

PDL UPDATE:



Outreach Critical and Semi-Urgent Value Changes

June 2020

WHAT HAS CHANGED:

Effective June 30, 2020, Pacific Diagnostic Laboratories has made changes to the **Outreach Critical** and **Semi-Urgent Value List** related to **glucose** and **SARS-CoV-2** (COVID-19) results.

DESCRIPTION OF CHANGES:

CRITICAL values are called within 30min of obtaining the result regardless of the time of the day. SEMI-URGENT values are called within 4 hours of obtaining the result between the hours of 07:30 am and 6:30 pm. Semi-Urgent values are now being called on weekends and holidays between the hours of 8:00 am and 5:00 pm.

CHANGETO NEW CRITICAL VALUE:

Test	Age Range	NEW Critical Value	Changed from Semi-Urgent Value
GLUCOSE	>1 month old	>500 mg/dL	>400 mg/dL
	<1 month old	>200 mg/dL	>200 mg/dL

ADDITIONAL SEMI-URGENT VALUE:

Test	NEW Semi-Urgent Value
COVID-19/SARS CoV-2 PCR	POSITIVE

BACKGROUND:

Definitions	Timeframe for Notification
A critical value is defined by PDL as a test result that may require rapid clinical attention to avert significant patient morbidity or mortality.	CRITICAL values are called within 30 min of obtaining the result regardless of the time of the day.
A semi-urgent value is defined by PDL as a test result or finding that does not pose an immediate health threat but has near-term severe health consequences if not acknowledged and/or treated.	SEMI-URGENT values are called within 4 hours of obtaining the result between the hours of 7:30 am and 6:30 pm. If a test is resulted after 6:30 pm it will be called the following morning after 7:30 am and before noon. Weekends and holidays values will be called between the hours of 8:00 am and 5:00 pm.

In compliance with HIPAA, test results are communicated verbally *only to a member of the healthcare team responsible for the patient and authorized to take patient results*. Verification of who is taking the call, as well as a read back, is a required step. PDL documents all critical and semi-urgent calls.

For more information, please contact PDL Client Services at (805) 879-8100

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