

Regional Critical Values

Purpose This reference document depicts the established critical results/values that signal a correctable life-threatening condition that requires prompt notification and clinical intervention.

Scope This reference document is intended for all users.

- Policy**
- The list of defined Laboratory Critical Test Results/Values is maintained and periodically reviewed by the SCPMG Laboratory Operations (OPC) Quality Subcommittee (QSC), in consult with other clinical specialty groups, to establish appropriate aspects of patient care.
 - The published list of Regional Critical Values is updated at least annually. Changes between updates are documented and communicated via Technical Bulletin.
 - Refer to *Critical Results/Values Policy* for notification criteria when critical results/values of specified test results are exceeded.
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SCPMG Laboratory Systems
SCPMG Laboratory System Critical Values
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Hematology								
Analyte	Age	Unit	Low Value	High Value	Effective Date	Date Revised and Approved	Literature Reference	Approvals
Hematocrit	0-30 days	%	< 30	> 71	12/5/2012	11/13/2013	Kost, G. J., 1990. Critical Limits for Urgent Clinician Notification at US Medical Centers. JAMA 263(5): 704 -	Approved by Chiefs of Family and Internal Medicine, Infectious Disease, Hospitalists, Hematology/Oncology and Pediatrics Approved by SCPMG Laboratory Operations Committee
	> 30 days		< 18	> 61	10/3/1997	10/3/1997		Approved by Chiefs of Primary Care Approved by SCPMG Laboratory Operations Committee
Hemoglobin	0-30 days	g/dL	< 9.5	> 22.3	10/3/1997	10/3/1997	Kost, G. J., 1990. Critical Limits for Urgent Clinician Notification at US Medical Centers. JAMA 263(5): 704 -	Approved by Chiefs of Primary Care Approved by SCPMG Laboratory Operations Committee
	> 30 days		< 6.6	> 19.9				
Absolute Neutrophils (Ascites)	All	Per cumm		> 250	6/9/2013	6/9/2013	Kost, G. J., 1990. Critical Limits for Urgent Clinician Notification at US Medical Centers. JAMA 263(5): 704 -	Approved by Quality Sub-Committee Approved by SCPMG Laboratory Operations Committee
Absolute Neutrophil	All	Per cumm	< 500		10/3/1997	12/10/2003 and 1/28/2004	Kost, G. J., 1990. Critical Limits for Urgent Clinician Notification at US Medical Centers. JAMA 263(5): 704 -	Approved by Quality sub-committee Approved by SCPMG Laboratory Operations Committee
Platelets	<18 yrs	Per cumm	< 30,000	> 999,000	10/3/1997	6/9/2013	Kost, G. J., 1990. Critical Limits for Urgent Clinician Notification at US Medical Centers. JAMA 263(5): 704 -	Approved by Chiefs of Primary Care Approved by SCPMG Laboratory Operations Committee
	18 yrs and older		< 20,000					
WBC Total	All	Per cumm	< 2,000	> 30,000	10/3/1997	9/25/2013	Kost, G. J., 1990. Critical Limits for Urgent Clinician Notification at US Medical Centers. JAMA 263(5): 704 -	Approved by Chiefs of Primary Care Approved by SCPMG Laboratory Operations Committee
Peripheral Blood Smear	All	N/A	Blasts present	Blasts present	10/1/2007	10/1/2007		Approved by Chiefs of Primary Care Approved by SCPMG Laboratory Operations Committee

