



CLIENT SUBMITTED CONTROL SPECIMEN COLLECTION INSTRUCTIONS FOR LIVE CELL ASSAYS

Use this guide when ordering the following tests:

- [0096056](#) Lymphocyte Antigen and Mitogen Proliferation Panel
- [0096055](#) Lymphocyte Antigen Proliferation
- [0096043](#) Lymphocyte Mitogen Proliferation
- [0051589](#) Toll-Like Receptor Function
- [0096657](#) Neutrophil Oxidative Burst Assay (DHR)

Overview

ARUP strongly encourages submission of a **client-collected healthy control specimen with the patient specimen** for these assays.

The purpose of this control specimen is to evaluate conditions of collection, transport, and handling. Live cells within whole blood are sensitive to temperature fluctuations and physical forces during collection and transport. If a client-collected control sample is not included, it may not be possible to differentiate whether an abnormal patient result is due to effects of collection/transport/handling or an actual disease condition.

Healthy Control Donor Criteria:

A specimen from any available and willing individual (including hospital or caregiving staff) may be used as the control, as long as the individual considers themselves to be healthy and is **not**:

- A genetic relative of the patient
- Another patient (regardless of condition)
- Taking any immunosuppressive or anti-inflammatory medications
 - Note: immunosuppressive and anti-inflammatory medications may affect the function of white blood cells.
- Affected with a medical condition similar to the patient being tested

The donor does **not** need to be the same age, sex, or race as the patient.

The same donor may be used as a control for multiple patient specimens collected on the same day. Refer to the “**Instructions for Shared Control for Multiple Patients**” section.

Instructions for Control Specimen Collection:

- The control specimen should be:
 - Drawn the same day as the patient specimen
 - Drawn at the same facility as the patient specimen
 - Shipped with the patient specimen in the same shipment

Instructions for Control Specimen Tube Labeling:

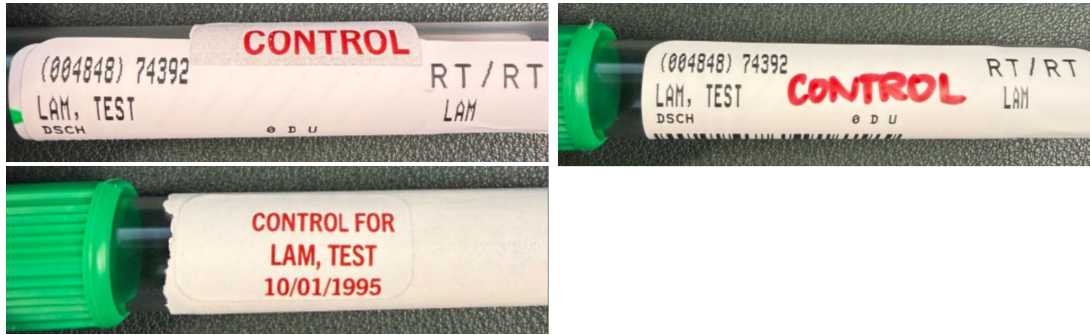
Ideally, extra patient labels should be printed and attached to each control specimen tube with the full word “CONTROL” included.

If this is not feasible, then the following **must** be included on the control tube label, which must be the topmost visible label:

- 2 unique patient identifiers (e.g., patient name and birthdate)
 - If this information is not included, control testing will not be performed.
- The full word “CONTROL” (legibly written or printed) on the label.
 - Do **not** use abbreviations, shorthand, or acronyms. For example, tubes labeled Ctrl, Cntrl, C, Cont. etc. are **not** considered adequately labeled.
- Do **not** cover, overlap, or obscure the “CONTROL” label with secondary stickers. The full word must always remain 100% visible.

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ACCEPTABLE CONTROL SPECIMEN TUBE LABELING EXAMPLES



Instructions for Shared Control for Multiple Patients:

☐ The same healthy donor control specimen may be used as a control for multiple patients, as long as the Healthy Control Donor Criteria are met, the Instructions for Control Specimen Collection are followed, **and**:

- The control and patient specimens are all drawn the same day
- The control and patient specimens are all drawn at the same facility
- All tubes (patient specimens and control specimen) are shipped together in the same shipment

The patients for which the shared control specimen is to be used should be clearly indicated as follows:

- Adhere an extra printed label from one of the patients to the control tube(s)
- Clearly write or print the words "SHARED CONTROL" on the label(s)
- On the requisition paperwork, include the phrase "Control to be used for" followed by the names of **all** of the patients for whom the healthy control specimen(s) should be used

ACCEPTABLE SHARED CONTROL SPECIMEN LABEL EXAMPLE

