

Using the Work List for Lab Specimen Collection and Barcode Scanning



For Inpatient Nursing

Before Collecting the Specimen:

Before you begin, gather all needed supplies for specimen collection at patient bedside, including lab tubes, needles and a wireless printer (if applicable).

1. At the patient bedside, open the patient's record and navigate to your **Work List**.
2. Select the **Print Label** button next to your order.
3. Scan the patient's armband when prompted.
4. The lab order selected will default with a checked box. You can choose multiple labs.
 - Additional labs scheduled two hours ahead and four hours previous are available to select.
5. Select the printer. When complete, the **Label Printer** field will be populated with the printer ID.
 - If the label printer field is blank, enter the printer name or scan the barcode label on the printer.
 - If a hard-wired printer is available, the label printer name will appear by default (no need to scan).
6. Click the **Print Label** button and follow your normal workflow of labeling the specimen.

After Collecting the Specimen:

After collecting the specimen and placing the labels on the specimen container, navigate to the **Work List**. It is now time to collect the specimen in Epic.

1. Select the **Collect** button next to the correct order.
 - If you print the specimen label, then immediately proceed to collect, you will get a **Processing Specimen** notice. Wait for the labels to print and for the barcode ID to cross over to Epic before selecting the **Collect** button.
 - If you need to reprint the specimen label, press the **Reprint Label** button.
2. Scan the specimen label when prompted.
3. The **Collection Date** and **Time** will fill in automatically. You can manually update this now, if needed.
4. Click **Accept**.
5. When complete, a green checkmark will indicate that you have successfully completed the task. Completed tasks can be seen on the **Work List** activity by selecting the **Completed** filter.

Using the Brain:

Although the **Brain** may also be used for specimen collection, the **Work List** is preferred. When collecting specimens using the **Brain**, you'll be prompted to scan the patient's armband when printing the label and before collecting the specimen.

For more information, visit it.houstonmethodist.org/specimenscanning/

For technical assistance, contact the IT Help Desk at **832.667.5600** or helpdesk@houstonmethodist.org.