

Critical alert in laboratory

Team member Group 1

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DEFINITION

- Critical value and result are value that falls outside the critical limit and presence of any unexpected abnormal findings or organisms which require immediate medical attention.
- Critical lab result is define as an eminent life threating result requiring physician notification and action plan.

STANDARD AAC-5C

- Critical results are intimated immediately by concerned personal to treating doctor.
- Intent:- to ensure that critical result necessitates immediate attention by the clinician.
- The critical test and values should be defined and documented by the organization.

PROCESS

- There should be register maintained in the laboratory for the reporting of critical test and their values.
- The register should consist of
 - 1. Date
 - 2. Name of the patient
 - 3. IP and UHID no.
 - 4. Test name/ result
 - 5. Ward
 - 6. Reporting time
 - 7. Informed to
 - 8. Informed by
 - 9. Follow up of action been taken by treating consultant/doctor who has been informed by following readback policy

EXAMPLE

Disease	Parameter	High	Low
Diabetes	Glucose	>200 mg/dl	<40 mg/dl
Renal diseases	Creatinine	>2 mg/dl	Na
	Sodium	>150meq/L	>125meq/l
	Uric acid	>12 mg/dl	Na
Hepatic	Ammonia	>100 mmol/l	Na
	Sgpt	>100 iu/l	Na
Muscle	Cpk	>1200 u/l	Na
Haematology	Hb	>20 gm/dl	<7gm/dl
	Platelet	Na	50000/ul
	Pt inr	>3	Na

Contd..

Cardiac	Troponin t	>0.41	0
	Ckmb	<26	>192
Blood gas	Ph	<7.35	>7.45
	Co2	<35	>45
	Hco3	<22	>26

Contd...

Critical alert documentation and communication should apply for out sourced investigation too.

TAT (TURN AROUND TIME)

It is the time from sample collection to report ready to dispatching. Example

Investigation	Reporting time
Haematology	30 min. To 6hrs
Biochemistry	45 min. To 6 hrs
Microbiology	45 min. To 6 hrs
Profiles	45 min. To 6 hrs
Blood culture	At the end of 72 hrs