

## 1.6 Specimen Handling

AIM: Specimen handling is dealt with promptly and in a way that reduces the risk of cross infection

Criteria:	Achieved in Full	Partially Achieved	Not Achieved	Action Plan & Review Date
1. The practice has a comprehensive policy for Specimen Handling	✓			Sept 2021.
2. All practice staff handling specimens are trained in spillage, hand washing, PPE, spillage kits	✓			Sept 2021.
3. Gloves are to be worn by any member of staff who handles clinical specimens – including reception staff	✓			Sept 2021.
4. Specimens that are sent to the microbiology laboratory are in an appropriate container and conform to the current transportation of dangerous good regulations. Those sent in the post should conform to current UN regulation	✓			Sept 2021.
5. Patients are provided with appropriate specimen containers if required to produce specimens at home		✓		Sept 2021. <i>New process being implemented.</i>
6. Specimens are sealed in designated plastic transit bags and kept in a designated area	✓			Sept 2021
<b>Totals</b>				

## 1.6 Specimen Handling continued

Criteria:	Achieved in Full	Partially Achieved	Not Achieved	Action Plan & Review Date
7. Fridges used for the storage of specimens are not be used to store food or vaccine <small>45,46,47,48</small>	✓			Sept 2021
8. Specimens are transported in leak-resistant containers <small>50</small>	✓			Sept 2021
9. Specimen containers are visibly clean <small>45,46</small>	✓			Sept 2021
10. Specimens tested on site are discarded as per policy <small>45,46,48</small>	✓			Sept 2021.
<b>Totals</b>				

## 1.6 Practice review

A. What lessons did the practice discover from carrying out this audit?

Some patients do drop off samples in jars or bottles.

B. What changes, if any have the practice agreed to implement as a result of this audit?

Receptionists & clinicians are actively encouraging correct bottle use as much as possible.

C. What support would enable the practice to enhance the service it provides to patients?

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This audit was compiled by:

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