

# CONNECTICUT VALLEY HOSPITAL OPERATIONAL PROCEDURE MANUAL

<b>SECTION I:</b>	<b>PATIENT FOCUSED FUNCTIONS</b>
<b>CHAPTER 2:</b>	Assessment
<b>PROCEDURE 2.49:</b>	<b>Critical Test Results</b>
<b>REVISED:</b>	Reviewed 02/18
<b>Governing Body Approval:</b>	4/28/16 ( <i>New</i> ); 04/18

**PURPOSE:** To ensure adherence to designated critical medical test results.

**SCOPE:** Medical Staff and Registered Nurses

## **Definitions of Critical Test Results:**

### **I. LABORATORY**

Critical results are those values, as determined by the CVH Total Medical Staff, requiring immediate attention.

Hartford Healthcare Laboratory Services will call results to the unit Head Nurse/Charge Nurse twenty four hours a day, seven days a week, including weekends and holidays. In accordance with regulatory requirements, “read-back” of all results will be required, and full name of the Nurse receiving the results will be documented. Critical results will not be faxed or left on an answering machine. Laboratory test results for routine lab work will be communicated to CVH within 24 hours of the blood draw. STAT Critical Results will be communicated within 4 hours of the blood draw. Critical Result findings are communicated to CVH within 30 minutes whether they are done stat or when done routinely and are outside normal values.

<b>LABORATORY TEST</b>	<b>CRITICAL TEST RESULTS</b>
<b><i>HEMATOLOGY/COAGULATION</i></b>	
Hematocrit	< 18.0%
Hemoglobin	< 7.0 g/dL
INR	> 8.0
Neutrophils, Absolute	≤ 400 /uL
Platelets	< 20,000 /uL
PTT	>90.0 sec

LABORATORY TEST	CRITICAL TEST RESULTS
<b><i>CHEMISTRY (BLOOD, SERUM)</i></b>	
Blood Urea Nitrogen (BUN)	>99 mg/dL
Calcium, Total	< 6.5 or >14.0 mg/dL
Creatine Kinase (CK)	> 5,999 U/L
Creatinine	>7.9 mg/dL
Digoxin	>3.5 mcg/L
Dilantin	>59.9 mg/L
Glucose	< 40 or > 800 mg/dL
Lithium	>3.00 mmol/L
Magnesium	< 0.5 or > 6.8 mg/dL
Phenobarbital	>99 mg/L
Phosphorus	< 1.3 mg/dL
Potassium	< 2.6 or > 6.9 mmol/L
Sodium	< 120 or > 160 mmol/L

## II. ELECTROCARDIOGRAM (EKG )

Critical results are diagnostic findings, as determined by the Total Medical Staff, requiring immediate attention. MobileX Cardiology Services will call the unit Nurse within 4 hours for the following Critical result findings:

- Acute Myocardial Infarction
- Acute Ischemia
- First degree Block
- Second degree Block
- Third degree or Complete block
- Ventricular Tachycardia

## III. X-RAY

Critical results are diagnostic findings, as determined by the CVH Total Medical Staff, requiring immediate attention. MobileX Radiology Services will call the unit Head Nurse/Charge Nurse within 4 hours for the following Critical result findings:

- Fracture
- Pneumonia
- Foreign body
- Ileus
- Congestive Heart Failure

**PROCEDURE:**

Upon receipt of the Critical Test Results via phone from Hartford Healthcare Laboratories, MobileX Cardiology Services, or MobileX Radiology Services; the Head Nurse/Charge Nurse will notify the Attending Psychiatrist or ACS Provider within 30 minutes.

A pre-printed label found on each unit will be placed in the Integrated Progress Notes in the medical record. The Nurse shall fill in the name of the Attending Psychiatrist or ACS Provider notified, date, time and their own signature.

<b>CRITICAL RESULTS DO NOT REMOVE</b> <b>Dr. Notified:</b> _____ <b>Date:</b> _____ <b>Time:</b> _____ <b>Nurse Signature:</b> _____
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**Quality Monitoring:**

The Nurse Executive is responsible for ensuring that the unit Head Nurse/Charge Nurse notifies the Attending Psychiatrist or ACS Provider within the policy standard of thirty minutes when a Critical Test Result is received. The audit data is collected monthly and included in the Nursing Department's Quarterly Report.

The Director of Ambulatory Care Services is responsible for ensuring that the contracted service providers: Hartford Healthcare Laboratory Services and MobileX, maintain adherence to the timeframes outlined throughout this Policy.