



HealthPartners/GHI

Subject Reporting of Critical Values Policy	Attachments <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Key words panic value, alert value, QSE 6	Number GHI-PC-LAB-AD- Critical Value Policy v. 09-2009
Category Provision of Care (PC)	Effective Date September 2009
Manual Central Laboratory Quality Assessment Manual HPMG Laboratory Policy & QA Manual	Last Review Date September 2013
Issued By Laboratory Administration	Next Review Date September 2014
Applicable Lab Administration, Laboratory Leads, Laboratory Staff	Origination Date February 1989
	Retired Date
Review Responsibility Laboratory Administration	Contact Laboratory Administration

I. PURPOSE

This policy is to ensure that critical laboratory results are communicated to the responsible care provider in a timely manner.

II. POLICY

All critical lab results will be called to the responsible care provider in a timely manner. Documentation will include who the result was given to, date, time, and notation that the results were read-back and received correctly.

The critical values policy is limited to those tests on the Critical Value List and includes those results that, if left untreated, could be life-threatening or place the patient at serious risk.

III. PROCEDURE(S)

1. All critical laboratory results will be verified before they are communicated to the responsible care provider.
2. All critical laboratory results will be communicated to the responsible care provider in a timely manner.
 - Communication will include confirmation that the critical laboratory result was received correctly by having the care provider read-back the critical result.
 - In the event that the responsible care provider cannot be reached in a timely manner, the critical result will be called to the Care Line.
3. Documentation will be **documented with a PHON1** for all critical laboratory results and will include who

the result was given to, date, time, and notation that the results were read-back and received correctly.

4. Outside the scope of the Critical Result Policy, specific tests have been identified that require the responsible care provider be notified. Communication and documentation of these tests are managed through the specific test procedures.
5. Providers may request to be notified of any test result(s). Laboratory will order a TELE0/TELE8 to document non-critical value notification.

IV.
DEFINITIONS

Critical results: Laboratory results that, if left untreated, could be life threatening or place the patient at serious risk.

V.
COMPLIANCE

Failure to comply with this policy or the procedures may result in disciplinary action, up to and including termination.

VI.
ATTACHMENTS

None

VII.
OTHER RESOURCES

Revised from Laboratory Policy L-1.03 Reporting of Critical Values
Computer Manual, PHON1 (Phone Calls) Procedure
Regions: Notification of Critical Value Test Result Policy (v.010108)
Reporting Critical Values Procedure

VIII. APPROVAL(S)

Director, Laboratory Services

IX. ENDORSEMENT Laboratory Administration