

**SPECIMEN REQUIREMENT
REMINDER**

NOTIFICATION DATE: October 5, 2010
EFFECTIVE DATE: Immediately

SHIPPING CONTROL REQUIRED

EXPLANATION: A control specimen drawn at the same time from a normal, unrelated, non-smoking individual must be submitted along with the patient sample(s) for the tests below. **If a control specimen is not received with the patient specimen, testing will be canceled.**

9064	Osmotic Fragility, Erythrocytes
9110	Oxygen Dissociation, P(50), Erythrocytes
81087	Hereditary Spherocytosis Evaluation

- Label the control specimen clearly on the outermost label as “normal control” and specify as either male or female
- Rubber band patient specimen(s) and control vial together and transport at refrigerate temperature.

These additional evaluation panels below also contain Osmotic Fragility or Oxygen Dissociation, as part of their total evaluation, and only the individual component will be subject to cancellation if a control vial is not received. The remainder of the tests included in each evaluation will be completed.

84157	Hemolytic Anemia Evaluation
84160	Erythrocytosis Evaluation

When a normal control does not accompany the patients' sample(s) we are unable to report results and the test will be canceled.

Test results from these assays are compromised by fluctuations in temperature during processing and transport, and it is imperative that specimens are properly maintained at the appropriate refrigerated temperature from the time they are drawn to the point of testing. The sole purpose of the control is to monitor the shipping and handling conditions that the patient specimens are subjected to while in route to the testing laboratory. It is not to be confused with, nor utilized as, an assay control. When results for the control are satisfactory the testing lab can ensure that the patient test results have not been compromised due to external shipping and handling conditions.