A picture containing wall, brush, LEGO, indoor

Description automatically generatedA picture containing LEGO, indoor

Description automatically generatedA picture containing indoor, art

Description automatically generatedA picture containing indoor, art

Description automatically generatedA picture containing LEGO, indoor

Description automatically generated

Help yourself, help others and help the patient

by providing good quality barcodes.

**Frequent causes of failed barcodes have been identified as…**

* Poor quality of printed form and labels due to lack of toner
* Misalignment / Skewed barcode on the sample
* Wrong colour coded label being put on the sample
* Label being placed too low down on the sample tube
* Ripped or smudged barcodes due to excessive handling

**Please would requestors check…**

* There is sufficient toner to give clear and bold barcodes
* Forms are correctly aligned with printers

**Please would blood takers ensure…**

* Labels are applied without touching the printed barcode
* Labels are positioned straight and centrally
* Tube contents are visible by leaving a verical gap
* The label matches the tube – colour codes must be correct
* The top of the label starts *just* under the lid of the tube

Results for samples with poor quality barcodes may be delayed, or delay other results, sometimes considerably. Additionally, some samples with extremely faint prints may be rejected altogether.

It is essential that the integrity of the barcode on

the sample is not comprpomised

**SMUDGED**

**RIPPED**

**TOO LOW**

**SKEWED**

**PERFECT**

Quality of Barcode Labels Guide