

# PDL UPDATE:



## Outreach Critical and Semi-Urgent Values

February 2020

### WHAT HAS CHANGED:

Effective February 25 2020, Pacific Diagnostic Laboratories has:

1. Updated the **Outreach Critical Value List**
2. Introduced an **Outreach Semi-Urgent Value List**

### WHY THE CHANGE?

As part of our Quality Assurance program, we perform an annual review of the critical value list. The comprehensive review includes engagement of providers in the community, conferring with other laboratories as well as literature analysis.

Based on the last review cycle a number of changes were identified. These changes are being incorporated into our laboratory practice including the introduction of the semi-urgent value list.

### WHAT THIS MEANS FOR PROVIDERS

PDL will be following the verbal notification process noted below.

TEST VALUE	NOTIFICATION TIMEFRAME	DAYS/HOURS SERVICE PROVIDED
CRITICAL	30 min	7 days/24 hours
SEMI-URGENT	4 hour	Monday – Friday 0730-1830 hours (If resulted after 1830 hours, test result will be called before noon the following day.)

### BACKGROUND

PDL defines a critical value as a test result that may require rapid clinical attention to avert significant patient morbidity or mortality. A semi-urgent value is defined as a test result or finding that does not pose an immediate health threat but has near-term severe health consequences if not acknowledged and/or treated.

In compliance with HIPAA, test results are communicated verbally *only to a member of the healthcare team responsible for the patient and authorized to take patient results*. Verification of who is taking the call as well as a read back is a required step. PDL documents all critical and semi-urgent calls.

Attached:

- PDL Outreach Critical and Semi-Urgent Value List: Chemistry and Hematology
- PDL Outreach Critical and Semi-Urgent Value List: Microbiology

For more information, please contact **PDL Client Services at (805) 879-8100**

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Medical Director Pacific Diagnostic Laboratories

**PDL OUTREACH CRITICAL AND SEMI-URGENT VALUE LIST  
HEMATOLOGY AND CHEMISTRY FEBRUARY 2020**



NAME OF TEST	CRITICAL LOW	CRITICAL HIGH	SEMI-URGENT LOW	SEMI-URGENT HIGH	UNIT OF MEASURE
Acetaminophen				>50	ug/mL
Bicarbonate CO <sub>2</sub>			<10	>40	mmol/L
Bilirubin Adult				>17.0	mg/dL
Calcium			<6.0	>13.0	mg/dL
Carbamazepine				>15	ug/mL
Creatinine				>8*	mg/dL
			*>8 or a change in value >1.0		mg/dL
D-Dimer				>500	ng/mL FEU
Digoxin				>2.1	ng/mL
Fibrinogen			<50		mg/dL
Glucose			<40	>400	mg/dL
Hemoglobin	<7.0			>21.0	g/dL
Hematocrit	<22	>60			%
Iron				>500	ug/dL
Lithium				>1.5	mmol/L
Magnesium			<1.0	>4.8	mg/dL
Neutrophil, Absolute #			<0.4 NEW ONSET		K/uL
Phenobarbital				>50.0	ug/mL
Phenytoin				>20.0	ug/mL
Phosphorus			<1.2		mg/dL
Potassium (K <sup>+</sup> )	<3.0	>6.0			mmol/L
Prograf (Tacrolimus)				>20.0	ng/mL
ProNT BNP (≥75 years)				>900	pg/mL
Platelet Count	<20,000	>1,000,000			cell/uL
Prothrombin Time		>100			seconds
Prothrombin Time PT INR		>3.9			
Salicylate				>30	mg/dL
Sodium (Na <sup>+</sup> )			<125	>155	mmol/L
Uric Acid				>12.0	mg/dL
Valproic Acid				>150	ug/mL
WBC	BLAST CELLS NEW ONSET				
WBC (NEW ONSET VALUE ONLY)	<1,000	>35,000			cell/uL
<b>PEDIATRIC PATIENTS (&lt;1 MONTH)</b>					
Bicarbonate CO <sub>2</sub>			<15	>40	mmol/L
Bilirubin, Total NBIL		>16			mg/dL
Calcium Ca <sup>++</sup>			<7.0	>12.0	mg/dL
Creatinine (>12 month)		>2.5 NEW ONSET			mg/dL
Glucose			<40	>200	mg/dL
Hematocrit		>70			%
Hemoglobin	<8.0				g/dL
Ionized Calcium Ca <sup>++</sup>			<3.5	>6.0	mg/dL
Ketones (Urine) (<1 year)		POSITIVE			
Sodium Na <sup>+</sup>			<130	>146	mmol/L

**PDL OUTREACH CRITICAL AND SEMI-URGENT VALUE LIST  
MICROBIOLOGY FEBRUARY 2020**



CRITICAL VALUE	STERILE SITE: BLOOD CSF BODY FLUID EYE SOURCES	ANY ORGANISM DETECTED	
SEMI-URGENT VALUES	BACTERIA	BRUCELLA	
		CARBAPENEMASE RESISTANT ENTEROBACTERIACAE (CRE)	
		CLOSTRIDIUM DIFFICILE (C. diff)	
		EXTENDED SPECTRUM β-LACTAMASE (ESBL)	
		NIESSERIA MENINGITIDIS	
		TOXIGENIC ESCHERICHIA COLI (E. coli) 0157	
		VANCOMYCIN RESISTANT ENTEROCOCCUS (VRE)	
	FUNGI	CRYPTOCOCCUS	
		MOLD RESEMBLING: BLASTOMYCES	
		MOLD RESEMBLING: COCCIDIOIDES	
		MOLD RESEMBLING: HISTOPLASMA	
		MUCOR	
	PARASITE	BABESIA	
		PLASMODIUM (MALARIA)	
	PEDIATRIC PATIENTS	ORGANISM	PATIENT AGE
		BORDETELLA PERTUSSIS	≤6 MONTHS
		HSV	≤6 MONTHS
		HAEMOPHILUS INFLUENZAE	≤5 YEARS
		RSV (≤5 YEARS)	≤5 YEARS
		STAPHYLOCOCCAL FURUNCULOSIS	≤18 YEARS

CRITICAL values are called within 30 min of obtaining the result regardless of the time of the day.  
SEMI-URGENT values are called within 4 hours of obtaining the result between the hours of 0730-1830 hours. If a test is resulted after 1830 hours it will be called the following morning after 0730 and before noon.