



MEHARRY MEDICAL COLLEGE

**Sickle Cell • CENTER** 

School of Medicine

## **Blood Tube Labeling Procedures**

When submitting a blood specimen to us, please make sure to properly label the tube with patient name, date of birth (DOB) and date of collection (DOC). Following the Joint Commission National Patient Safety Goals, specimens should be labeled at the patient's site by the originating party. Unlabeled Sample Tubes received in our laboratory will not be processed. An unsatisfactory report with unlabeled specimen code will be issued and no testing will be performed in such specimen. A full report with results will be generated upon receipt of a properly labeled specimen.

Kindly, remember that the Sample Request Form (SRF) needs to be filled out completely, accurately and legibly. **Incomplete forms or forms without return address will delay test results.** Please download the SRF from the Meharry website: <http://sicklecell.mmc.edu>, where you can find the SRF in English and Spanish.

Our regular turn-around-time is 14 days, and it is calculated from the time the specimen is received in the laboratory to the time the results are mailed out to you. Specimens involving rare hemoglobin variants may require additional time for testing in order to properly identify the hemoglobinopathy involved. These specimens may have an extended turn-around-time depending on the complexity of the hemoglobin variants. You will receive a notification from us requesting additional time for testing or stating that the specimen is pending.

If you have any questions please contact us at 615-327-6763 or email us at [sickle\\_cell@mmc.edu](mailto:sickle_cell@mmc.edu)