Processing Specimens without a Medical Record Number (MRN)

**Policy**

Specimens from patients of non-UTMB facilities or healthcare providers sent to UTMB for lab tests are not issued unique permanent patient medical record numbers (MRN) in the Patient Care Database and no medical record is created.

The UTMB department receiving the specimen for testing may choose to use either a unique institution number or reference number to identify the non-UTMB patient’s specimen.

Clinical data generated by UTMB physicians and other healthcare providers when UTMB is performing a test on a specimen at the request of a non-UTMB healthcare provider is not maintained within a UTMB permanent unit medical record.

UTMB departments originating the data are responsible for maintaining copies of that data as prescribed by their retention schedules.

**References**

Pathology Policy 10.022 *Outside Registration/Order of Non-UTMB Facilities*