


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	✓			
2. All practice staff handling specimens are trained in spillage, hand washing, PPE, spillage kits	✓			
3. Gloves are to be worn by any member of staff who handles clinical specimens – including reception staff	✓			
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	✓			
5. Patients are provided with appropriate specimen containers if required to produce specimens at home	✓			
6. Specimens are sealed in designated plastic transit bags and kept in a designated area	✓			
Totals	6.			10/8/22

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 ^{45,46,47,48}	✓			
8. Specimens are transported in leak-resistant containers ⁵⁰	✓			
9. Specimen containers are visibly clean ^{45,46}	✓			
10. Specimens tested on site are discarded as per policy ^{45,46,48}	✓			
Totals	P/O ✓			 14/8/22

1.6 Practice review

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

We have adequate systems in place.
We need to continue to have zero tolerance of specimens dropped into surgery in unsuitable containers.

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

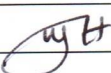
Ongoing review

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

Team approach. Early reporting of concerns.

This audit was compiled by:

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Date: 10/8/22.