

Critical Tests and Values List

From Document: Verbal Reporting of Critical Tests and Values Policy

Critical Tests					
Test	Result	Units	Comments		Laboratory
Gram stains from the OR	On Request	N/A	Call directly to the OR room		Microbiology
Frozen section diagnosis	All results	N/A	Call directly to the OR room		Gross Room (Surgical Pathology)
Cytogenetic karyotypes and/or FISH	All abnormal“STAT” NICU bloods < 7 days old	N/A	Call to NICU nurse or Medical Geneticist		Cytogenetics
Ethylene glycol	All results for those ordered “STAT” to UPMC	As reported by UPMC	Call caregiver on floor with result		Send out testing
Lactic Acid (Lactate)	≥ 4.0	mmol/L	First time elevated result on inpatients and outpatients or ≥ 24 hours from previous specimen collection time		Chemistry
Critical Results					
Test	Result (Low)	Result (High)	Units	Comments/Criteria	Laboratory
Acetaminophen		≥ 120	ug/mL		Chemistry
Alcohol (Ethanol)		≥ 250	mg/dL		Chemistry
Amikacin		>8.0 Trough	ug/mL		Chemistry
Amikacin		≥ 35.1 Peak or Random	ug/mL		Chemistry
APTT		> 120 or No Result	seconds		Hematology
Blood Culture		All postive blood cultures are called with the exception of deceased patient samples and ME cases.		Any licensed health care provider	Microbiology
Calcium	≤ 6.5	≥ 13.0	mg/dL		Chemistry
Carbamazepine		≥ 12.1	ug/mL		Chemistry
CJD		Biopsy Proven CJD		In addition to ordering Physician, notify Infection Control Practitioner(s)	Pathology
Cyclosporine		≥ 650 Trough	ng/mL		Chemistry
Cyclosporine		≥ 1500 Peak or Random	ng/mL		Chemistry
Digoxin		≥ 2.1	ng/mL		Chemistry
Fibrinogen	< 100 or No Result		mg/dL		Hematology
Free Phenytoin		≥ 2.1	ug/mL		Chemistry
Gentamicin		> 2.1 Trough	ug/mL		Chemistry
Gentamicin		≥ 10.1 Peak 16Hr or Random	ug/mL		Chemistry
Gentamicin		≥ 40 High Dose	ug/mL		Chemistry
Glucose	≤ 40	≥ 200	mg/dL	< or = 7 days old	Chemistry
Glucose	≤ 40	≥300	mg/dL	> 7 days old -90 days	Chemistry
Glucose	≤ 53	≥400	mg/dl	≥ 91 days old	Chemistry
Glucose on Accucheck	< 40	> 200	mg/dL	NICU and MICC neonates	Point of Care
Glucose on Accucheck	< 50	> 400	mg/dL	All other units	Point of Care
Glucose Tolerance	≤ 53	≥ 400	mg/dL	Call all GLT2 from POC and UTC, If ≥150 tell Phlebotomist to hold glucola and contact ordering physician.	Chemistry
Gram Stain or Culture from CSF		Positive for bacteria			Microbiology

