SFHCHS186 - SQA Code HD24 04
Store specimens and samples

Overview

This standard has a broad application which deals with the storage of specimens and samples before or after preparation and either prior to or following diagnostic investigations have been completed.

Users of this standard will need to ensure that practice reflects up to date information and policies.

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Performance criteria

You must be able to:

- P1 follow the appropriate standing operating procedures, policies and protocols for the method of collection and biological containment level
- P2 communicate required information to others clearly, accurately and in a timely fashion
- P3 ensure unique identifier is attached to specimen/sample and its documentation and retained throughout specimen sample life
- P4 ensure `chain of custody' is maintained, where appropriate
- P5 identify specimens/samples with special storage or retention requirements and ensure that appropriate action is taken
- P6 store the specimen/sample in the appropriate container, location, condition, and time period
- P7 recognise and respond appropriately when specimen/sample integrity is compromised due to storage conditions failure
- P8 monitor and record the conditions of the storage to meet quality and audit trail

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

K1 relevant statutory, regulatory and legislative requirements and guidance

K2 the relevant standard operating procedures, policies and their importance

K3 your limitations to practice and an understanding of the importance of working within these in a clinical context

K4 how to communicate with individuals to explain procedures and reassure, including those with special needs

K5 the importance of the unique identifier

K6 recognition of types of specimens, primary and secondary samples and suitable containers

K7 the importance of selection of appropriate containers for different types of specimens/samples and safe and secure storage

K8 the correct location for the storage of different types of specimens/samples and processing pathways

K9 factors affecting the condition of specimen/samples during storage

K10 action to be taken when specimen integrity is compromised due to systems failure

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Additional Information

External Links

This standard links with the following dimension within the NHS Knowledge and Skills Framework (October 2004):

Dimension: HWB8 Biomedical investigation and intervention

The candidate and assessor must only sign below when all Performance Criteria and Knowledge points have been met.

Unit assessed as being complete

Candidate's Name:	
Candidate's Signature:	
Date submitted to assessor as complete:	

Assessor's Name:	
Assessor's Signature:	
Date assessed as complete:	

Internal Verification —

to be completed in accordance with centre's IV strategy

Evidence for this Unit was sampled on the following date/s:	**IV's Signature**	**IV's Name**

This Unit has been subject to an admin check in keeping with the centre's IV strategy.

Date of admin check	**IV's Signature**	**IV's Name**

Unit completion confirmed

IV's Name:	
IV's Signature:	
Date complete:	