

SOUTH TEXAS LABORATORY CRITICAL VALUES

CAP STANDARDS: COM.30000, COM.30100

When laboratory results fall into the range outlined below, the technologist will promptly call the attending physician or physician on call personally, or the head nurse/charge nurse for the following life threatening laboratory findings. In addition, all critical values communicated verbally or by phone will be "read back to technologist and technologist will document under LIS free text.

CHEMISTRY

Electrolytes

Sodium (Na)	under 130 mEq/L or over 155 mEq/L
Potassium (K)	under 3.3 mEq/L or over 6.0 mEq/L
Calcium	under 7 mg/dl or over 12.0 mg/dl
Magnesium	under 1.0 mEq/L or over 2.5 mEq/L
Bicarbonate (CO ₂)	under 15 mEq/L or over 40 mEq/L
Phosphorous	under 1.5 mg/dl or over 20 mg/dl
Chlorides	under 80 mEq/L or over 115 mEq/L

METABOLITES

Glucose	under 50 mg/dl or over 400 mg/dl
BUN	over 50 mg/dl
Creatinine	over 4 mg/dl
Bilirubin-D	over 2.0 mg/dl
Bilirubin-T	over 8 mg/dl
Albumin	under 1.0 g/dl or over 9 g/dl

ENZYMES

AST	over 150 U/L
ALT	over 200 U/L
LDH	over 300 U/L
Amylase	over 300 U/L
	over 106 U/L
Lipase	
CK	CPK isoenzymes to follow when:
Female	over 170 U/L
Male	over 235 U/L
GGT	over 1000 U/L

HORMONES

T4 (Thyroxine)	Under 1.9 ug/dl or over 20 ug/dl
TSH	<0.01 or >100 uIU/ml

REFERENCE**LABORATORY TESTING**

All reference laboratory testing considered to have a critical value will be called to physician or nurse as received in the clinical laboratory.

HEMATOLOGY

Hemoglobin	under 8.0 g/dl or over 20 g/dl
Hematocrit	under 24% or over 60%
WBC (leukocyte count)	under 3×10^3 /ul or over 25×10^3 /ul
Platelet count	under 50×10^3 /ul or over 1000×10^3 /ul

SEROLOGY

RPR (serum test for syphilis)	All positive results
TP-PA (Syphilis Confirmatory test)	All positive results

BACTERIOLOGY

AFB Smears / Cultures	All positive results
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