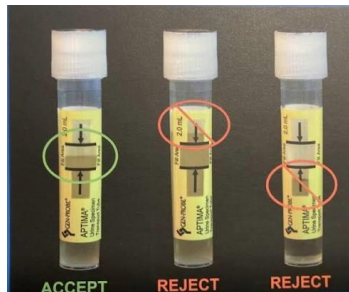


Laboratory Update

Specimen Collection Reminders: Aptima & QuantiFERON Fill Volumes

Proper specimen collection is critical to ensuring accurate test results and preventing delays in patient care. Recently, we have seen an increase in specimens being rejected due to incorrect fill volumes. Please review the requirements below and share with all staff involved in specimen collection.



APTIMA Urine Collection Tubes: For Aptima urine testing, the transfer tube must be filled within the black fill window indicated on the tube. When the specimen volume falls outside the designated fill range, the ratio of urine to transport media is altered. This can affect test performance and result accuracy. Specimens collected outside the acceptable range must be rejected and recollected.



QuantiFERON-TB Gold Collection Tubes: Each QuantiFERON tube contains a specific amount of blood collection and processing reagents. To ensure proper test performance, blood must be collected within the black target box on the tube label. An incorrect blood volume can lead to improper antigen-to-blood ratios, potentially affecting the immune response measured by the assay and resulting in inaccurate or indeterminate results. We have recently observed an increase in overfilled QuantiFERON tubes. Please pay close attention to fill levels during collection.

Thank you for your attention to these important collection requirements and for your continued partnership in providing high-quality patient care.