

CRITICAL READBACK & ALERT CALLS

EAST REGION

A critical readback value is defined as a laboratory test value that may be life threatening and requires immediate clinical attention. Results are given to and read-back by a licensed care-giver (RN, PA, MD). For outpatients, a call is made to the physician's office during office hours; or directly to the physician after office hours.

	ALERT CALLS Inpatients: Call 24/7 Outpatients: Call 0700 - 2200 (Read-Back not required)	CRITICAL READBACK Call both IP and OP 24/7, including Saturdays, Sundays and holidays (Read-Back required by licensed health care provider – RN, PA, MD)
Chemistry		
Amylase	>300 IU/L	
ALT (SGPT)	>500 IU/L	
AST (SGOT)	>500 IU/L	
Bilirubin, Total	>15	
Bilirubin, Total, Newborn	15-20	>20
BUN	>100 mg/dL (outpatient only)	
Calcium NOTE: Do not repeat IP critical read-backs within 7 days or outpatient critical readbacks within 60 days. Alert calls still necessary.	6.5 – 7.0 and 12.5 – 13.0	<6.5 and >13.0 mg/dL
Calcium, Ionized	<0.82 and >3.00 mmol/L	
Carbon Dioxide	<15 and >44 mmol/L	
Chloride	<80 and >115 mmol/L (outpatient only)	
Chloride	<80 (inpatient)	
CK(CPK)	>1000 IU/L (outpatient)	
CK(CPK) MB with CK MB Index (outpatient) Note: CK MB Index is the key value.	>5.0 ng/mL and ≤ 10.0 ng/mL >3.0% and ≤5.0% (outpatient)	>10.0 ng/mL >5.0 %
Creatinine (outpatient) Note: Do not call renal physicians- Dr. Oh, Dr. Provenzano, etc.	>6.0 mg/dL	
Glucose		<50 and >500 mg/dL
Glucose (newborn)		<40 and >300 mg/dL
Lactic Acid	>2.0 and <4.0 mmol/L	>4.0 mmol/L
LDH	>1500 IU/L	
LDH Isoenzymes	BAND 1>2	
Magnesium	<1.0 and 3.5-7.0 mEq/L	>7.0 mEq/L
Phosphorus, Inorganic	<1.0 mg/dL	
pO ₂ (<1 yr old)	>100 mm Hg (<1 year old)	<40 mm Hg (<1 year old)
pO ₂ -Arterial (>1 yr old)		<40 mm Hg (>1 year old)
pCO ₂ (arterial)	<25 and >60 mm Hg	
pH-ABG (arterial)	7.1 – 7.2	<7.1 and >7.65
Potassium Note: Call Dr. D. Lees, J. Martin, and I. Smolens with K+ values >5.5 mmol/L	2.5 – 2.9 and 6.1 – 6.5 mmol/L	<2.5 and >6.5 mmol/L
Sodium	115 – 119 and 161 – 165 mmol/L	<115 and >165 mmol/L

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Troponin- T(outpatient, ER, Inpatient STATs)	>0.04 ng/mL and <=0.1 ng/mL	>0.1 ng/mL
Uric Acid	>12.0 mg/dL	
Urinalysis		
Glucose - pediatrics (age<10)	Any positive	
Hematology		
Hemoglobin	5.0 – 7.0 and >20 g/dL	<5 g/dL <i>*or Drop by 5 grams or 50%</i>
Platelets Note: Do not call Drs. Sawaf and Lorenzana from 2200-0700 with any platelet values. Call values in am instead.	<40,000 and >800,000/uL	<15,000/uL (non-oncology)
INR	5.0 – 6.0	>6.0
Partial Thromboplastin Time PTT	100 - 120 sec	>120 sec
WBC	<2,000 and >25,000 (outpatient) <2,000 and >50,000 (inpatient)	
Absolute Neutrophil Count	<500	
Differential	<10% PMN	
D-dimer	Positive	
FDP	Positive	
Fibrinogen	<100	
Kleihauer-Betke	Fetal Cells Present	
Reticulocyte Count	>25%	
CSF WBC (pediatric patients <18 years old)		Any amount
Toxicology		
Acetaminophen		>50 ug/mL
Amikacin-Peak		>30 ug/mL
Amikacin Trough		>8.0 ug/mL
Carbamazepine (Tegretol)		>20 ug/mL
Digoxin (Lanoxin)		>2.5 ng/mL
Disopyramide (Norpace)		>7 ug/mL
Gentamicin – Peak		>12 ug/mL
Gentamicin – Trough		>2.5 ug/mL
Lithium		>1.2 mEq/L
Methotrexate		>15.0 umol/L
N-Acetylprocainamide (NAPA + Procainamide)		>30 ug/mL
Phenobarbital (Antrocol)		>50 ug/mL
Phenytoin (Dilantin)		>30 ug/mL
Free Phenytoin		>3.0 ug/mL
Primidone (Mysoline)		>15 ug/mL
Procainamide (Pronestyl)		>12 ug/mL
Quinidine (Quinaglute)		>10 ug/mL
Salicylates		>30 mg/dL
Theophylline (Theo-dur)		>25 ug/mL

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Tobramycin – Trough		>2.5 ug/mL
Valproic Acid (Depakene)		>175 ug/mL
Vancomycin		>60 ug/mL
Microbiology		
	Positive smears/cultures in normally “sterile” body fluids, tissues or blood	Positive culture or gram stain on CSF
	Stool pathogens: Salmonella, Shigella, Campylobacter, Clostridium difficile, Yersinia, E. coli 0157:H7	Isolation of Neisseria meningitidis from blood culture
		Isolation of Group B strep from blood culture (<1 year old)
	Positive Clostridium difficile toxin assays	STAT gram stains – OR only
		Decreased susceptibility to Vancomycin for Staph aureus
		Isolation of HSV by PCR in CSF
	Mycobacterium tuberculosis – culture	
	AFB positive smears	
Blood Bank		
Rapid HIV (SUDS)	Negative	Positive