

General Lab Critical Values

CRITICAL LABORATORY TEST VALUES

The attending physician or the appropriate designee (i.e. nursing unit, answering service, associate) **MUST** be immediately notified for the following test results. **THE LABORATORY WILL CALL THESE RESULTS EVEN IF THE TEST IS NOT ORDERED STAT.** This applies to both inpatient and outpatient.

HEMATOLOGY

Hemoglobin	< 7.0 g/dl, or decrease of 2g if less than 10
Platelet Count	< 10,000 per cubic mm

COAGULATION

PT/INR	> 5
PTT	> 150 seconds

CHEMISTRY

Glucose	< 40 mg/dl or > 400 mg/dl
Neonatal bilirubin	> 14.0 mg/dl
Troponin (TNI)	Any new elevation

BLOOD GASES AND ELECTROLYTES

Sodium	< 110 mEq/L, or decrease of 5mEq/L if less than 120
Potassium	< 2.8 mEq/L or >6.0 mEq/L
Arterial PO2	< 55 mmHg

MICROBIOLOGY

Blood Cultures	A new positive when the patient is not on any antibiotics
AFB/TB	New positive
CSF Gram Stain	Positive

These are the results that will be called during day shift hours:

- Positive HIV
- Positive malaria smear
- Transfusion of incompatible blood
- Pathology report indicating malignancy
- Abnormal cytogenetic report
- Fresh frozen section report

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