



Clinical Laboratory Department POLICY AND PROCEDURE

POLICY NUMBER: 1199
VERSION: 3

SUBJECT: Not Officially Critical Values, but Really Important Results

Infections of an immediate life threatening nature must be phoned by the technologist directly to a provider or licensed caregiver as soon as results are available. These results include:

- Positive blood cultures
- Positive cerebral spinal fluid cultures
- Positive cultures from a sterile body fluid

Any result that is generated at this facility or called to us from one of our testing laboratories should be treated as a serious finding, and therefore called as soon as possible to a provider or licensed caregiver. These findings may include, but are not limited to:

- Cultures positive for Group A Beta hemolytic streptococci from sites other than throat
- Cultures positive for *Salmonella*, *Shigella* or any other enteric pathogens (Campylobacter, Yersinia, Aeromonas, Vibrio)
- Staph. aureus resistant to Methicillin/oxacillin (new cases) and/or resistant or intermediate to vancomycin
- Strep.pneumoniae resistant to penicillin
- Enterococcus sp. Resistant to vancomycin

- Any lab finding which indicates an acute communicable disease

- Any other infections of a serious nature to the patient or which are contagious or which may be of an infection control issue.

POLICY NO: 1199	SUBJECT: Not Officially Critical Values, but Really Important Results	Page 2 of 2
---------------------------	--	--------------------

Approved By: Brian Yee (PHYS SPEC PATHOLOGY)	
Date: 04/09/2017	Original Date: 01/08/1991
Reviewed: 04/09/2017	Next Review Date: 04/09/2018
Revised:	Revisions/reviewed: 11/16/1992 cab; 11/29/0 cab; 1/6/04 jh, removed language about calling to Infection Control and add language about INS, Warm Springs, Acton & Challenger; removed language about calling AFB (no longer performed at HDHS), added language about "any other enteric pathogens"; 4/15/04 dnb, hdh changed to hdhs; 12/12/05 jh, removed outside clinic language & revised when reported to Inf Cont.; 3/20/08 lg, reformatted,6/21/9 dnb added DK as co-director,6/21/10 dnb removed NO as co-director 4/22/13 jh changed RN to licensed nurse, removed faxed, 3/21/17jh changed approver to Dr.Yee
Written By:	Jill Hartenstein (CLINICAL LABORATORY SCIENTIST II)
Distribution:	