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Hemoglobin	< 10	> 22	gm/dl	< 30 days old	Hematology
Hemoglobin	< 7	> 20	gm/dl	> or = 30 days old	Hematology
HIV-1AB/ HIV-2 AB Confirmation	Any combination of indeterminate and/or negative results following positive HIV screen			Called to the Resident Pathologist (assigned to chemistry and/or on call)	Chemistry
INR		> 5.0 or No Result			Hematology
Lidocaine		≥ 5.1	ug/mL		Chemistry
Lithium		≥ 1.50	mmol/L		Chemistry
Magnesium	≤ 1.0	≥ 5.1	mg/dL		Chemistry
Malaria Stain		Positive		Also call Infectious Disease staff physician	Hematology
ME Panel		Positive		Positive results are reported verbally	Microbiology
Methotrexate		≥ 10.00	umol/L		Chemistry
Osmolality	≤ 250	≥ 350	mOsm/kg	serum or plasma	Chemistry
Phenobarbital		≥ 40.1	ug/mL		Chemistry
Phenytoin		≥ 20.1	ug/mL		Chemistry
Plasma Hemoglobin		>70	mg/dL		Hematology
Platelet count	< 30		THOU/uL	Excluding bone marrow transplant patients	Hematology
Platelet count	>1,000,000		THOU/uL		Hematology
Platelet dependent Antibody (HIT)		Positive		Pathologist will call ordering physician	Hematology
Potassium	≤ 2.5	≥ 8.0	mmol/L	< or = 30 days old	Chemistry
Potassium	≤ 2.8	≥ 6.0	mmol/L	> 30 days old	Chemistry
Salicylate		≥ 50	mg/dL		Chemistry
Sodium	≤ 120	≥ 160	mmol/L		Chemistry
Sweat Chloride	≥30	mmol/L	All ages		Chemistry
Tacrolimus (FK506)		≥15.0	ng/mL		Chemistry
Theophylline		≥ 20.1	ug/mL		Chemistry
Tobramycin		> 2.1 Trough	ug/mL		Chemistry
Tobramycin		≥ 10.1 Peak, 2Hr, 8Hr, 16Hr or Random	ug/mL		Chemistry
Total bilirubin		≥ 15.0	mg/dL	< or = 30 days old	Chemistry
Tricyclic screen		≥ 700	ng/mL		Chemistry
Troponin-I		≥14.0	ng/L	Female ED and OBSU only	Chemistry
		≥ 35.0	ng/L	Male ED and OBSU only	
		≥ 300.0	ng/L	First time elevated result on inpatients and outpatients or ≥ 24 hours from previous specimen collection time	
Urinalysis		Positive ketones or glucose		< 30 days old	Hematology
Urinalysis		Unusually high ketones 50 to ≥ 150, Protein ≥ 500		> 30 days but < 6 months	Hematology
Valproic acid		≥ 101.0	ug/mL		Chemistry
Vancomycin		≥ 25.1 Trough	ug/mL		Chemistry
Vancomycin		≥ 60.0 Peak or Random	ug/mL		Chemistry

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White Cell/Nucleated Cell Count-CSF		>10 Nucleated cells without proportionate RBC increase (bloody specimen)	Leukocytes/ul	>29 days old	Hematology
White Cell/Nucleated Cell Count-CSF		>20 Nucleated cells without proportionate RBC increase (bloody specimen)	Leukocytes/ul	0 to 29 days old	Hematology
Non-Critical, Verbally-Reported Results					
AFB smear or culture		Positive		In addition, notify Infection Control Practitioner(s)	Microbiology
Any growth from sterile sites (except urine) that showed no bacteria in the gram stain					Microbiology
Any suspected organism that may be considered an agent of bioterrorism (Bacillus anthrax, Francisella, etc.)					Microbiology
Toxigenic C. difficile		Positive		Ruby inpatients only	Microbiology
Cryptococcal Antigen		Positive			Microbiology
Culture for Gonorrhea		Positive			Microbiology
E. coli Shiga Toxin		Positive			Microbiology
Enteric pathogen from stool culture		Positive			Microbiology
Giardia/Cryptosporidium screen		Positive			Microbiology
HSV1/HSV2, PCR, CSF, SWAB		Positive in CSF			Molecular
Infectious Disease Alerts to include: ESBL CRE Gram Negative MDR N. meningitidis (CSF, blood, lung)		Recovered in culture		Ruby inpatients only (except N. meningitidis)	Microbiology
Legionella Urine Antigen		Positive		Ruby inpatients only	Microbiology
State Newborn Screen		Abnormal		All abnormal results will be called	Reference lab
Ova and Parasite Test		Positive			Microbiology
RPR		Reactive			Microbiology
S. pneumoniae Urine Antigen		Positive		Ruby inpatients only	Microbiology
Sterility culture sent for internal QC/QA		Positive		May notify Technical Specialist if specimen is from the Laboratory.	Microbiology