



## Microbiology Critical Values

TEST	AGE	CRITICAL VALUE	COURTESY CALL VALUE	
Results relating to all Microbiology testing	Any	Any bioterrorism agent		
Bacteriology Smears	Blood Culture	Any	Any positive	
	CSF	Any	Any positive	
	Sterile body fluids and tissue (biopsy) specimens	Any	Any positive	
	Gram stains from surgery (STATS)	Any	All results	
Bacteriology Cultures	Blood culture	Any	Any positive	
	CSF Culture	Any	Any positive	
	Body fluid culture (pleural, peritoneal, amniotic, pericardial, synovial) and tissue culture (actual tissue biopsy)	Any	Any positive	
	Culture MRSA	Any		Positive for MRSA on inpatients only
	Stool culture	<12 years		Presence of possible enteric pathogens on inpatients only
Mycology Smears	Pneumocystis DFA	Any	Any positive	
Mycology Cultures	Culture Fungus	Any	Positive for these dimorphic or pathogenic fungi (Blastomyces, Coccidioides, Histoplasma, Cryptococcus, Paracoccidioides)	
	Any fungus culture on CSF, blood, sterile body fluid or tissue (biopsy) specimens	Any	Positive for any fungal pathogen	
Mycology Antigen Tests	Cryptococcal antigen	Any	First positive on CSF	
Parasitology	Malaria smear	Any	Positives	
AFB	Smear AFB, concentrate, direct or with culture	Any	Any positive	
	AFB cultures	Any	Any smear negative, culture positive first turns positive (no ID yet)	
		Any	All culture positives identified as MTB	
		Any		All smear negative, culture identified as non-TB
		Any		MTB showing any resistance on susceptibility testing
Viral Cultures	Any viral culture	Any	Positive or suspicious for H5N1 Influenza, any pandemic or bioterrorism agent	
	Any viral culture on CSF, blood, sterile body fluid or tissue (biopsy) specimens	Any	Positive for any viral pathogen	
Molecular Assays	Enterovirus, CSF	Any	Any positive	
	MRSA PCR Screen, Nasal	Any		Positive for MRSA on inpatients only

Critical = Call within 15 minutes of knowing it's a positive to floor/physician

Courtesy = Call within that day, or put on Client Service call list

Reviewed 2/2011