


Laboratory Panic (Critical) Values

A panic value is defined as a grossly abnormal laboratory result that may directly and immediately impact patient care. Please review the defined panic values below. Critical values will be flagged with the following icons on printed reports and electronic views:

Example !!

 Panic

 Low Panic

 High Panic

Clinical Chemistry Critical Values

Analyte	Low Panic Values	High Panic Values
Acetaminophen		> 150 mcg/mL
Alcohol		≥ 400mg/dL
ALT, OB Only		> 98 U/L
Ammonia		> 150 umol/L
AST, OB Only		> 66 U/L
Bilirubin, Neonatal or Total		≥16.0 mg/dL
BUN (Blood Urea Nitrogen)		> 90 mg/dL
Calcium	< 6.0 mg/dL	> 13.0 mg/dL
Carbamazepine		>12.0 mcg/mL
CK		> 20,000 U/L
CK-MB		>25 ng/mL
Creatinine, Blood		> 6.0 mg/dL
Creatinine, Blood, OB		> 1.1 mg/dL
Digoxin		> 2.5 ng/mL
Gentamycin		>10.0 mcg/mL
Glucose (0 up to 48 hours)	≤ 35 mg/dL	> 400 mg/dL
Glucose (48 hours up to 1 year)	< 40 mg/dL	> 400 mg/dL
Glucose (1 year up to 18 years)	< 54 mg/dL	> 400 mg/dL
Glucose (18 years +)	< 54 mg/dL	> 400 mg/dL
Ionized calcium	< 0.8 mmol/L	>1.6 mmol/L
Lactic Acid		> 2.0 mmol/L
Lipase		> 1,000 U/L
Lithium		>1.5 mmol/L
Magnesium	< 1.0 mg/dL	> 5.0 mg/dL
Magnesium, OB		>8.4 mg/dL
Phenobarbital		>50 mcg/mL
Phenytoin		>30 mcg/mL
Potassium	< 3.0 mmol/L	> 6.2 mmol/L
Protein, 24-hour Urine, OB Only		> 300 mg/day
Salicylate		>30 mg/dL
Sodium	< 120 mmol/L	> 160 mmol/L
Theophylline		>20 mcg/mL
Tobramycin		>2.0 mcg/mL
Troponin, high sensitivity (HS)		≥120 ng/L
Troponin I, POCT		> 0.49 ng/mL
Valproic Acid		> 150 mcg/mL
Vancomycin, trough		≥ 40.0 mcg/mL
Vancomycin, peak or random		≥ 80.0 mcg/mL

Hematology Critical Values

Analyte	Low Panic Values	High Panic Values
Carbon monoxide		≥ 10%
CBC, % bands (ED only)		> 10 %
CBC, % blasts		≥ 3 %
Hematocrit	< 21.0 %	
Hemoglobin	< 7.0 g/dL	
Methemoglobin		≥ 2 %
Oxyhemoglobin (Arterial)	< 80 %	
Platelet Count	< 35 th/mm3	> 1,500 th/mm3
Platelet Count, OB	< 100 th/mm3	> 1,500 th/mm3
WBC Count (0 up to 30 days)	< 1.5 th/mm3	> 38.0 th/mm3
WBC Count (30 days +)	< 1.5 th/mm3	> 38.0 th/mm3
WBC Count (COH Lab)	< 1.5 th/mm3	> 45.0 th/mm3

Coagulation Critical Values

Analyte	Low Panic Values	High Panic Values
Anti-Xa, Low Molecular Weight		≥ 1.3 IU/mL
Anti-Xa, Unfractionated		≥ 1.0 IU/mL
D-Dimer (outpatient)		> 500 ng/mL
Fibrinogen	< 100 mg/dL	
Fibrinogen, OB	< 150 mg/dL	
INR (Prothrombin Time INR)		> 4.5
PTT		≥ 120 sec

Microbiology Critical Values

Analyte	Panic Values
Cultures, Blood, Sterile Body Fluid/Tissue	Positive gram stain or culture

Blood Bank Critical Values

Analyte	Panic Values
Direct Coombs Test	Positive
Kleihauer-Betke	Positive

Blood Gas Critical Values (POCT only)

Analyte	Low Panic Values	High Panic Values
pH (0 up to 7 days, including cord BG samples)	< 7	
pH (7 days +)	< 7.2	> 7.60
pCO2 (all non-cord blood gas samples)	< 20 mmHg	> 69 mmHg
pO2 (ABG) (0 up to 7 days)	< 40 mmHg	
pO2 (ABG) (7 days +)	< 50 mmHg	
HCO3 (all non-cord blood gas samples)	< 10 mmol/L	> 40 mmol/L
Base excess (0 up to 7 days, including cord BG)	< -11	