

LSU Health Sciences Center-Shreveport La.
CLINICAL MICROBIOLOGY
CRITICAL VALUES

TEST	CRITICAL CRITERION	ACTION
Smear Results	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Positive Gram stains and AFB stains results from all positive normally sterile body sites or tissues (blood, CSF, thoracentesis fluid, aortic valve, brain, synovial fluid, etc.) • Specimens collected in the OR and sent for STAT processing. The surgeon is frequently waiting for results to finish the procedure. Call negative or positive results. • Scrapings from the corneal epithelium of aspirates from aqueous or vitreous chambers of the eye. Call negative or positive results. • Positive AFB smear • Identification of parasites from OCP requests 	Notification of Physician/Designee
Culture Results	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Positive culture results from sterile body sites or tissues (CSF, thoracentesis fluid, synovial fluid, etc) • Positive culture results from scrapings from the corneal epithelium or aspirates from aqueous or vitreous chambers of the eye. • Isolation of <i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i>, <i>Neisseria gonorrhoeae</i>, <i>Bacillus</i> species, or a mycelial fungus from the eye • Cultures positive for Mycobacterium when the AFB smear results were negative • Growth of <i>Histoplasma</i>, <i>Blastomyces</i>, <i>Cryptococcus</i>, or <i>Coccidiomyces</i> from culture • Isolation of a zygomycete from sinus cultures or the Burn Unit • Shigella isolates found to be resistant to ampicillin and SXT • Isolation and identification of unusual isolates such as <i>Brucella</i>, <i>Francisella</i>, <i>Corynebacterium diphtheriae</i>, <i>Salmonella typhi</i>, or <i>Vibrio cholerae</i> etc. • Notify infection control in cases of meningococemia or meningococcus meningitis <p>Neisseria gonorrhoeae isolated from children < 15 years of age.</p>	Notification of Physician/Designee