

Policy #: MED-CLIN-FS-10.20
Laboratory Critical Values (Active as of Beaker Go-Live 11/7/2026)

Test Name	Critical Values
GENERAL CHEMISTRY/IMMUNOLOGY	
Ammonia	≥199 μmol/L
Glucose	
Glucose (0-2d)	<40 mg/dL / >300 mg/dL
Glucose (≥3d)	<50 mg/dL / >350 mg/dL
Potassium (K)	
Potassium (<1Y)	<3.0 / >7.0 mmol/L
Potassium (>1Y)	<3.0 / >7.0 mmol/L
Bilirubin, Total	
Bilirubin, Total and Indirect (0-5d)	≥15 mg/dL
Bilirubin, Total and Indirect (6-13d)	≥12 mg/dL
Bilirubin, Total and Indirect (≥14d)	≥5 mg/dL
Carboxyhemoglobin (COHb)	≥21%
hCG (Qualitative)	Positive (initial positive per encounter)
Lead	≥40 ug/mL venipuncture only
Methemoglobin (MetHb)	≥15%
Sodium (Na)	<124 / >154 mmol/L
Troponin I	≥0.3 ng/mL
HEMATOLOGY/COAGULATION	
Hemoglobin (IP & OP)	≤7 / >22.5 g/dL
White Blood Cell Count (WBC)	
NCH Inpatient	≤2 / ≥100 x10 ³ /uL
NCH Outpatient	0-1 month ≤2 / ≥40 x10 ³ /uL >1 month ≤2 / ≥20 x10 ³ /uL
Platelet Count	
NCH Inpatient	≤10/ ≥800 cells/μL
NCH Outpatient	≤50/ ≥800 cells/μL
Blast	≥1%
Malaria	1st positive result on a patient
Activated PTT (aPTT)	≥125 sec
Prothrombin Time (PT)	<10 / ≥35 sec
INR	>3.0
DRUG LEVELS	
Acetaminophen	>30 ug/mL
Amikacin (Pre-dose / Trough)	>10 ug/mL
Cyclosporine (Pre-dose)	>500 ng/mL
Drugs of Abuse (Inpatient and ED only)	Positive or indeterminant for all patients <13 years
Ethanol	Positive
Gentamicin (Pre-dose or Trough)	>3.0 ug/mL

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Salicylate	>30 mg/dL
Sirolimus	>18 ng/mL
Tacrolimus	>20 ng/mL
Theophylline	>25 ug/mL
Tobramycin (Pre-dose/Trough)	>3.0 ug/mL
Vancomycin (Pre-dose/Trough)	>40 ug/mL
INFECTIOUS DISEASE	
Positive cultures (bacterial, mycobacterial, fungal, or viral), direct microscopic exams, microbial antigen or PCR-based detection tests on blood, sterile body fluid, tissue, surgically collected urine, or indwelling device (unless the same organism from the associated blood, sterile body fluid, tissue, surgically collected urine or indwelling device has already been called as a critical).	Positive
Any agent of bioterrorism identified in culture	Positive
Measles Virus by PCR	Detected
Mpox DNA, by PCR	Detected
Herpes Simplex Virus (HSV) PCR results on patients <30 days of age	Positive
Acid fast bacilli (AFB) (direct smear, culture, secA sequencing, or ID confirmation)	Positive
<i>Burkholderia cepacia</i> (1st isolate on a CF patient)	Positive
Organism susceptibilities (Vancomycin resistant Enterococcus, Vancomycin intermediate Staphylococcus aureus, Vancomycin resistant Staphylococcus aureus, Carbapenem resistant Enterobacteriaceae, Carbapenemase-producing carbapenem resistant Pseudomonas aeruginosa)	Resistant
Red Cross Blood Products Gram Stain & Culture	Positive
Varicella-Zoster Virus (VZV) PCR on patients <30 days of age	Positive