Lexington Medical Center
Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine
Alert Values

CHEMISTRY (ext. 2405)	INPATIENT		OUTPATIENT/OUTREACH	
TEST NAME	**LOW ALERT**	**HIGH ALERT**	**LOW ALERT**	**HIGH ALERT**
Ammonia	NA	≥80 µg/dL		
BUN (1st Alert only)	NA	≥100 mg/dL		
Calcium	<6.0 mg/dL	>13.0 mg/dL		
Ca++(Ionized)	<3.2mg/dL	>6.2 mg/dL		
CK, total (1st Alert only)	NA	≥1000 U/L		
CKMB (1st Alert only)	NA	≥100.00 ng/mL		
CO2	<10 meq/L	>40 meq/L		
Creatinine (1st Alert only)	NA	≥7.0 mg/dL		
Glucose	<40 mg/dl	>500 mg/dL	< 50 mg/dL	>500 mg/dL
Lactic Acid	NA	≥4.0 mmol/L		
Magnesium	<1.0 mg/dl	>5.0 mg/dL		
NT-pro BNP	NA	≥10,000 pg/mL		
Osmolality (serum)	<250 mmol/kg	>325 mmol/kg		
Phosphorus	<1.0 mg/dL	NA		
Potassium	<2.6 meq/L	>5.9 meq/L		
RPR	All new positives		All new positives	
Sodium	<120 meq/L	>160 meq/L		
Troponin (1st Alert only)	NA	≥0.045 ng/mL		
Bedside Troponin	NA	>0.04 ng/mL		
Uric Acid	NA	≥13 mg/dL		

NEONATAL	LOW ALERT	HIGH ALERT
Bilirubin (0-13 days)	NA	≥16 mg/dL
Bedside Glucose	<45 mg/dL	>150 mg/dL
Glucose	<45 mg/dL	>150 mg/dL
Potassium	<3.1 meq/L	>6.4 meq/L

THERAPEUTIC DRUGS	Therapeutic Range	High Alert
Acetaminophen	10-30 µg/mL	≥50 µg/mL
Carbamazepine	4-10 µg/mL	≥20 µg/mL
Digoxin	0.9-2.0 ng/mL	≥2.5 ng/mL
Gentamicin	Peak 5-10 µg/mL	≥12 µg/mL
	Trough <2 µg/mL	≥2 µg/mL
Lithium	0.5-1.5 meq/L	≥2.5 meq/L
Phenobarbital	15-40 µg/mL	≥50 µg/mL
Phenytoin	10-20 µg/mL	≥40 µg/mL
Salicylate	2-29 mg/dL	≥30 mg/dL
Theophylline	10-20 µg/mL	≥25 µg/mL
Tobramycin	Peak 5-10 µg/mL	≥12 µg/mL
	Trough <2 µg/mL	≥2 µg/mL
Valproic Acid	50-100 µg/mL	≥200 µg/mL
Vancomycin	Peak 30-40 µg/mL	≥40 µg/mL
	Trough 10-20 µg/mL	≥30 µg/mL

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HEMATOLOGY (ext. 2403)	INPATIENT		OUTPATIENT/OUTREACH	
TEST NAME	**Low Alert**	**High Alert**	**Low Alert**	**High Alert**
Hemoglobin	<7.0 g/dL	>20.0 g/dL	<9.0 g/dL	>20.0 g/dL
	Any decrease of 3 g/dL or more within 48 hrs not post-op		Any decrease of 3 g/dL or more within 48 hrs not post-op	
Hematocrit	<21%	>60%		
Platelet (1st Alert only)	<30 k/µL	>1,000 k/µL	<50 k/µL	>1,000 k/µL
WBC	<0.5 k/µL (10^3)	>100 k/µL (10^3)	<0.5 k/µl (10^3)	>100 k/µL (10^3)
PT		>46.4 sec		
PTT		>100 sec		
Fibrinogen	<60	>800 mg/dL		
Heparin (Unfractionated Assay)		>0.7 U/mL		
Heparin (LMW)		>1.1 U/mL		
INR		>3.94		
Intracellular Bacteria or Yeast				
Morphology	3-4+ vacuolization and/or 3-4+ degranulation			
CSF (WBC) 0 - 14 days		>30		
CSF (WBC) 14 days - adult		>5		

High WBC's are "alerted" to the clinical pathologist on-call who will review the slide, make written report, and/or call physician as most appropriate.

MICROBIOLOGY (ext. 2408)		
TEST NAME	**INPATIENT**	**OUTPATIENT/OUTREACH**
AFB (TB)	Positve direct smear	Positive direct smear
AFB (TB)	All cultured isolates	All culture isolates
Blood culture	Gram stain positive cultures	Gram stain positive cultures
C. difficile toxin	Positive only	Positive only
CSF	Gram Stain (all results)	NA
CSF	Any Isolates	NA
CSF	Cryptococcal Antigen (all results)	NA
Eye culture	Any isolate	NA
Group A Strep	Positive blood culture or positive sterile body sites	Positive blood culture or positive sterile body sites
Group B strep	Positives/inpatient pregnant women only	NA
MRSA Surveillance Screen	All positives	All positives
Norovirus	All positives	NA
Rotavirus	All positives	NA
RSV	All positives	All positives
DHEC reportable isolates	All positives	All positives
Sterile Body Sites & Fluids	Positve gram stains &/or any isolates	Positve gram stains &/or any isolates