

LSUHSC-S Clinical Laboratory
HEMATOLOGY

Panic (Critical) Values (reviewed 04/11)

	Low value	Possible effect /cause	High value	Possible effect/cause
INR	-----	-----	>3.50	Hemorrhage
APTT	-----	-----	>110 secs	Hemorrhage
Fibrinogen	< 100	Hemorrhage	-----	-----
CBC (WBC) On admission	<2,500 (to clinics and ER)	Infection	>40,000 (to clinics and ER)	Leukemia
HGB	<7.0	Heart failure hypoxemia	-----	-----
HCT	<20.0%	Heart failure	>65%	
PLT	< 50,000	Hemorrhage	> 1,000,000	-----
CSF Nucleated Cells (report RBC too)	-----	-----	< 1 mo : > 20 ≥ 1 mo : > 5	Infection
BLOOD PARASITES	Any	Infection	Any	Infection

The physician / designee shall be notified immediately of all critical, life-threatening results via telephone.

The report recipient will be asked to repeat verbal results for verification. Reports (LIS or manual) will be documented with –RB (Results phoned, Read back confirmed) – notification time, full name and title of person notified, and full name of notifying technologist.

If the physician/designee cannot be notified within 15 minutes, go ahead and enter result(s) in computer and append free text comment – “unable to reach MD/RN within 15 minutes.” Continue to attempt to give the critical result(s) to subsequent chain-of-command contacts (see “Order of Notifying Critical Value Report” policy). Once contact is made, modify results in computer to indicate details of modification.