin immediately



### Unspun Tube Left Standing

- Gel on bottom
- Natural separation of red blood cells from plasma

Spin immediately



### Poorly Spun

- Plasma is pink to red due to red blood cell presence
- No complete gel barrier

Properly balance centrifuge



### Clotted

- Clots adhere to tube when tilted

Invert tube IMMEDIATELY after draw



### Quantity Not Sufficient (QNS)

- Draw range requirement not met

Use fill line/range as a visual guide



### Hemolysis

- Plasma is pink or red

Follow proper specimen collection